BMW Group Plant Berlin Media and Public Relations



Press release 08/11/2021

Start of series production of BMW CE 04 at the BMW Group Plant in Berlin

+++ Consistent expansion of e-production at the motorcycles plant in Berlin +++ First fully electric version for public authorities ex works +++ Urban mobility of BMW Motorrad 100% electrical+++

Berlin. Today, the BMW Group Plant in Berlin is celebrating the start of series production of the fully electric BMW CE 04 and its version for public authorities. With this premium electric scooter, BMW Motorrad is consistently pursuing its electromobility strategy.

Climate change, demographic changes and digitalisation represent major challenges to our mobility, especially in urban metropolitan areas. At the same time, this creates new opportunities for the design of a sustainable traffic system that is fit for the future. The BMW Group is facing up to this task and working on a wide range of innovative solutions. One of them is the expansion of electromobility: "With the start of production of the CE 04 today, we are taking the next step in the electromobility roadmap of BMW Motorrad. All new BMW Motorrad models in the field of urban mobility will be 100% electric in the future," confirms Markus Schramm, Head of BMW Motorrad.

Electromobility and segment diversity from the German capital

BMW Motorrad and its plant in Berlin were already a pioneer in the field of electrified two-wheeled mobility with the C evolution electric scooter back in 2014.

The factory team from Berlin is now further expanding its depth of production in terms of electromobility: The electric motor is fully assembled at the Berlin Plant. For the installation of the high-voltage battery, the energy storage housing is now also produced locally. The battery modules are obtained from the BMW Group Plant in Dingolfing. They are also used in the new BMW iX.

Company Bayerische Motoren Werke Aktiengesellschaft

Address Am Juliusturm 14-38 13599 Berlin, Germany

Telephone +49(0)30/445-3396-0

> Internet www.bmwgroupwerke.com/berlin

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"We prepared our plant for e-production at an early stage and are thus able to cover a broad segment diversity of BMW Motorrad from our Berlin Plant," says Helmut Schramm, Head of BMW Motorrad Production.

For the assembly of the fully electric BMW CE 04 Scooter, a highly flexible, modular assembly area has been established on a space of around 1000 m². To ensure maximum precision and efficiency, a panel assembly conveyor is used with elliptical alignment that is constantly in motion. Optimum use of space, efficient material flows and ergonomically designed workplaces characterise the new assembly area for the BMW CE 04.

Technology expertise and digitalisation

An innovative vehicle concept is also accompanied by innovative production technology: The entire electric motor production assembly line was planned virtually. With this virtual planning, the layout of the machines, the assembly sequences and the provision of materials could be displayed in advance in the best possible way and optimised in terms of ergonomic aspects for the employees.

The Berlin Plant also relies on innovative technology in the familiarisation phase of the production team. Employees are trained with start-up training supported by augmented reality (AR). Using AR glasses, they are able to view various training courses on relevant production steps independently at any time. The assembly work to be carried out as well as corresponding descriptions are displayed in real time in the field of view and can then be implemented later directly at the vehicle.

Sustainable production

The principle of sustainability is central to BMW Group's strategic direction. The objective and obligation is to assume responsibility and act in an anticipatory manner in economic, ecological and social terms.

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For the economical use of precious resources such as water, energy and materials, motorcycle production in the German federal capital is based on the Clean Production principle that applies to the entire BMW Group production network. The aim is Clean Production with minimal impact on the environment. Since 2006, the BMW Group has already been able to reduce the amount of waste in production by 80%. Important progress has also been achieved with water, energy and solvents.

Highly modern production technologies, such as the use of water-based paint, inhouse electricity and heat generation by a combined heat and power plant, smart ventilation systems as well as in-house water treatment plants set high standards.

At the power centre of the Berlin Plant, heating or process heat and electricity are generated by the efficient use of natural gas. Four hot water boilers and a highly efficient combined heat and power plant fully cover the demand for heating and process heat as well as the base electricity load. The percentage of renewable energy in external electricity procurement was 100% in 2020.

Ambitious targets for climate-neutral production

At the start of series production of the BMW CE 04, the Berlin Plant also announced an 80% reduction in CO2 emissions in production and a 25% reduction in energy consumption by 2030 (compared to 2019): "Our technological expertise is helping us achieve our ambitious climate goals. As a premium manufacturer, our claim is to lead the way in sustainability. We consider ourselves a trendsetter for climate-neutral production in the German capital. For climate-neutral production ultimately strengthens Berlin as an industrial location," says Helmut Schramm, Head of BMW Motorrad Production.

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Please address any queries to:

Christine Graeber, Head of Communications BMW Group Plant Berlin Telefon: +49 (0)30 3396-2225, Christine.Graeber@bmw.de

Antonia Cecchetti, Spokesperson BMW Motorrad

Telefon: +49 (0)89 382-60757, Antonia.Cecchetti@bmw.de

Tim Diehl-Thiele, Head of Communications BMW Motorrad Telefon: +49 (0)89 382-57505, <u>Tim.Diehl-Thiele@bmw.de</u>

Internet: www.press.bmw.de E-mail: <u>presse@bmw.de</u>

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The BMW Group plant in Berlin

The worldwide only fully comprehensive production site for BMW motorbikes and scooters is located in the Berlin district of Spandau on a total area of around 230,000 m². Since 1969, BMW two-wheel vehicles have been coming off the assembly line at the rich-in-tradition Berlin plant on highly modern production facilities. In the meantime, more than 155,000 vehicles as well as their engines, running gear and drive components are produced every year.

More than 2,000 highly qualified employees produce up to 800 vehicles a day and additionally almost six million passenger car brake discs a year, the quality and innovation level of which stand for the plant's continuing success. The diversity of the 25 motorbike models in the Sport, Tour, Roadster, Heritage, Adventure and Urban Mobility business units in more than 40 colours to choose from and the more than 300 optional equipment items are a credit to the brand and are sold in more than 130 countries over the world.

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 31 production and assembly facilities in 15 countries; the company has a global sales network in more than 140 countries.

In 2020, the BMW Group sold over 2.3 million passenger vehicles and more than 169,000 motorcycles worldwide. The profit before tax in the financial year 2020 was € 5.222 billion on revenues amounting to € 98.990 billion. As of 31 December 2020, the BMW Group had a workforce of 120,726 employees.

The success of the BMW Group has always been based on long-term thinking and responsible action. The company set the course for the future at an early stage and consistently makes sustainability and efficient resource management central to its strategic direction, from the supply chain through production to the end of the use phase of all products.

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