

Press Release

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Another Step to Realization of BMW Group Future Mobility Development Center in the Area of Sokolov. Signing of Joint Cooperation Declaration between the Government of the Czech Republic and BMW Group for Construction of BMW Group Future Mobility Development Center in the Czech Republic.

Prague. Another important step to realization of a planned testing centre of BMW Group in the area of Sokolov. Tomáš Hüner, Minister of Industry and Commerce, and Dr. Herbert Grebenc of BMW AG in Prague signed a joint Cooperation Declaration between the Government of the Czech Republic and BMW Group concerning preparation of the construction of a new BMW Group Future Mobility Development Center. It is another important step to realization of this big investment of BMW AG in the territory of the Czech Republic. The aim is to build here one of the main testing and development centres of the company, which will, besides others, specialize in the development of future autonomous car systems. The new testing centre will cover an area of approximately 500 hectares in the Region of Karlovy Vary, north of Sokolov.

The joint declaration was signed after previous successful negotiations with representatives of the Region of Karlovy Vary, the land owner, Sokolovská Uhelná a.s., CzechInvest and, of course, the Government of the Czech Republic. Mr. Christoph Israng, the Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany, was present at the signing of this significant declaration, too.

“Hundreds of new jobs will be created in the area of Sokolov thanks to this investment, also for highly qualified specialists. There will be positions, for example, for automotive engineers and specialists in the area of digitization and autonomous driving,” says Tomáš Hüner, Minister of Industry and Commerce, and adds: “It is an investment with a high added value, which will support the development of the Region of Karlovy Vary.”

“This project is firmly based on mutual trust, and we are proud to have met all our commitments. To date, the BMW Group has invested some low two digit millions euros in the project, as well as in current detailed planning activities. Our shared goal is to get the building permit passed by fall 2019 at the latest. Today’s signing of the joint declaration is a clear proof that the Government of the Czech Republic is interested in further supporting our joint project,” said Dr. Herbert Grebenc,

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BMW Group

With its three brands BMW, MINI and Rolls-Royce, the BMW Group is the world's leading premium manufacturer of automobiles and motorcycles and also provides premium financial and mobility services. As a global company, the BMW Group operates 31 production and assembly facilities in 14 countries and 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 2016 was approximately € 9.67 billion on revenues amounting to € 94.16 billion. As of 31 December 2016, the BMW Group had a workforce of 124,729 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.

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