



Woodcliff Lake, NJ – November 15, 2019....The following changes in the BMW Group senior management team in the Americas will become effective January 1st, 2020.

Bernhard Kuhnt, Chairman and CEO, BMW Group Region Americas, has announced the retirement of Hans Blesse, President and CEO, BMW Group Canada, after 32 years with the company. Blesse began his career with BMW in 1987 at the newly founded BMW Canada sales subsidiary. Since then he has achieved many successes in sales, marketing, aftersales and training with the BMW Group globally, including Spain, Germany and the United States. Hans is most proud of his contributions to a remarkable 28 years of consecutive sales growth in the Canadian market.

Commencing January 1st, Reiner Braun will take over from Hans Blesse as President and CEO, BMW Group Canada. Reiner Braun first joined BMW in 1999 and has worked in various positions across the areas of sales and marketing. Mr. Braun has experienced numerous international assignments with positions in the Americas, Europe and most recently in Asia, where he steered the MINI business as Vice President, MINI China. Reiner Braun's experience developing strong teams and supporting retail networks have him well positioned for success in the Canadian market.

"I want to thank Hans for all of his contributions over the years including his achievements as President and CEO, BMW Group Canada. We all wish him well in his new endeavors," said Bernhard Kuhnt. "For Reiner, his next role in Canada will pose a new challenge and I know he will do what it takes to succeed in our very important Canadian market."

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BMW Group in Canada

BMW Group Canada, based in Richmond Hill, Ontario, is a wholly-owned subsidiary of BMW AG and is responsible for the distribution of BMW luxury performance automobiles, Sports Activity Vehicles, Motorcycles, and MINI. BMW Group Financial Services Canada is a division of BMW Group Canada and offers retail financing and leasing programs and protection products on new and pre-owned BMW and MINI automobiles, as well as retail financing for new and pre-owned BMW Motorcycles. A total network of 50 BMW automobile retail centres, 22 BMW motorcycle retailers, and 30 MINI retailers represents the BMW Group across the country.

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