

All-new Škoda Kodiaq and Superb: Rigorous tests under extreme conditions successfully completed

- › **World premieres of the all-new Kodiaq and Superb model series taking place this autumn**
- › **From -30 °C to almost 50 °C: Wide range of tests under extreme conditions simulate 40 years of vehicle use on the road before market launch**
- › **Virtual testing begins roughly four years before a new model arrives at dealerships**

Mladá Boleslav, 19 September 2023 – The new generations of Škoda’s Superb and Kodiaq model series have successfully completed an intensive international test programme. The Czech carmaker put both models through their paces ahead of their upcoming world premieres. Over a period of two years, they covered more than a million kilometres. The test drives exposed the cars to temperatures of -30 °C north of the Arctic Circle as well as almost 50 °C in the Arizona desert. Moreover, Škoda Auto had them towing trailers on the Grossglockner High Alpine Road and tested various charging infrastructures for the variants with plug-in-hybrid drivetrains. With numerous additional endurance and material assessments on test rigs and in the laboratory, Škoda simulates 40 years of real-world vehicle use prior to the model’s launch.

Johannes Neft, Škoda Auto Board Member for Technical Development, says, “We live by the words of our founders Laurin and Klement from 1895: Only the best is good enough for our customers. For that reason, we push our cars to the limit, simulating and testing everything our customers might face during their journeys. Our vehicles complete well over a million kilometres in urban traffic, on country roads and on motorways within a few months – a distance an average customer would need 40 years to cover.”

Florian Weymar, Head of Škoda Auto Quality Assurance, adds, “Before the start of series production, we assess all of the roughly 7,000 components. Our rigorous test programmes yield precise data on each part’s resilience, durability, and overall quality. From these extreme tests, we gain insights into factors like thermal endurance and even the durability of paints and finishes. We are committed to identifying and implementing any necessary adjustments.”

Extensive tests to examine all components of a new model generation

While the first virtual tests for a new model start roughly four years before its debut, real-world drives begin around two years after. These sessions thoroughly examine the vehicle’s overall quality and durability – from its chassis and body to its powertrain and electrical systems, ensuring performance even under the harshest conditions. In addition, many

individual components and entire assemblies, such as the new DCC Pro system and the new TOP LED Matrix headlights, are tested on special test rigs and in the laboratory.

Confronting the extremes: Arctic cold to desert heat

Ahead of their upcoming world premieres, the new generations of the Superb and Kodiaq endured tests under the most severe weather conditions. The vehicles were exposed to temperatures as low as -30 °C north of the Arctic Circle as well as tests in the searing heat of Spain, Africa and the Arizona desert at temperatures of up to 50 °C. The assessments also revealed details on the thermal behaviour of the new plug-in-hybrid drivetrain.

Additional focus areas: towing and charging evaluations

On the Grossglockner High Alpine Road in the Austrian Alps, the all-new Superb and Kodiaq successfully proved their worth as towing vehicles. These mountain road tests, with inclines reaching 13%, offered valuable insights into brake efficiency and thermal regulation. As both models series will be also available as PHEV versions with an electric range of over 100 kilometres, Škoda took the initiative to also assess varied charging options and infrastructure.

Having successfully completed the intense testing programme, both model series are now ready for their world premieres in the coming weeks. The new vehicle generations round off the upper end of Škoda's comprehensive product portfolio that caters the diverse preferences its global customers.

Contact

Vítězslav Kodym

Head of Product Communications

+420 326 811 784

vitezslav.kodym@skoda-auto.cz

Zbyněk Straškraba

Product Communications

+420 326 811 785

zbynek.straskraba@skoda-auto.cz

Video and media images



Video: All-new Škoda Kodiaq and Superb: Rigorous tests under extreme conditions successfully completed

In this video, Škoda Auto captures the Kodiaq and Superb's challenges, from sub-zero Arctic conditions to the Arizona desert's searing heat. The footage also showcases trailer evaluations on the Grossglockner High Alpine Road and exhaustive lab tests.

Source: Škoda Auto



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Ahead of its world premiere in autumn 2023, the second-generation Škoda Kodiaq was put through its paces across diverse terrains and climates.

Source: Škoda Auto



All-new Škoda Kodiaq and Superb: Rigorous tests under extreme conditions successfully completed

When testing new vehicles like the fourth-generation Superb, Škoda Auto simulates 40 years of real-world use before the vehicle's official market launch.

Source: Škoda Auto



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Škoda Auto

- › is successfully steering through the new decade with the Next Level - Škoda Strategy 2030.
- › aims to be one of the five best-selling brands in Europe by 2030 with an attractive line-up in the entry-level segments and additional e-models.
- › is emerging as the leading European brand in important growth markets such as India or North Africa.
- › currently offers its customers eleven passenger-car series: the Fabia, Scala, Octavia and Superb as well as the Kamiq, Karoq, Kodiaq, Enyaq, Enyaq Coupé, Slavia and Kushaq.
- › delivered over 731,000 vehicles to customers around the world in 2022.
- › has been a member of the Volkswagen Group for 30 years. The Volkswagen Group is one of the most successful vehicle manufacturers in the world.
- › independently manufactures and develops not only vehicles but also components such as MEB battery systems, engines and transmissions in association with the Group.
- › operates at three sites in the Czech Republic; has additional production capacity in China, Slovakia and India primarily through Group partnerships, as well as in Ukraine with a local partner.
- › employs over 40,000 people globally and is active in over 100 markets.