

Media Information  
6 October 2017

## **BMW Group lays the foundation for expansion of its Research and Innovation Centre (FIZ)**

- The BMW Group is investing 400 million euros in expansion of the FIZ in Munich
- First phase of construction will create innovative working environment for 5,000 employees by 2019
- Architecture provides for state-of-the-art, agile work structures
- Harald Krüger: FIZ Future signals strong commitment to Munich location and Germany's innovative strength. We are building the future right here.
- Horst Seehofer: Expansion of the FIZ in Munich is a strong vote of confidence in Bavaria's future strength

**Munich.** The BMW Group is embarking on an extensive expansion of its FIZ Research and Innovation Centre in the north of Munich. The "FIZ Future" masterplan, which was developed as part of an urban development competition, will expand the development centre by around 50 per cent by 2050. The BMW Group will invest around 400 million euros in the first phase of construction, which will create a viable infrastructure for developing tomorrow's mobility.

Bavarian Prime Minister Horst Seehofer, Mayor of Munich Dieter Reiter and Harald Krüger, Chairman of the Board of Management of BMW AG, launched the construction project today in the Milbertshofen district of Munich. In an official ceremony, the foundation was laid for a building complex with a total floor area of 157,000 m<sup>2</sup>. From 2019 on, around 5,000 employees will work here in innovative open-plan workspaces, developing hardware and software for the company's future vehicles.

"Here in Munich, we will be creating the next generations of electrified drive trains, with decisive innovations for the mobility of the future. Focusing on IT and artificial intelligence, this will also be home to a new industry and a new generation of engineers and IT specialists," according to Harald Krüger, Chairman of the Board of Management of BMW AG. "Today, we are laying the foundation together for our new idea factory. FIZ Future signals our strong commitment to the Munich location and Germany's innovative strength. We are building the future right here."

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Prime Minister Horst Seehofer: "My congratulations on this far-sighted choice of location. This day will continue a 100-year success story. The mobility of tomorrow is being created right here. The expansion of the BMW Group's Research and Innovation Centre in Munich is a strong vote of confidence in Bavaria's future strength."

"BMW's development, creating jobs and promoting research and development here in the north of Munich is a great gain for our city," explained Dieter Reiter, Mayor of the City of Munich, at the ceremony. "And the fact that FIZ Future in Munich is thinking about the future of the car, researching and developing electro-mobility and alternative drive trains and forms of mobility is also a gain for urban mobility in general."

**FIZ Future masterplan**

As part of its Strategy NUMBER ONE > NEXT, the BMW Group and its FIZ Future programme aim to create a framework for the long-term development of its Research and Innovation Centre in the north of Munich. With around 26,000 workspaces and approx. 1 million m<sup>2</sup> net floor space, the development centre is already the BMW Group's largest location. In several stages, the expansion will create workspaces for another 15,000 employees by 2050. The aim is not just to create space, but, more importantly, to provide the right conditions for working in the future. Technological changes, driven by digitalisation and connectivity, demand agile team structures, quick decisions and immediate implementation. That is why the new buildings will primarily offer open, flexible spaces where staff members can meet, discuss and implement their ideas quickly – for example, by testing new software for a vehicle prototype in a workshop just a few steps away and seeing the results immediately. The FIZ expansion and remodelling is therefore not only an investment in the future competitiveness of the company, it is also an investment in attractive state-of-the-art workplaces.

In the urban development competition, organised in September 2014 in close collaboration with the Department of Planning and Building Regulations of the City of Munich, it was the proposal of the architectural firm HENN that impressed the most. On

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this basis – and with regular involvement of the people living in the north of Munich – a FIZ Future masterplan was developed and approved by Munich City Council in July 2016 as the basis for the expansion. Following today's start of construction, other administrative, research and workshop facilities will be created over the medium and long term, as well as test benches and design studios.

If you have any queries, please contact:

**Corporate Communications**

Jochen Frey, Business and Finance Communications, HR  
Jochen.frey@bmw.de  
Telephone: +49 89 382-41125

Glenn Schmidt, Head of Business and Finance Communications,  
Glenn.schmidt@bmw.de  
Telephone: +49 89 382-24544

Media website: [www.press.bmwgroup.com](http://www.press.bmwgroup.com)  
Email: [presse@bmw.de](mailto:presse@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. 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 2016, the BMW Group sold approximately 2.367 million cars and 145,000 motorcycles worldwide. The profit before tax 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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