

BMW Manufacturing Co., LLC

Press Information

Media Information

April 4, 2019

BMW Manufacturing to Host 8th Annual Supplier Diversity Conference.

- More than 2,400 Will Attend One of the Nation's Largest Supplier Diversity Events.
- BMW and Supplier Spending with Women-, Minority- and Veteran-Owned Companies Nearly Quadruples since First Event in 2012.

Spartanburg, S.C. BMW Manufacturing will host the eighth annual Supplier Diversity Conference today, at the Greenville Convention Center in Greenville, SC. The conference, one of the largest supplier diversity events in the nation, is an opportunity for women-, minority-, and veteran-owned businesses to participate in a day of professional development and to network with BMW's Tier 1 suppliers.

"The BMW Group believes in the value of diversity," said Knudt Flor, president and CEO of BMW Manufacturing. "We believe that diversity among our suppliers adds value throughout the organization, sparks innovation and improves productivity."

Speakers at the event include Dr. Andreas Wendt, BMW AG Board of Management Member responsible for Purchasing, Knudt Flor and Murat Aksel, Senior Vice President of Purchasing and Supplier Network Americas. Keynote speaker is Stedman Graham, author, educator and entrepreneur. South Carolina Lt. Governor Pamela Evette will also be in attendance at the luncheon and Business Opportunity Networking event.

"The U.S. is the BMW Group's second largest purchasing market in the world, after Germany," said Askel. "Last year, 70% of the BMW Group's purchasing volumes in the North American region originated in the U.S. which provides a lot of opportunities for local suppliers."



BMW Manufacturing Co., LLC

Press Information

This year's event includes 269 exhibitors and more than 2,400 registered attendees. Throughout the day, participants will have the opportunity to attend breakout sessions on professional development topics, drive BMWs at the BMW Performance Center and tour the BMW plant in Spartanburg. Everyone looks forward to the Business Opportunity Networking Conference from 1 to 5 p.m., where women-, minority- and veteran-owned businesses can meet BMW Tier 1 suppliers and discuss their skills. Media may attend the Business Opportunity Networking Conference.

"An important part of my job is to ensure BMW and our Tier 1 suppliers include diverse businesses in the competitive bidding process," said Louise Connell, supplier diversity manager at BMW Manufacturing. "The BMW Supplier Diversity Conference is a great opportunity for each participant to meet many of BMW's suppliers and showcase their abilities. I have personally seen and heard many of these businesses being awarded national and global contracts with our suppliers."

Since the first conference in 2012, BMW and its suppliers have nearly quadrupled spending with women-, minority- and veteran-owned companies. Last year's event drew more than 2,200 participants and 240 Tier 1 suppliers. **Registration for this year's event is closed.**

BMW Group Plant Spartanburg produces more than 1,400 vehicles each day. In 2018, the Spartanburg plant produced 356,749 vehicles. The factory has a production capacity of up to 450,000 vehicles and employs more than 11,000 people.

#

BMW Manufacturing Co., LLC

BMW Manufacturing Co., LLC is a subsidiary of BMW AG in Munich, Germany, and is the global producer of the BMW X3, X3 M, X5, X5 M and X7 Sports Activity Vehicles and X4, X4 M, X6 and X6 M Sports Activity Coupes. In addition to the South Carolina manufacturing facility, BMW Group North American subsidiaries include sales, marketing and financial services operations in the United States, Canada and throughout Latin



BMW Manufacturing Co., LLC

Press Information

America; and a design firm and technology office in California. For more information on BMW Manufacturing, visit www.bmwusfactory.com.

BMW Group In America

BMW of North America, LLC has been present in the United States since 1975. Rolls-Royce Motor Cars NA, LLC began distributing vehicles in 2003. The BMW Group in the United States has grown to include marketing, sales, and financial service organizations for the BMW brand of motor vehicles, including motorcycles, the MINI brand, and Rolls-Royce Motor Cars; Designworks, a strategic design consultancy based in California; technology offices in Silicon Valley and Chicago, and various other operations throughout the country. BMW Manufacturing Co., LLC in South Carolina is the BMW Group global center of competence for BMW X models and manufactures the X3, X4, X5, X6 and X7 Sports Activity Vehicles and Coupes. The BMW Group sales organization is represented in the U.S. through networks of 347 BMW passenger car and BMW Sports Activity Vehicle centers, 148 BMW motorcycle retailers, 125 MINI passenger car dealers, and 37 Rolls-Royce Motor Car dealers. BMW (US) Holding Corp., the BMW Group's sales headquarters for North America, is located in Woodcliff Lake, New Jersey.

#

Journalist note: BMW Plant Spartanburg information is available at www.bmwusfactory.com. Information about BMW Group and its products in the USA is available at www.press.bmwna.com and www.bmwusanews.com.

#

If you have any questions, please contact Corporate Communications:

Sky Foster, Department Manager, Corporate Communications, BMW Manufacturing Co.
Telephone: +1 864-802-5546, sky.foster@bmwmc.com

Steve Wilson, Media Communications Specialist, Corporate Communications, BMW Manufacturing Co.
Telephone: +1 864-802-5346, steve.wilson@bmwmc.com

