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Volkswagen launches pre-series stage of next Golf

- 180 top managers from the components industry at Supplier Summit for next-generation Golf
- Main plant at Wolfsburg to remain the Golf capital
- Brand invests €1.8 billion in model family

Wolfsburg – Together with its suppliers, the Volkswagen brand is making intensive preparations for the next Golf generation¹.

At the "Golf 8 Supplier Summit" held at the Volkswagen Arena, the Board Member for Procurement Ralf Brandstätter and Karlheinz Hell, Head of the Compact series group, underscored the importance of the new generation for the brand and for the Wolfsburg plant. At the same time, they also indicated to the "Golf Community" the opportunities and responsibilities resulting from sustained partnership.



Board Member for Procurement Ralf Brandstätter

The Wolfsburg plant currently produces more than 2,000 Golf family vehicles per day and is to remain the capital of the popular compact class in the future. In 75 weeks, the eighth generation of the bestseller in the compact segment is to roll off the production lines at Volkswagen's main plant in Wolfsburg, Europe's

largest car factory. The Golf is sold in 108 countries and has convinced more than 35 million customers since 1974, the total investment of the brand in the next generation of the Golf will be about €1.8 billion.

Brandstätter explained to 180 top managers of the brand's 120 key suppliers: "Together with the I.D family, the introduction of the upcoming Golf generation will be the most strategically important product launch for the brand." Following supplier selection, the next phase of joint work with suppliers will now start with a view to ensuring a trouble-free start of production for the new Golf. "We have reached the decisive second stage of the project," Brandstätter said.

Volkswagen integrates its partners in the component supply industry intensively in the product creation process at an early stage within the

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framework of value sourcing. Suppliers contribute their ideas and technical solutions to vehicle projects in concept competitions.

Brandstätter explained the positive effects of the fact that 80 percent of all Golf 8 suppliers were already under contract for the current Golf:
"This is a sign of considerable mutual loyalty, creates a broad basis of trust and provides greater security for planning."

The key role in the development of the next Golf is played by Karlheinz Hell, Head of the Compact series group, Volkswagen's largest series group, which reached a total global volume of 3.4 million vehicles in 2017. In the development of the next Golf, Hell will be responsible for ensuring that all departments cooperate in the optimum way and that the Golf makes its contribution to financial performance.

Like its predecessors, this model will meet customers' requirements with respect to design, economics, CO₂ values, comfort and reliability. According to Hell, "The next Golf will take Volkswagen into the era of fully connected vehicles with extended autonomous driving functions. It will have more software on board than ever before. It will always be online and its digital cockpit and assistance systems will be the benchmark in terms of connectivity and safety."

¹⁾ This vehicle is not yet offered for sale and is therefore not subject to Directive 1999/94 EC.

About the Volkswagen brand: "We make the future real"

The Volkswagen Passenger Cars brand is present in more than 150 markets throughout the world and produces vehicles at over 50 locations in 14 countries. In 2017, Volkswagen produced more than 6 million vehicles including bestselling models such as the Golf, Tiguan, Jetta or Passat. Currently, 198,000 people work for Volkswagen across the globe. The brand also has 7,700 dealerships with 74,000 employees.

Volkswagen is forging ahead consistently with the further development of automobile production.

E-mobility, Smart mobility and the digital transformation of the brand are the key strategic topics for the future.
