

Media Information  
December 19, 2017

## **The countdown has begun: first BMW X7 pre-production models roll off the assembly line in the USA.**

- BMW Group Spartanburg plant in the USA prepares for BMW X7 series production.
- Presentation of the BMW X7 at the end of 2018.

**Munich / Spartanburg.** Production of the first pre-production models of the new BMW X7 Sports Activity Vehicle has commenced at the BMW Group Spartanburg plant, USA. So the countdown has started for the final twelve months leading up to the presentation of the production car at the end of 2018. Prior to this, the vehicle will undergo various tests under partially extreme conditions.

Knudt Flor, head of the BMW Group Spartanburg plant: "We are proud to produce the BMW X7 here in Spartanburg, the home of our X models. This is a very special vehicle and our employees are looking forward to yet a further member of the X family. Together with the BMW X7, a total of five BMW X models will be exported from Spartanburg to all four corners of the globe."

### **Camouflage wrap conceals final look.**

At the plant, the production of pre-series models serves to secure and optimise future series production. Consequently, BMW X7 pre-production models already use the same assembly line as the BMW X5 and BMW X6 production models. An especially trained team realises the series production process for new vehicle models at the plant and qualifies employees for future series production.

The pre-production models built at the BMW Group Spartanburg plant are handed over to development department specialists, who require them for homologation, registration as well as for diverse testing purposes such as endurance tests and test drives under extreme conditions in the desert regions of Death Valley or on the ice and snow covered slopes of Scandinavia.

The pre-production model is fitted with its camouflage wrap while still at the plant. The conspicuous striped patterns are designed to help conceal the new SAV's final look as far as possible.

### **Fifth series from the BMW Group Spartanburg plant.**

In Spartanburg, the BMW Group produces BMW X models for the USA and the global market.



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With record production figures of more than 411,000 units in 2016, Spartanburg is currently the BMW Group's largest plant worldwide. Around 70 percent of the vehicles produced in Spartanburg are exported to 140 countries throughout the world. According to the US Ministry of Trade, the BMW Group is therefore the largest vehicle exporter in the USA measured in export value. Maximum annual production capacity stands at around 450,000 vehicles.

The BMW Group Spartanburg plant employs more than 9,000 people; a further 1,000 jobs are to be added by the year 2021. Each day, 1,400 BMW X3, X4, X5 and X6 models come off the assembly line at the Spartanburg plant; these will be complemented by a fifth series, the BMW X7, for which the Spartanburg plant is currently preparing.

To date, the BMW Group has invested eight billion US dollars in the production location and has built around 3.9 million vehicles since being taken into operation on 8 September 1994.

\*Due to the pre-series vehicle status, technical details like fuel consumption, CO2 emissions, etc. will be communicated later next year.

**In the event of enquiries please contact:**

Christophe Koenig, Media Relations Manager BMW X Models  
Phone: +49-89-382-56097, Fax: +49-89-382-20626  
E-Mail: [Christophe.Koenig@bmw.de](mailto:Christophe.Koenig@bmw.de)

Sandra Schillmoeller, Communications BMW Group Production Network  
Phone: +49-89-382-12225, Fax: +49-89-382-25878  
E-Mail: [Sandra.Schillmoeller@bmw.de](mailto:Sandra.Schillmoeller@bmw.de)

Internet: [www.press.bmw.de](http://www.press.bmw.de)  
E-Mail: [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.



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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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