

Media Information  
9 February 2026

## **Production milestone for BMW Group Plant Hams Hall: British engine plant celebrates 25 years**

+++ 25 years of successful engine production +++ Drive trains for MINI, BMW and Rolls-Royce +++ More than 7.6 million engines produced +++ 61% reduction in energy use per engine built since the start of full production +++

**Hams Hall, UK.** BMW Group's Hams Hall plant, located in the UK, has reached a major milestone: For exactly 25 years, the plant near Birmingham has produced highly efficient internal combustion engines for a variety of BMW Group vehicle models. More than 7.6 million engines have shipped from Hams Hall since 2001. The facility supplies numerous production sites worldwide with highly efficient petrol engines for the BMW, MINI and Rolls-Royce brands, including drive trains for plug-in hybrid models – making the plant an integral part of the BMW Group's technology-open approach. Today, Plant Hams Hall produces three and four-cylinder petrol engines to high performance V8 engines, powering vehicles across both BMW and MINI. Separately, the V12 engine is produced at Plant Hams Hall exclusively for Rolls-Royce Motor Cars. Its assembly follows a distinct, bespoke production process, carried out by specially trained engineers and technicians, before final delivery to the Home of Rolls-Royce at Goodwood.

### **Plant Hams Hall – an integral part of the global production network**

"This anniversary is a special milestone for our site," says Dirk Dreher, Head of the BMW Group's Hams Hall plant. "We are a competitive plant and there's always been a real passion among our workforce to continually improve our manufacturing processes and site. Building on our strong foundation, we are looking forward to remaining a successful plant in the future." "The Hams Hall plant is an integral part of our global production network," explains Harald Gotsche, Head of Engine Production at BMW AG. "The site combines technological expertise with high flexibility. It reliably supplies our vehicle plants with efficient, powerful engines of premium quality. This includes the V12 engine – a masterpiece from Hams Hall!"

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**61% reduction in energy use per engine built since the start of full production**

The British engine plant is systematically implementing the principles of the BMW iFACTORY. The strategic vision of the BMW iFACTORY focusses on sustainability, electrification, digitalisation and profitability. From the first concept of the plant to the present day, the Hams Hall team has made sustainability a key consideration. Since the first full year of production, the plant has made a 61% reduction in energy required per engine built, meaning the overall energy to operate the site has remained level even though there has been a considerable increase in production. The plant purchases 100% of its external electricity from renewable energy sources today. It has also worked to reduce its consumption of natural gas.

**SpOTTO robotic dog scans and monitors manufacturing equipment**

A four-legged autonomous robot named "SpOTTO" joined the Hams Hall team in 2024. The autonomous robotic dog scans the plant, supports maintenance and ensures production processes run smoothly. Equipped with visual, thermal and acoustic sensors, SpOTTO collects valuable data for the plant's digital twin. It also serves as a watchdog, monitoring the maintenance of production facilities.

SpOTTO was developed by Boston Dynamics under the product name "Spot", an agile robot capable of climbing stairs and traversing rough terrain with ease. At Hams Hall, "Spot" was fondly renamed SpOTTO, paying tribute to the engine plant's proud heritage: Gustav Otto, one of the founders of BMW, was the son of Nicolaus Otto, inventor of the four-stroke engine.

**Fully connected digital twin: Big data on three levels**

At the core of the Hams Hall plant's digital transformation is the fully connected digital twin, which consists of three levels: On the first level, 3D representations of the entire plant are generated. The second level comprises a large data layer, continuously updated with all relevant information from the SpOTTO robotic dog, the plant's manufacturing equipment and its IT systems. On the third level – the application level – dedicated programmes organise the collected data into

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comprehensible units. Using special apps, experts at Plant Hams Hall can leverage this information for tasks such as production planning and quality assurance.

### **A history of continuous growth**

Over the past 25 years, BMW Group Plant Hams Hall has continuously evolved, establishing itself as a key pillar of the company's production network. Relying on state-of-the-art manufacturing technologies, it provides drive trains for numerous BMW, MINI and Rolls-Royce models.

#### Selected historic milestones:

- **2001:** Plant Hams Hall launches series production with new four-cylinder engines, using innovative Valvetronic technology in large-scale manufacturing for the first time.
- **2006:** An additional engine family is introduced; Plant Hams Hall produces engines for the MINI brand for the first time.
- **2013:** Plant Hams Hall becomes the exclusive manufacturer of the award-winning three-cylinder engine for the iconic BMW i8 plug-in hybrid sports car. The plant also integrates additional production lines for three- and four-cylinder petrol engines. At the same time, the processing hall for crankshafts, crankcases and cylinder heads is expanded.
- **2022:** The plant takes over production of V8 and V12 engines. With this step the plant generates even greater business value for the company.
- **2026:** Plant Hams Hall celebrates 25 years of production.

### **The BMW Group's drive train production network**

The BMW Group's engine production network comprises several plants alongside Hams Hall: Its largest engine facility is in Steyr, Austria, where diesel and petrol engines, as well as sixth-generation electric motors, are developed and produced. The fifth generation of electric motors is produced in Dingolfing. Plant Munich handles mechanical production of V8 and V12 engine components, while Plant

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Landshut manufactures special engines. The Chinese joint venture BMW Brilliance builds engines for the local market in Shenyang. Collectively, these locations support the BMW Group's technology-open powertrain strategy.

If you have any questions, please contact:

**Corporate Communications**

Christian Marxt  
Spokesperson, Communications Production Network BMW Group  
Mobile: +49-151-601-79158  
Email: [Christian.Marxt@bmwgroup.com](mailto:Christian.Marxt@bmwgroup.com)

Sandra Schillmöller  
Head of Communications Production Network BMW Group  
Mobile: +49-151-601-12225  
Email: [Sandra.Schillmoeller@bmwgroup.com](mailto:Sandra.Schillmoeller@bmwgroup.com)

Media website: [www.press.bmwgroup.com/](http://www.press.bmwgroup.com/)  
Email: [presse@bmwgroup.com](mailto:presse@bmwgroup.com)

**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 services. The BMW Group production network comprises over 30 production sites worldwide; the company has a global sales network in more than 140 countries.

In 2024, the BMW Group sold 2.45 million passenger vehicles and more than 210,000 motorcycles worldwide. The profit before tax in the financial year 2023 was € 17.1 billion on revenues amounting to € 155.5 billion. As of 31 December 2023, the BMW Group had a workforce of 154,950 employees.

The economic success of the BMW Group has always been based on long-term thinking and responsible action. Sustainability is a key element of the BMW Group's corporate strategy and covers all products – from the supply chain through production to the end of their useful life.

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