

Media Information
11 November 2022

Start of BMW iX1* production in Regensburg ups the pace: By 2024, one in three BMWs from Bavarian plants will be electric

+++ As promised: Fully-electric models from all German plants +++
Short distances: high-voltage battery for BMW iX1* also from Re-
gensburg +++ Over 3,300 employees work in BMW Group's electric
component production +++

Regensburg. Today's start of production for the fully-electric BMW iX1* in Regensburg illustrates the pace with which the BMW Group is ramping up electromobility. As announced almost two years ago, all German plants can now produce electric cars. The smallest model among the BMW Sports Activity Vehicles will boost the volume of electric vehicles. Milan Nedeljković, member of the Board of Management of BMW AG responsible for Production, already announced the next milestone at the start of production: "We are delivering the goods. By 2024, at least one in three BMWs coming out of our Bavarian plants will be an electric car." Further proof, then, that the BMW Group is systematically implementing its electrification strategy, relying on speed and short distances. The high-voltage battery in the BMW iX1* also comes from Regensburg.

Bavarian Minister of Transport Christian Bernreiter: "Bavaria is Germany's number-one state for cars and has a long tradition of building vehicles. However, that success doesn't just lie in the achievements of the past, but also in research, development and innovation. The BMW iX1* and its high-voltage battery underline that BMW can master the future. That this fully-electric car will come off the production line in Regensburg also represents a strong commitment to Bavaria as a car-building location."

The start of production for the new BMW iX1* means BMW Group Plant Regensburg is now manufacturing all drive technologies on a single line as part of its flexible production process – for combustion-engine, plug-in hybrid and

fully-electric models. According to Carsten Regent, head of BMW Group Plant Regensburg: "The electrification and transformation of the plant gives me optimism for the future. Our aim now – also with the new BMW iX1* – is to continue to impress customers all over the world with cars made in Regensburg."

BMW iFACTORY: Digital twin of Plant Regensburg

Lean, green, digital: With its BMW iFACTORY, the BMW Group is setting new standards and defining the future of automotive production. This is also evident at the Regensburg location, where the plant is a trailblazer for digitalisation. As part of a recent pilot project, the plant was digitally mapped. The resulting digital twin enables highly efficient planning of future plant structures and production facilities. The plant's paint shop, for instance, relies on artificial intelligence: Paint surfaces are scanned to ensure flawless quality and then finished using a fully-automated programme customised for each vehicle to deliver a perfect customer experience. Artificial intelligence is also used in vehicle assembly at Plant Regensburg – specifically, AI-supported image recognition methods that assist employees with quality inspections. The AIQX (Artificial Intelligence Quality Next) computer system that is used for this learns to recognise objects such as a person from sample images, making it a useful supplement to conventional, camera-based quality inspections.

Predictive maintenance ensures that technical faults, e.g. in conveyor systems, are detected early, before system downtimes can occur. Installations and machinery are monitored through automated evaluation of process data.

Short distances: high-voltage battery from neighbouring production facility

Avoiding consumption and conserving resources: The BMW iFACTORY is also about ensuring short distances for logistics. "The close link between component and vehicle production is part of our strategy," says Markus Fallböhrer, head of Battery Production at the BMW Group. The company is moving at a

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rapid pace, especially considering that the first of five coating lines for battery cells only went on-stream at the Regensburg electric component production facility in April 2021. "We put our new high-voltage battery assembly line into service in October. Now, we are already supplying the neighbouring vehicle plant with high-voltage batteries for the BMW iX1*," explained Fallböhmer. By the end of the year, over 400 employees will be working in electric component production at the 45,000- square-metre facility in Regensburg.

1.6 billion euros invested in electric components at German sites to date

By the end of 2022, the BMW Group will have invested a total of more than 1.6 billion euros in electric component production at its German locations in Dingolfing, Leipzig and Regensburg. More than 3,300 employees currently work in BMW Group electric component production at those sites.

***) Fuel consumption and emissions data:**

BMW iX1 xDrive30: Power consumption combined (WLTP): 18.1-16.8 kWh/100 km;
CO2 emissions: 0 g/km; NEDC data: –

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The BMW Group production network

The BMW Group has long seen itself as the benchmark in production technology and operational excellence in vehicle manufacturing. The strategic vision of its global production network – BMW iFACTORY. LEAN. GREEN. DIGITAL. – sets out the company's responses to the challenges of the transformation to e-mobility and pursues a global approach.

LEAN stands for efficiency, precision, absolute flexibility and outstanding integration capabilities. GREEN represents the use of cutting-edge technologies to realise production with minimal resources. With DIGITAL, the focus is on data science, artificial intelligence, virtual planning and development. Together, these things make the BMW Group Production Network a key contributor to the profitability of the company.

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 over 30 production sites around the world; the company has a global sales network in more than 140 countries.

In 2021, the BMW Group sold over 2.5 million passenger vehicles and more than 194,000 motorcycles worldwide. The profit before tax in the financial year 2021 was € 16.1 billion on revenues amounting to € 111.2 billion. As of 31 December 2021, the BMW Group had a workforce of 118,909 employees.

The success of the BMW Group has always been based on long-term thinking and responsible action. The company set its course for the future early on and is making sustainability and resource efficiency the focus of the company's strategic direction – from the supply chain, through production, to the end of the use phase, for all its products.

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