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New ŠKODA AUTO endowment fund helps to improve appeal of Mladá Boleslav region

- › With the newly established endowment fund ŠKODA AUTO provides a comprehensive and sustainable support to the Mladá Boleslav region
- › Overall capital amounts to the equivalent of 30 million euros
- › Representatives of ŠKODA AUTO and Mladá Boleslav and Kosmonosy city authorities introduced the contents, goals and measures of the program „New Mladá Boleslav region”

Mladá Boleslav, 12 December 2018 – With its newly established endowment fund, ŠKODA AUTO is helping to sustainably improve the appeal of Mladá Boleslav, Kosmonosy and the surrounding communities. ŠKODA AUTO Board Member for Human Resources, Bohdan Wojnar, presented the project in detail together with representatives from the city of Mladá Boleslav, Kosmonosy and the KOVO Union, in Mladá Boleslav on Wednesday.

Bohdan Wojnar, ŠKODA AUTO Board Member for Human Resources, said: “With this new endowment fund, we will be able to make important investments possible and to sustainably support the public sector in improving infrastructure. Mladá Boleslav is our company’s home and ŠKODA AUTO is aware of its social responsibility. For this reason, we are also helping to improve the quality of life of our staff as well as all residents of the Mladá Boleslav region.”

ŠKODA AUTO is underlining its close connection to the company’s home town and is committing itself to comprehensively improving the Mladá Boleslav region’s attractiveness. At the round-table talk in the InnoCube, ŠKODA AUTO’s newly opened innovation area in Mladá Boleslav, ŠKODA AUTO presented the newly established endowment fund in detail. In addition to ŠKODA AUTO Board Member for Human Resources Bohdan Wojnar, Jiří Bouška (First Deputy Mayor of Mladá Boleslav), Robin Povšik (Deputy Mayor of Mladá Boleslav), Jiří Müller (Mayor of Kosmonosy) and Eduard Masarčík (Deputy Mayor of Kosmonosy) also took part in the Round Table.

The ŠKODA AUTO endowment fund amounts to 30 million euros. In the next three years, it is supposed to support investments in Mladá Boleslav and the surrounding areas. In order to do this, ŠKODA AUTO is working closely with partners from politics, administration and civil society. The car manufacturer cooperates among others with the Czech government, city authorities of Mladá Boleslav and Kosmonosy, the administrations of surrounding towns and communities, as well as the region of Central Bohemia. ŠKODA AUTO also strives to motivate other business organizations in the region to participate on increasing its appeal.

ŠKODA AUTO had ŠKODA AUTO University and a market research institute hold numerous conversations with various interest groups in advance. Bohdan Wojnar presented the results of the resident survey at the round-table talk. The results showed that most residents would like the level of safety within the city and region to be increased, improvements in terms of housing, the transport network to be optimised and the range of leisure activities to be extended.

ŠKODA AUTO is also placing great importance on proximity to residents for further implementation of the investments. Another survey on www.noveboleslavsko.cz, starting today, will gather



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concrete proposals for the 'Ten weeks for the Mladá Boleslav region' project. This way, residents can suggest which other projects should be addressed in 2019.

ŠKODA AUTO has long been devoted to its home region and supports local organisations in different ways. On 4 December for example, the car manufacturer donated two OCTAVIA and a cheque for two million Czech korunas to the Mladá Boleslav municipal police. ŠKODA also gave four cars to several colleges that run their own driving schools in the region.

Securing jobs for the long term at ŠKODA AUTO's main plant is an important factor for strengthening the Mladá Boleslav region. To that end, ŠKODA AUTO is consistently backing future technologies such as electromobility. In addition to electric cars (to start production in 2020), the factory in [Mladá Boleslav will also produce electric components for models from several Volkswagen Group brands from as early as 2019](#).

Furthermore, ŠKODA AUTO also promotes future technologies for urban traffic. Together with the city of Mladá Boleslav and energy supplier ŠKO-ENERGO, the car manufacturer built a 50-kW quick-charging station for electric cars at the aeronautical museum at Mladá Boleslav's airport. To promote electromobility, ŠKODA AUTO has launched the largest investment programme in its history. Within the next five years, the car manufacturer intends to invest around two billion euros in electromobility and new mobility services.

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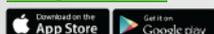
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Bohdan Wojnar, ŠKODA AUTO Board Member for Human Resources (in the middle), presented the newly established endowment fund on 12 December. On photo together with Jiří Bouška, First Deputy Mayor of Mladá Boleslav, Robin Povšík, Deputy Mayor of Mladá Boleslav, Martin Hrdlička, Head of Chassis and Powertrain Development ŠKODA AUTO and Member of Management Board of Endowment fund ŠKODA AUTO, Michal Kadera, Head of External Relations ŠKODA AUTO and Chairman of the Management Board of Endowment fund ŠKODA AUTO, Jiří Müller, Mayor of Kosmonosy and Eduard Masarčík, Deputy Mayor of Kosmonosy (from left).

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On 4 December 2018 ŠKODA AUTO donated cars to several colleges in the region as well as the Mladá Boleslav municipal police. The municipal police also received a cheque for two million Czech korunas.

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ŠKODA AUTO

- › was founded during the pioneering days of the automobile in 1895, making it one of the longest-established car companies in the world.
- › currently offers its customers nine passenger-car series: the CITIGO, FABIA, RAPID, SCALA, OCTAVIA, KAROQ, KODIAQ, as well as the KAMIQ (in China) and the SUPERB.
- › delivered more than 1.2 million vehicles to customers around the world in 2017.
- › has been a part of Volkswagen Group since 1991. Volkswagen Group is one of the most successful vehicle manufacturers in the world. In association with the Group, ŠKODA AUTO independently develops and manufactures vehicles, as well as components such as engines and transmissions.
- › operates at three locations in the Czech Republic; manufactures in China, Russia, Slovakia, Algeria and India mainly through Group partnerships, as well as in Ukraine and Kazakhstan with local partners.
- › employs over 35,000 people globally and is active in more than 100 markets.
- › is pressing ahead with the transformation from a traditional car manufacturer to the 'Simply Clever company for the best mobility solutions' as part of the ŠKODA 2025 Strategy.