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## Media information

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## Volkswagen to take over telematics specialist WirelessCar from Volvo

- **Volkswagen Group acquires 75.1 percent majority stake in “WirelessCar” from Volvo Information Technology AB**
- **WirelessCar take-over will enable Volkswagen to further advances in fleet connectivity**
- **Completion of the transaction is subject to approval from authorities**

**Wolfsburg, December 19, 2018. The Volkswagen Group is acquiring a majority stake in the Swedish telematics specialist “WirelessCar” from Volvo with a view to making further advances in fleet connectivity. The Volkswagen Group is acquiring a 75.1 percent stake in WirelessCar. Completion is expected in the first half of 2019 and is subject to approval from antitrust authorities.**

WirelessCar registered in Gothenburg was founded in 1999 and has been a wholly-owned subsidiary by Volvo since 2007. The Swedish company has a workforce of some 370 IT experts worldwide and is acknowledged as a leading specialist in vehicle connectivity. WirelessCar has its own technology platform and also develops digital services, including concierge and billing services (e.g. tolls) as well as safety and emergency services (e.g. remote diagnostics, breakdown services). Worldwide, some 3.5 million vehicles from various car manufacturers are connected via this platform.

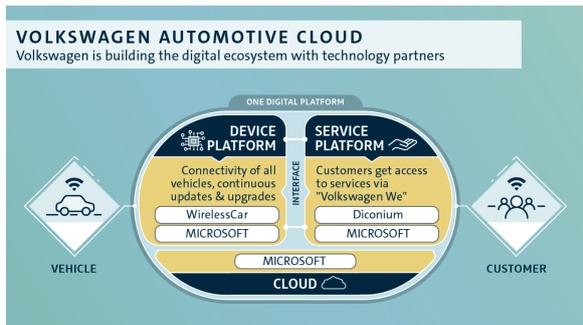
The Volkswagen Group is using WirelessCar's connectivity technology to drive the development of the digital ecosystem, where the Volkswagen brand is spearheading development for the Group in cooperation with technology partners. The goal is to provide full connectivity in future vehicle generations and develop value-added services for customers that they can access via the Volkswagen Automotive Cloud. WirelessCar joins Microsoft and diconium as the third major technology partner involved.

Volkswagen is developing the cloud-based platform together with Microsoft, and designing a customizable marketing platform (service platform) for all digital services with diconium. More specifically, WirelessCar technology will enable safe and stable data exchange between the

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vehicle's operating system and the cloud-based platform, and forming an essential basis for the future software architecture in the vehicle (Device Platform).



**With WirelessCar as a technology partner, Volkswagen is taking the next step in the development of its digital ecosystem.**



**The Volkswagen Automotive Cloud will link the fully connected vehicle, the cloud-based platform and digital value-added services.** *The vehicle shown is a study.*

“Our aim is to develop the Volkswagen into a mobility provider with a fully-connected fleet”, Christoph Hartung, Head of Digital & New Business / Mobility Services at the Volkswagen brand, said. “Our customers will be able to use digital value-added services in their cars or on their mobile devices at all times. We are switching up a gear with this development and have gained WirelessCar as the third major partner. We are now really stepping on the gas and focusing on integrating the technologies.”

Martin Rosell, CEO of WirelessCar, said: “Volkswagen is our ideal partner for the next stage in our development. Volkswagen has the most ambitious future strategy for connectivity in the automotive industry. This aspiration is the perfect match for our vision to lead the automotive industry into the digital society. We are highly motivated and willing to play our part to make a difference.”

## Note:

This text and images are available at: [www.volkswagen-newsroom.com](http://www.volkswagen-newsroom.com).

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## About the Volkswagen Group:

The Volkswagen Group, with its headquarters in Wolfsburg, is one of the world's leading automobile manufacturers and the largest carmaker in Europe. The Group comprises twelve brands from seven European countries: Volkswagen Passenger Cars, Audi, SEAT, ŠKODA, Bentley, Bugatti, Lamborghini, Porsche, Ducati, Volkswagen Commercial Vehicles, Scania and MAN. The passenger car portfolio ranges from small cars all the way to luxury-class vehicles. Ducati offers motorcycles. In the light and heavy commercial vehicles sector, the products include ranges from pick-ups, buses and heavy trucks. Every weekday, 642,292 employees around the globe produce on average 44,170 vehicles, are involved in vehicle-related services or work in other areas of business. The Volkswagen Group sells its vehicles in 153 countries.

In 2017, the total number of vehicles supplied to customers by the Group globally was 10,741 million (2016: 10,297 million). The passenger car global market share was 12.1 per cent. In Western Europe 22.0 per cent of all new passenger cars come from the Volkswagen Group. Group sales revenue in 2017 totaled €231 billion (2016: €217 billion). Earnings after tax in 2017 amounted to €11.6 billion (2016: €5.4 billion).

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