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# China visit: Prime Minister Sobotka visits ŠKODA production in Anting

- › High-ranking Czech governmental delegation visits Shanghai Volkswagen's Anting site
- › Anting is one of four production sites for ŠKODA cars in China
- › Meeting with ŠKODA CEO Bernhard Maier and ŠKODA Board Member for Human Resources Bohdan Wojnar
- › ŠKODA's success in China: over 1.5 million cars have been delivered since 2007
- › Expansion of the model range in China
- › Growth target: 500,000 ŠKODA deliveries per year in China

**Mladá Boleslav/Shanghai, 23 November 2015 – As part of his state visit to China, the Czech Prime Minister Bohuslav Sobotka visited the ŠKODA production site on 23 November 2015 at Shanghai Volkswagen's (SVW) Anting site, located near Shanghai. Since November 2013, a special Chinese version of the compact SUV, the ŠKODA Yeti, has rolled off the production line there. As well as the visit to the car factory, the governmental delegation's agenda also included a meeting with ŠKODA CEO Bernhard Maier and ŠKODA Board Member for Human Resources Bohdan Wojnar.**

"In recent years, ŠKODA has developed extremely well in China," stressed ŠKODA CEO Bernhard Maier. "The fact that over 1.5 million cars have been sold since our 2007 market launch in China shows that ŠKODA cars and Czech engineering expertise are much sought after by Chinese customers. Over the next few years, we wish to continue along the road to success in our largest individual market with the expansion of an attractive SUV campaign," said Maier. "I am therefore delighted that we are definitely going to press ahead with the expansion of the model range in this segment."

In this context, an agreement to build a further SUV derivative as part of the worldwide SUV strategy was signed with the Chinese partner, SVW, as was a memorandum of understanding for the development of a CUV (crossover utility vehicle) in the compact segment.

Over the course of the brand's worldwide model campaign, ŠKODA has also consistently expanded its model range in China in recent times. In the last year alone, the model range doubled in the world's largest car market. From the Fabia to the Superb, six different models are now available from the long-established Czech brand. The latest highlight was the new ŠKODA Superb's market launch at the end of October 2015. The completely redeveloped ŠKODA flagship also meet the tastes and needs of customers in China with its modern, striking design as well as innovative technology and outstanding interior space.



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ŠKODA has had a presence in China since 2007. Since that time, the brand's annual sales have increased most recently to 281,400 deliveries during 2014. This corresponds to around a quarter of ŠKODA's total sales. Between January and October 2015, ŠKODA delivered 226,100 cars to the Chinese market. As a result, the brand was once again able to increase its deliveries compared to the same period last year.

From the very beginning, the Czech manufacturer has successfully relied on close cooperation with its partner Shanghai Volkswagen, (SVW), the joint venture between SAIC and Volkswagen. ŠKODA vehicles are currently manufactured in the four Chinese SVW factories in Anting, Nanjing, Yizheng and Ningbo.

The ŠKODA Yeti has rolled off the production line at the Anting factory since November 2013. This factory, located close to Shanghai, received a visit from Prime Minister Sobotka. The ŠKODA Yeti comes with a 6-cm-longer wheelbase compared to the European version of the Yeti, thereby meeting the demands of Chinese customers for more space in the rear seats. The ŠKODA Yeti convinces with its outstanding driving characteristics both on roads and on rough terrain.

### Further information:

Jozef Baláž, Corporate Communications  
T +420 326 811 773

[jozef.balaz@skoda-auto.cz](mailto:jozef.balaz@skoda-auto.cz)

Tomáš Kubík, Corporate Communications  
T +420 326 811 749

[tomas.kubik@skoda-auto.cz](mailto:tomas.kubik@skoda-auto.cz)

### Media image:



### Prime Minister Sobotka visits the ŠKODA production site in Anting

As part of his state visit to China, the Czech Prime Minister Bohuslav Sobotka (fifth from left) was today a guest at the Shanghai Volkswagen (SVW) site in Anting (Shanghai). A Chinese version of the ŠKODA Yeti compact SUV has rolled off the production line there since November 2013.

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### ŠKODA AUTO

- > is one of the longest-established vehicle manufacturers in the world. The Czech headquarters in Mladá Boleslav began production in 1895; at first with bicycles, and shortly afterwards with motorcycles and cars.
- > currently has the following passenger car model series: Citigo, Fabia, Roomster, Rapid, Octavia as well as Yeti and Superb.
- > delivered, for the first time, more than 1 million vehicles to customers worldwide in a single calendar year in 2014.
- > has been part of Volkswagen Group since 1991. Volkswagen is one of the most successful automotive companies in the world. ŠKODA, as a member of the Group, independently manufactures and develops vehicles, as well as components such as engines and transmissions.
- > operates at three different locations in the Czech Republic; produces in China, Russia, Slovakia and India mainly through Group partnerships; as well as in Ukraine and Kazakhstan with local partners.
- > employs over 25,900 people globally and is active in more than 100 markets.