

Press release
May 16th 2018

BMW Group becomes the first international auto maker to obtain an autonomous driving road test license in China. Important step on BMW Group's path to Autonomous Driving

Shanghai. On May 14th 2018, BMW Group officially obtained the Shanghai Intelligent Connected Autonomous Driving Test License, issued by the Intelligent Connected Vehicle Road Test Promotion Team - consisting of Shanghai Municipal Commission of Economy and Informatization, Shanghai Municipal Public Security Bureau and Shanghai Municipal Transportation Commission.

Thus, the **BMW Group has become the first international auto maker to obtain the Autonomous Driving road test license in China**, marking a big step on its path to Autonomous Driving. This achievement underlines BMW Group's leading role in the development of autonomous driving in the Chinese automotive industry.

BMW Group implements its **Strategy NUMBER ONE > NEXT** worldwide, and continues to carry out the layout in "A.C.E.S.", namely, Autonomous Driving, Connectivity, E-Mobility and Shared services, to create exciting solutions and innovative mobility experiences for customers - and by doing so - speeding up its transformation into a technology company. Autonomous Driving, an important part of the "A.C.E.S." layout, will change the future of individual mobility in a revolutionary way, significantly improving the safety and convenience of premium individual mobility.

China is promoting Autonomous Driving as a part of boosting intelligent connected vehicles (ICVs) and its recent "smart city, smart China" initiative, giving China a vital role in BMW Group's Autonomous Driving development program. BMW anticipated this development - and was first to demonstrate and publish L3 highly Autonomous Driving on a designated highway under government supervision in Chengdu as early as 2016.

Press release

Date 15.05.2018

Topic BMW Group obtaining first international Autonomous Driving test license in China.

Page 2

To carry out road tests for the preparation of L4 Autonomous Driving R&D in China, Shanghai is an attractive, innovative city, matching perfectly with BMW Group's vision of future mobility. The BMW Group has set up a strong local team in Shanghai, including over 60 experts in Autonomous Driving.

Using the license, the R&D team will gather several Petabyte of data based on actual traffic, covering its full complexity. This data will be used to train machine learning algorithms performing adequate L4 Autonomous Driving behaviour.

The test sites in Shanghai currently cover a total length of about 5.6 kilometers planned to grow quickly over time. The test fleet is based on the latest BMW 7 Series models, starting with two operating vehicles in May and adding up to seven vehicles by December in China. "Safety first" is the primary premise for the development of Autonomous Driving at BMW Group. Until now, the accumulated mileage reaches nearly 30,000 kilometers of road test in China, and more than 200,000 kilometers of computer simulation.

Dr. Martin Sautter, Senior Vice President, R&D Center BMW Group, BMW China Services Ltd., said: "The BMW Group has always followed its R&D strategy 'In China, For China'. We have developed a complete, customer-oriented and prospective R&D system, through the R&D layout in Beijing, Shanghai and Shenyang. Now, it is a great honour to be the first international vehicle manufacturer to obtain an autonomous road test license in China. With the highest safety standards, we will rigorously promote the local development of Autonomous Driving and strive to achieve a safer, more efficient and more convenient transportation system. "

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Page 3

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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 30 production and assembly facilities in 14 countries; the company 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 2017 was € 10.655 billion on revenues amounting to € 98.678 billion. As of 31 December 2017, the BMW Group had a workforce of 129,932 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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