



**ŠKODA**  
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## ŠKODA 4x4: safety and driving pleasure in any situation

- › ŠKODA offers an extensive range of all-wheel-drive cars
- › All-wheel drive is available in four model ranges – the KAROQ, OCTAVIA, KODIAQ and SUPERB
- › 2017 saw the production of more than 127,000 ŠKODA all-wheel-drive vehicles for the first time
- › The latest generation of the electronically controlled multi-plate clutch controls power distribution in all of ŠKODA's all-wheel-drive vehicles
- › ŠKODA OCTAVIA COMBI 4x4, the first all-wheel-drive passenger car, was introduced in 1999

Mladá Boleslav/Rovaniemi, 15 February 2018 – With its current portfolio of four all-wheel-drive models, ranging from the compact OCTAVIA through to the SUPERB, ŠKODA is one of the longest-established brands to feature all-wheel-drive technology. The first multi-axle drive systems were tested in Mladá Boleslav as early as the late 1930s. The 4x4 success story, the first chapter of which was written with a ŠKODA OCTAVIA COMBI 4x4, began in 1999. Since then, ŠKODA AUTO has produced a total of more than 700,000 all-wheel-drive vehicles. Interest in ŠKODA's all-wheel-drive cars is so high, that the Czech manufacturer has added three other cornerstones to its 4x4 range in the past three years. ŠKODA's 4x4 model range now includes the KAROQ, OCTAVIA, KODIAQ and SUPERB.

"As part of its model campaign, ŠKODA AUTO has also resolutely developed its all-wheel-drive expertise and already now belongs to the most successful 4x4 brands on the market. Now we are increasing our presence in the all-wheel-drive market with the SUV model range," said ŠKODA CEO Bernhard Maier.

Between the market launch of ŠKODA's first all-wheel-drive model – the OCTAVIA COMBI 4x4 – in 1999 and the end of 2017, ŠKODA delivered over 700,000 vehicles with 4x4-drive to customers. In the last year alone, ŠKODA AUTO sold more than 127,000 4x4 versions of the YETI, KAROQ, OCTAVIA, KODIAQ and SUPERB worldwide. ŠKODA's rally car also celebrated the most successful year in the brand's 117-year motorsport history. Last season, the ŠKODA FABIA R5 won the WRC 2 World Rally Championship, alongside other successes in interregional and national championships. The works drivers Pontus Tidemand / Jonas Andersson (SE/SE) were at the wheel in the 2017 WRC 2 FIA World Rally Championship. In addition, ŠKODA Motorsport won the WRC 2 team title.

All of the brand's current 4x4 models come equipped with all-wheel-drive technology based on the latest generation of the electronically controlled multi-plate clutch. The all-wheel-drive system works electronically, precisely and quickly. The control unit constantly calculates the ideal distribution of power between the front and rear axle. Loss of traction is therefore virtually eliminated. When coasting or at low load, drive is via the front axle, which saves fuel.

The first attempts to develop a multi-axle drive system were performed [in the late 1930s](#). ŠKODA produced several prototypes of a bus with three axles, where the two rear axles were powered, but these projects never reached the production stage.





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Next came the type 903, a military vehicle. The Czech army had invited companies to bid for the construction of a vehicle for use by high-ranking officers in the field and ŠKODA took part in the tender with the 903. The first prototype of the vehicle was built in 1936. Inspired by the ŠKODA 650 passenger car model, the prototype had a 3-litre, six-cylinder engine with a power output of 45 kW. The two rear axles of the three-axle design were powered.

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## ŠKODA AUTO

- › is one of the longest-established car manufacturers in the world. The company was founded in 1895 – during the pioneering days of the automobile. Today, the company's headquarters remain in Mladá Boleslav.
- › currently offers the following model range: CITIGO, FABIA, RAPID, OCTAVIA, KAROQ, KODIAQ and SUPERB.
- › delivered more than 1 million vehicles to customers worldwide in 2017.
- › has been part of Volkswagen Group since 1991, one of the most successful vehicle manufacturers in the world. ŠKODA, in association with the Group, independently manufactures and develops vehicles as well as components such as engines and gear transmissions.
- › operates at three locations in the Czech Republic; produces in China, Russia, Slovakia, Algeria and India mainly through Group partnerships, as well as in Ukraine and Kazakhstan with local partners.
- › employs over 30,000 people globally and is active in more than 100 markets.

