

Press release  
07.12.2018

## **BMW Group's Driver Assistance and Autonomous Driving Development department under new leadership.**

Alejandro Vukotich takes over at the helm, Elmar Frickenstein to retire after handover phase.

**Munich.** On 1 January 2019, Alejandro Vukotich will take over as Senior Vice President of the BMW Group's Driver Assistance and Autonomous Driving Development department.

He is being appointed to replace Elmar Frickenstein, who has been in charge of the department since its creation in May 2016. Between 2006 and 2016, Elmar Frickenstein was head of the Electrics, Electronics and Driver Environment department that was the precursor to the Driver Assistance and Autonomous Driving unit. During a career at the BMW Group spanning 30 years, Elmar Frickenstein has had a formative influence on vehicle electronics and channelled his energy and expertise into its advancement. He will retire on 31.03.2019 after a three-month handover phase.

Alejandro Vukotich has 19 years of experience in the field of active safety, driver assistance and autonomous driving in the German automotive industry. He has clearly demonstrated both his engineering and his management skills in his previous positions.

The topics of driver assistance and autonomous driving play a pivotal role in the BMW Group's strategy for the future. Development is largely carried out at the BMW Group Autonomous Driving Campus in Unterschleißheim near Munich, which was officially opened in April 2018. There are currently around 1,300 specialists there from the BMW Group and its key partners, such as FCA, Intel and Mobileye, who are working on the development of a technology stack for highly and fully automated Level 2, 3, 4 and 5 driving. The BMW iNEXT will be the first model from the BMW Group to be equipped with a Level 3 system for highly automated driving when it is launched in 2021.

Press release

Date 07.12.2018

Topic New leadership for BMW Group Autonomous Driving

Page 2

In the event of enquiries please contact:

**BMW Group Corporate Communications:**

Jochen Frey, Business and Financial Communications – HR

Tel.: +49-89-382-41 125 e-mail: [Jochen.Frey@bmw.de](mailto:Jochen.Frey@bmw.de)

Bernhard Ederer, Vehicle Innovation Communications

Tel.: +49 89 382 28556 e-mail: [Bernhard.Ederer@bmwgroup.com](mailto:Bernhard.Ederer@bmwgroup.com)

Internet: [www.press.bmw.de](http://www.press.bmw.de)

**The BMW Group**

With its four brands BMW, MINI, Rolls-Royce and BMW Motorrad, the BMW Group is the world's leading premium manufacturer of automobiles and motorcycles and also provides premium financial and mobility services. The BMW Group production network comprises 30 production and assembly facilities in 14 countries; the company has a global sales network in more than 140 countries.

In 2017, the BMW Group sold over 2,463,500 passenger vehicles and more than 164,000 motorcycles worldwide. The profit before tax in the financial year 2017 was € 10.655 billion on revenues amounting to € 98.678 billion. As of 31 December 2017, the BMW Group had a workforce of 129,932 employees.

The success of the BMW Group has always been based on long-term thinking and responsible action. The company has therefore established ecological and social sustainability throughout the value chain, comprehensive product responsibility and a clear commitment to conserving resources as an integral part of its strategy.

[www.bmwgroup.com](http://www.bmwgroup.com)

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/BMWGroup>

Twitter: <http://twitter.com/BMWGroup>

YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/BMWGroupview>

Google+: <http://googleplus.bmwgroup.com>