BMW Group steps up expansion for production of electric powertrain components at Plant Dingolfing

Workforce will more than double in 2020 to 1,400 employees

Dingolfing/Munich. The BMW Group is expanding production capacity and increasing its staff at the Competence Centre for E-Drive Production in Dingolfing faster than originally planned. Due to growing demand for electrified vehicles, the plant expects the number of modules needed for production of high-voltage batteries to double from the previous year. The number of electric motors required will also increase significantly.

Michael Nikolaides, head of Production Engines and E-Drives at the BMW Group: “We are embarking on a massive expansion of our Competence Centre for E-Drive Production in Dingolfing: from 8,000 square metres currently to 80,000 in the future. This is where we produce powertrain components for our fully and partially electric models. By the end of the year, we will increase our staff in this area from 600 to more than 1,400.” Up to 2,000 employees will work on electric motors, battery modules and high-voltage batteries in Dingolfing in the medium term.

Christoph Schröder, head of BMW Group Plant Dingolfing, adds: “Thanks to close cooperation between vehicle and component development, our Dingolfing site is now leading the transformation of the automotive industry. More than one in five BMW 5 Series Sedans built at our Dingolfing vehicle plant today is already a plug-in hybrid. We deliver premium e-mobility from Lower Bavaria to customers all over the world.”

800 new jobs in electric component production – specialists needed

For the upcoming ramp-up and planned volume growth, qualified staff are currently being recruited on a large scale – both internally at the BMW Group's plant locations and outside the company. As Nikolaides points out: “We are also combing the market for specialists for the future technology of e-mobility.”
Broad electrified vehicle line-up creates stronger demand for electric powertrain components

The introduction of the new BMW 330e*, BMW X5 xDrive45e* and BMW X3 xDrive30e* plug-in hybrids, together with the pure electric MINI Cooper SE*, brings the number of electrified vehicles in the BMW Group line-up to 12. These will be joined in 2020 by additional electrified models, such as the BMW X1 plug-in hybrid and the fully-electric BMW iX3.

The BMW Group plans to expand its range of electrified vehicles to 25 models by 2023 – more than half of them fully electric. A quarter of the BMW Group vehicles sold in Europe are likely to be electrified by 2021; this percentage will reach a third in 2025 and half in 2030.

As a result, the company has a correspondingly high demand for electric motors and batteries. BMW Group Plant Dingolfing plays a pivotal role in supplying other sites with these electric powertrain components. “We don’t just supply the vehicle plant here in Dingolfing; we also delivery batteries and electric motors to most of our automotive plants worldwide,” says Nikolaides.

Preparations for production of fifth-generation electric powertrain components well underway

The site in Lower Bavaria has years of expertise in building components for electric vehicles. Series-produced batteries for the BMW i3 have being coming off the line here since 2013. Since then, products and processes have been continuously optimised.

Preparations are already underway for production of the fifth generation of electric motors and batteries. Production is slated to start later this year and will set new standards for scalability and performance capabilities.

Important infrastructure decisions are also being made in parallel. In the areas around Dingolfing, the search is underway for a site to locate a new supply centre for the Competence Centre for E-Drive Production. This would be built over the next few
years and serve as a “logistics platform” for the competence centre once it reaches its full capacity.

*CO2 emissions and consumption

**BMW 330e Sedan:** fuel consumption combined: 1.9-1.6 l/100 km; power consumption combined: 15.4-14.8 kWh/100 km; CO2 emissions combined: 43-37 g/km

**BMW X5 xDrive45e:** fuel consumption combined: 2.0-1.7 l/100 km; power consumption combined: 23.5-21.5 kWh/100 km; CO2 emissions combined: 47-39 g/km

**BMW X3 xDrive30e:** fuel consumption combined: 2.4-2.1 l/100 km; power consumption combined: 17.2-16.4 kWh/100 km; CO2 emissions combined: 54-49 g/km

**MINI Cooper SE:** fuel consumption combined: 0.0 l/100 km, power consumption combined 16.8-14.8 kWh/100 km, CO2 emissions combined: 0 g/km

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**The BMW Group Plant Dingolfing**

Plant Dingolfing is one of the BMW Group’s 31 global production sites. At Plant 02.40, about 1,500 cars of the BMW 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 Series roll off the assembly lines every day. In total, the plant manufactured nearly 330,000 cars in 2018. At present, a total of approx. 18,000 people and 800 apprentices work at the BMW Group’s site in Dingolfing.

In addition to the automotive core production, BMW Group Plant Dingolfing is also home to production facilities for vehicle components such as pressed parts, seats as well as chassis and drive components. Due to the plant’s aluminium expertise in vehicle construction and longstanding experience in producing alternative drives, BMW Group Plant Dingolfing furthermore provides crucial components for the BMW i models – such as high-voltage battery, e-transmission and the drive structure – to the production site in Leipzig. In addition, Dingolfing produces both high voltage batteries and electric engines for the BMW Group’s plug-in hybrid models.

The car bodies for all Rolls-Royce models are also manufactured at the site. The Dynamics Centre, a large storage and transshipment facility, provides the global BMW and MINI dealership organization with original parts and equipment.
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 2019, the BMW Group sold over 2,520,000 passenger vehicles and more than 175,000 motorcycles worldwide. The profit before tax in the financial year 2018 was € 9.815 billion on revenues amounting to € 97.480 billion. As of 31 December 2018, the BMW Group had a workforce of 134,682 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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