



Audi is establishing a high-voltage battery development at the Neckarsulm site

- **Oliver Hoffmann, Member of the Board for Technical Development: “expanding skills in strategically important components of e-mobility”**
- **The Technical Development unit is becoming a center of competency for high-voltage energy storage systems**
- **Settling a battery center in Neckarsulm by 2023 and training programs for employees**

Neckarsulm, October 27, 2021 – Audi is expanding its development of high-voltage batteries and banking on the Neckarsulm location for that. With that strategic decision, technical development will be intensified for the future and Neckarsulm will become a center of competency for a key electromobility technology. Employees will be trained for that by the end of 2020. In order to specialize in the field of high-voltage batteries, Audi will offer its employees in the Neckarsulm Technical Development unit various advanced training opportunities in the coming years. Audi is already developing high-voltage batteries for plug-in hybrids (PHEV) in Neckarsulm. Now, development of complete high-voltage battery portfolios for fully electric vehicles is being predominantly settled at that location and gradually expanded for that purpose. Additionally, a battery center for testing high-voltage storage technologies will go into operation by 2023.

A clear roadmap for a successful future: Audi is promoting development of strategically significant skills for electromobility at the Neckarsulm site. “High-voltage batteries and electric engines make up an important strategic component of future value creation in a transformed auto industry. That is why we are systematically expanding our competency in developing these components,” says Oliver Hoffmann, Member of the Board for Technical Development at Audi. The structures for PHEV high-voltage battery development already exist: for that reason, the location is best prepared for also developing the complete high-voltage battery portfolio. In perspective, personnel in high-voltage battery development – in continued close collaboration with high-voltage battery development at the Ingolstadt site – will be located primarily in Neckarsulm.

Technical center for developing and testing battery prototypes

Additionally, a battery center is in development at the Neckarsulm site: in this laboratory for pilot projects, employees with additional training who previously worked at the testing facility for combustion engines will be testing new high-voltage storage modules for various electric



vehicles starting in 2023. “The company’s investment decision to locate high-voltage battery development and a battery center in Neckarsulm is a clear commitment to electrification and with it the site’s long-term security,” says Audi Neckarsulm Plant Manager Fred Schulze. The newly anchored high-voltage battery competency in Neckarsulm will additionally benefit from the expertise that is already available at that site: it will create synergies with the light-construction center.

Employees’ competency as a key to success in electromobility

“The decision to locate battery development in Neckarsulm is an important first step toward giving the Technical Development staff at that location a secure outlook on the future even after combustion engines have been discontinued,” says Rolf Klotz, chairman of the Works Council. “Consequently, Audi is banking on the high competency of its employees in Neckarsulm to successfully shape the future of electromobility.” Since late 2020, Audi has continuously trained employees in the Neckarsulm Technical Development unit for the field of high-voltage energy storage system and more and more employees will be brought into this field in the coming years. To become specialists in this field, Audi employees in the Technical Development unit have access to various advanced training opportunities.

Audi’s commitment to the Neckarsulm site is also reflected in several construction projects: New construction on a multi-function building for the Technical Development unit will be completed in late 2022 and the new paint shop by 2025. A new building for assembly is already geared toward mixed production and future e-models. The e-tron GT – the leading edge on Audi’s path toward an electric future – will be manufactured in the “Böllinger Höfe” plant. With the plug-in hybrids and mild hybrids of the A6, A7, and A8 models, the core series of the Audi site are already being electrified today.

Audi is transforming its locations and setting the course for the age of electric mobility

With its “Vorsprung 2030” strategy, Audi has announced that it will exclusively bring new electric models to the world market starting in 2026. The company will phase out production of internal combustion engines between by 2033. Audi will correspondingly transform its locations and employees: since 2017, about 30,000 Audi employees worldwide have already been trained for e-mobility.



More voices on high-voltage battery development at the Neckarsulm site [refer to link](#).

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In 2020, the Audi Group delivered to customers about 1.693 million automobiles of the Audi brand, 7,430 sports cars of the Lamborghini brand and 48,042 motorcycles of the Ducati brand. In the 2020 fiscal year, AUDI AG achieved total revenue of €50.0 billion and an operating profit before special items of €2.7 billion. At present, around 87,000 people work for the company all over the world, 60,000 of them in Germany. With new models, innovative mobility offerings and other attractive services, Audi is becoming a provider of sustainable, individual premium mobility.
