## Media Information



21 February 2023

## Wolfsburg plant: Volkswagen will train 22,000 production employees for e-mobility by 2025

- In small groups, employees find out more about new occupational profiles and innovative production methods in an eMotionRoom
- Major retraining campaign to gradually prepare the entire production workforce in Wolfsburg for e-mobility
- Teams engage in an entertaining experience to learn more about automotive production of the future by solving puzzles and problems in an escape room
- The main plant in Wolfsburg will become a multi-platform location for the Volkswagen brand in Germany in the coming years

Wolfsburg – Europe's largest car manufacturing complex is launching a retraining campaign to train and develop production employees in e-mobility. The Volkswagen brand is thus forging ahead with converting its German plants to the production of electric vehicles. Following on from the Zwickau and Emden passenger car plants, the Wolfsburg factory will also become an electric vehicle factory over the next few years. This fundamental transformation is not only to be grounded in specialist training, but also has an emotional side: The Wolfsburg factory has opened an eMotionRoom where over the coming months 22.000 production employees can enjoy an entertaining experience of the transformation process from ICE to electric vehicles.



Plant Manager Rainer Fessel (3rd from left), Group Chief Human Resources Officer Gunnar Kilian (2nd from right), Head of Group Academy Ralph Linde (center), Deputy Chairman of the General Works Council Gerardo Scarpino (3rd from right) and members of the project team open the eMotionRoom.

"Volkswagen is constantly working on innovative training and development concepts as we move towards becoming a provider of sustainable and software-oriented mobility. These concepts are our key to a successful transformation. The more digital our world becomes, the more crucial our team's skills become for our competitiveness," Gunnar Kilian Board Member for Human Resources, said at the opening of the eMotionRoom.

"Volkswagen has launched a broad-based retraining campaign at its German sites, and the escape rooms play an important role in this initiative. After Zwickau and Emden, we are now rolling out this

successful concept at our largest plant here in Wolfsburg.

**Gerardo Scarpino**, Deputy Chairman of the General Works Council, commented: "The eMotionRoom principle already met with very positive feedback from our employees in Zwickau. The idea proved extremely popular – that is why we have included it for Wolfsburg, too. The transition to e-mobility can only happen together with our colleagues. Getting them on board, inspiring and training them is absolutely crucial to our collective success. That is because we can only master the transformation together – and the eMotionRoom is a key part of the puzzle."

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The eMotionRoom in Wolfsburg was developed in-house by the Volkswagen Group Academy and the plant's organizational units. It has three intricately designed rooms, and employees must solve various puzzles and problems in each of these rooms within 20 minutes. The challenge begins with a journey back in time to the 19<sup>th</sup> century (invention of the first electric motors), the second room traces the history of the Wolfsburg location to the present day (production of ICE vehicles). The third room takes a look at the digital future of driving.

Like classic escape rooms, the teams (each made up of four people) must solve various problems in each room to open the door. Each group is guided by two instructors from the Group Academy via a video link. The eMotionRoom is part of the one-day eMotionDay that also includes other training modules – such as the use of VR headsets in production. The eMotionRoom will be in use at least until the end of 2024.

"After Zwickau and Emden, our Wolfsburg plant is now beginning the transition to e-mobility in the brand's German production network," **Christian Vollmer**, Volkswagen Brand Board of Management Member for Production and Logistics said, commenting on the fundamental transformation of car manufacturing in Germany. "Wolfsburg is special in that ICE vehicles will also still be built here for many years to come. In other words: For Wolfsburg, the upcoming transformation is first and foremost about integration – interfacing smoothly with ongoing operations and with production. That is a very special challenge."

Subassembly of the ID.3¹ begins at the Wolfsburg plant this fall and will be followed by full production of substantial numbers of the popular electric model from mid-2024. "The new production line in Wolfsburg will give us more flexibility than ever before," Plant Manager Rainer Fessel said. "The assembly line will be the first at one of the Volkswagen brand's passenger car plants in Germany that is able to build both MEB and ICE vehicles on the same line. With the future SSP platform, this will make Wolfsburg Volkswagen's first multi-platform factory a few years from now. That will give the main plant a major advantage in terms of capacity utilization over the next ten years. It is how we are safeguarding jobs at the Wolfsburg plant and giving our workforce a clear perspective for the future." (SSP = Scalable Systems Platform).

The new production line for the ID.3 and the new Tiguan will be installed over the coming months. An initial €460 million is being invested through early 2025. The lion's share will be invested in production facilities, the rest is earmarked for retraining – such as the eMotionRoom – and necessary conversion measures.

In addition to the ID.3, the Wolfsburg factory is to begin building a further model based on the MEB (SUV) in the near future. This will strengthen the location as the "heart of the VW brand" over the coming years.

1) ID.3 - power consumption in kWh/100 km: combined 16.1-15.3; CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in g/km: 0; only consumption and emission values in accordance with WLTP and not in accordance with NEDC are available for the vehicle. Information on consumption and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in ranges depending on the selected vehicle equipment.

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The Volkswagen Passenger Cars brand is present in more than 140 markets worldwide and produces vehicles at 29 locations in twelve countries. In 2022, Volkswagen delivered around 4.6 million vehicles. These include bestsellers such as the Polo, T-Roc, T-Cross, Golf, Tiguan or Passat as well as the successful all-electric models ID.3, ID.4, ID.5 and ID.6. Last year, the company handed over more than 330,000 all-electric vehicles to customers worldwide. Around 170,000 people currently work at Volkswagen worldwide. With its ACCELERATE strategy, Volkswagen is consistently advancing its further development into the most desirable brand for sustainable mobility.

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