



Press Release page 1 of 2

Energy-efficient and Innovative: ŠKODA Builds New Press Shop in Mladá Boleslav

- › **Start of construction: New press shop hall at ŠKODA's main factory**
- › **Innovation: First ŠKODA press line for body panels made of aluminium**
- › **New turbo press line PXL 2 goes into operation early 2017**
- › **Environment and efficiency: Low power consumption, short changeover times**
- › **Investment: Around €86 million on technology, construction & infrastructure**

Mladá Boleslav, 5 November 2015 – ŠKODA is building a new, energy-efficient press shop at their main factory in Mladá Boleslav. Construction work has now begun on the M4 hall. In spring 2016, ŠKODA will be installing a new, ultra-modern servo press line in the new hall that will be able to press body panels made of aluminium for the first time. The new facility is expected to go into operation in February 2017. ŠKODA is investing around €86 million into the project.

By constructing the new press shop, ŠKODA is implementing a key measure to make their production more modern, environmentally friendly and efficient. Just two years ago, ŠKODA launched the PXL 1 servo press line at the Mladá Boleslav plant.

The servo press line PXL 2 will be able to compress large aluminium parts extremely energy-efficiently while also being easy to operate. By recovering the energy released during pressing, the new press line consumes up to 15 percent less energy compared to conventional systems in continuous operation.

"The new press shop will be making our production a great deal more environmentally friendly, efficient and forward looking," explains Michael Oeljeklaus, ŠKODA Board Member responsible for Production and Logistics. "Just like the PXL 1, the new facility will make a significant contribution to sustainable production at Mladá Boleslav. We would also like to thank the KOVO trade union for their support in the construction of the new press shop."

The total investments into the new press shop amount to €86.4 million. Now that the old M4 building has successfully been demolished, the construction of the new M4 hall is expected to be complete by mid-2016. €19.5 million euros will be invested solely in the infrastructure and reconstruction of the 11,600-m² hall. The construction of the new line PXL 2 will then begin in the spring of 2016. Commissioning is scheduled for February 2017. ŠKODA is investing almost €55 million into modern press technology.

The new facility is going to be one of the most modern of its kind in Central Europe. 14 decentralized servomotors will ensure the whole line runs smoothly. The individual processes on the PXL-line can be adjusted much more flexibly than previously, by means



Press Release page 2 of 2

of a large motor-driven press system. The changeover times are also impressive: tools can be changed in just three minutes. By comparison, even the end of the 1990s, it took around 15 minutes for a tool change, i.e. five times as long.

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- > is one of the longest-established vehicle production companies in the world. In 1895, the Czech headquarters in Mladá Boleslav began producing bicycles, followed by the production of motorbikes and cars.
- > currently offers the following models in the range: Citigo, Fabia, Roomster, Rapid, Octavia, Yeti and Superb.
- > in 2014 delivered more than 1 million vehicles to customers worldwide for the first time in a single year.
- > has belonged to Volkswagen since 1991. The Volkswagen Group is one of the most successful automotive groups in the world. ŠKODA, in association with the Group, independently manufactures and develops vehicles, as well as components, engines and gear transmissions.
- > operates at three locations in the Czech Republic, produces in China, Russia, Slovakia and India mainly through Group partnerships, as well as in Ukraine and Kazakhstan through local partners.
- > employs over 25,900 people globally and is active in more than 100 markets.