

Media Information

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MINI Plant and Oxford University Partner to tackle Sustainable Development Goals

- **New partnership will enable collaboration with graduate Oxford University students and BMW Group to help deliver the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**
- **Projects will focus on new ways of addressing employee wellbeing, the local Oxford community and the plant's impact on the environment**

Today, two of the largest and most prestigious organisations in Oxford, the University of Oxford and the BMW Group, have joined forces to develop fresh insights into sustainable practices at MINI Plant Oxford.

The 2023 Plant Oxford Programme will bring together 15 Oxford SDG Impact Lab Fellows, all graduate students from across Oxford University, to work with the MINI plant on projects focusing on new ways of addressing employee wellbeing, the local Oxford community and the plant's impact on the environment. It's a chance for the students to gain an insight into manufacturing and sustainable production and work together with the team at the plant to see where further developments could be made.

Andreas Kindler, CFO, MINI Plant Oxford, commented, "Oxford SDG Impact Lab is an exciting initiative that not only delivers skills for the graduates taking part but will provide us with a fresh perspective, bringing in new ideas and experiences. The plant takes sustainability very seriously, from installing photovoltaic roofs on our production buildings to implementing innovative ideas such as using recycled tyres in our new internal road surfaces. Tackling this challenge takes a combination of diverse perspectives and skills – and it's something the BMW Group is famous for and is at the heart of our long tradition of university cooperation.

"Today was the MINI Plant Oxford Lab induction Day which saw students learn more about the plant and the team who work here - and we're really looking forward to seeing the impacts of this exciting collaboration."

BMW Group Company

Postal Address
BMW (UK) Ltd.
Summit One
Summit Avenue
Farnborough
GU14 0FB

Telephone
01252 920000

Internet
www.bmw.co.uk

The Oxford plant has been part of the fabric of the city for nearly 110 years and has adapted and evolved incorporating new ideas and technology to ensure the production of quality cars such as the MINI Electric. This new partnership also reflects past ties between the University and car manufacturing in the city. The renowned British motor manufacturer and philanthropist that founded the plant, William Morris (Lord Nuffield), went on to found Nuffield College in 1937, Oxford University's first co-educational college.

Professor Alexander Betts, co-founder of the Oxford SDG Impact Lab, Associate Head (Doctoral and Research Training) of the Social Science Division and Director of the Refugee Studies Centre at the University of Oxford, said: "We are incredibly excited to partner with the BMW Group and the MINI Plant. The MINI Plant and the University are among the largest employers in Oxford and have a shared aspiration to have a positive social and environmental impact on our city and our community. This collaboration will enable our students to be part of that story, applying their talents to address practical challenges of both global and local importance."

To date, the BMW Group has already set clear CO2 reduction targets across the lifecycle of every vehicle but are constantly seeking new ways to cut emissions. By 2030, the CO2 emissions per vehicle will be at least halved from 2019 levels. The BMW Group was the first German carmaker to join the Business Ambition for 1.5°C. The most robust commitment to the goal of full climate neutrality over the entire value-added chain by 2050 at the latest. By doing so, it is also part of the Race to Zero.

For more information about BMW Group UK and The Oxford Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Impact Lab's new partnership visit:

www.sdglab.uk/programme

Ends.

If you have any questions, please contact:

Corporate Communications

Kimberley Ragousis

Corporate Communications Manager

Tel: 07815 374 418, Email: Kimberley.Ragousis@bmwgroup.com

Mica Sanstede

General Manager UK Plants Communication Oxford, Hams Hall and Swindon

Tel: 07815 370 698, Email: micaela.sandstede@bmw.de

Graham Biggs

Corporate Communications Director

Tel: 07815 376 867, Email: Graham.Biggs@bmw.co.uk

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 over 30 production sites all over the world; the company has a global sales network in more than 140 countries.

In 2021, the BMW Group sold over 2.5 million passenger vehicles and more than 194,000 motorcycles worldwide. The profit before tax in the financial year 2021 was €16.1 billion on revenues amounting to €111.2 billion. As of 31 December 2021, the BMW Group had a workforce of 118,909 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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The Oxford Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Impact Lab

The Oxford Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Impact Lab brings together the research expertise of the University of Oxford with partners across sectors, to address the most pressing challenges of our time. The Lab's programmes enable talented graduate students from across the world to collaborate with non-academic partners to identify creative, interdisciplinary solutions that advance the UN SDGs. Established in 2021, the Lab is working

in partnership with the BMW GROUP (UK), easyJet holidays, and the UN World Tourism Organization, to deliver impactful research. To find out more visit: sdglab.uk

The SDGs are a collection of 17 interlinked global goals that are designed to be, 'a shared blueprint for peace and prosperity for people and the planet, now and into the future'. The SDGs were set up in 2015 by the United Nations General Assembly and are intended to be achieved by 2030.

Oxford University has been placed number 1 in the Times Higher Education World University Rankings for the seventh year running, and 2 in the QS World Rankings 2022.