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PRESS RELEASE

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World premiere of the new ŠKODA KODIAQ GT at CIIE 2018 in Shanghai

- › ŠKODA participates in China International Import Expo 2018 and further strengthens its presence in China
- › ŠKODA AUTO CEO Bernhard Maier meets Chinese President Xi Jinping
- › Premiere of the ŠKODA KODIAQ GT at the Czech stand of the CIIE 2018
- › KODIAQ GT is another milestone in ŠKODA's SUV campaign in China

Shanghai, 7 November – ŠKODA is taking part in the first China International Import Exhibition (5-10 November 2018) in Shanghai, where the brand's new flagship model **KODIAQ GT** makes its world premiere, with which ŠKODA continues its SUV campaign in China. Alongside Czech delegates, the CEO of ŠKODA AUTO, Bernhard Maier, attended a meeting on Monday with Chinese President Xi Jinping and the Czech Head of State Miloš Zeman.

"China remains an important cornerstone of ŠKODA's growth strategy. Together with our partners, we will continue with our largest-ever five-year investment plan of over 15 billion RMB in China and further strengthen our presence on the Chinese market," said Bernhard Maier, ŠKODA AUTO CEO at the Czech China Business Forum held during the CIIE. "The CIIE provides an excellent opportunity for ŠKODA to highlight our long-term commitment to ŠKODA's strongest single market. Furthermore, we are excited to introduce our new flagship model, the KODIAQ GT, at the Czech National Booth."

ŠKODA AUTO is one of the most successful Czech companies in China. With the KODIAQ GT, ŠKODA is appealing to lifestyle-oriented customers with a vehicle that combines the robustness and versatility of an SUV with the sporty elegance and dynamism of a coupé for the first time in the SUV class. The new KODIAQ GT celebrates its official premiere in China at the Guangzhou Motor Show (16-25 November 2018).

Dr. Ralf Hanschen, President of ŠKODA China said: "The ŠKODA KODIAQ GT is another milestone in our SUV offensive in China. With the launch of the KODIAQ GT, we are also rolling out new initiatives to further raise the ŠKODA brand awareness. We will continue to provide customers with clever solutions for a better life."

During President Xi Jinping's state visit to the Czech Republic two years ago, Volkswagen, SAIC and ŠKODA AUTO signed a Memorandum of Understanding that included a five-year investment plan of over RMB 15 billion. This is the largest investment programme in ŠKODA's history in China.

ŠKODA's SUV campaign in the Chinese market is an important pillar of this initiative. This campaign began with the introduction of the large SUV ŠKODA KODIAQ in 2017. The compact KAROQ and KAMIQ SUV models were launched the Chinese market in the first half of 2018. The ŠKODA KODIAQ GT will be the Czech brand's new top model in China. ŠKODA's first SUV Coupé is the next milestone in the brand's SUV campaign.

ŠKODA's good relationship with China has a long history: In 1935 the ŠKODA POPULAR was exported to China. A year later, the brand was running five commercial agencies in the country.



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In 2007, the Czech manufacturer re-entered the Chinese market. At that time, ŠKODA launched the local production of OCTAVIA under the umbrella of the joint venture SAIC Volkswagen. Since 2010, China has been ŠKODA's largest single market. The millionth vehicle was delivered in 2013. In 2017, the company achieved a new delivery record with 325,000 vehicles in China – one in four ŠKODAs delivered worldwide that year. In February 2017, just ten years after re-entering the Chinese market, ŠKODA handed over the two-millionth vehicle to a Chinese customer.

In the first nine months of this year, the Czech brand recorded double-digit growth rates in China. By the end of September 2018, ŠKODA had delivered 250,200 vehicles to customers in China, exceeding the previous year's result by 17.7%.

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World premiere of the new ŠKODA KODIAQ GT at CIIE 2018 in Shanghai

ŠKODA AUTO CEO Bernhard Maier makes a speech at the Czech China Business Forum held during the CIIE on November 6.

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Source: ŠKODA AUTO



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ŠKODA AUTO CEO Bernhard Maier makes a speech at the Czech China Business Forum held during the CIIE on November 6.

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ŠKODA presents its new flagship for the Chinese market in Shanghai – ŠKODA continues its SUV campaign in China with the ŠKODA KODIAQ GT.

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Source: ŠKODA AUTO



World premiere of the new ŠKODA KODIAQ GT at CIIE 2018 in Shanghai

The ŠKODA KODIAQ GT will be the Czech brand's new top model in China. ŠKODA's first SUV Coupé is the next milestone in the brand's SUV campaign.

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Source: ŠKODA AUTO

ŠKODA AUTO

- › was founded during the pioneering days of the automobile in 1895, making it one of the longest-established automobile companies in the world.
- › currently offers its customers eight passenger-car series: the CITIGO, FABIA, RAPID, OCTAVIA, KAROQ, KODIAQ, as well as the KAMIQ (in China) and the SUPERB.
- › delivered more than 1.2 million vehicles to customers around the world in 2017.
- › has belonged to Volkswagen Group since 1991. The Volkswagen Group is one of the most successful vehicle manufacturers in the world. In association with the Group, ŠKODA AUTO independently develops and manufactures vehicles, as well as components such as engines and transmissions.
- › operates at three locations in the Czech Republic; manufactures in China, Russia, Slovakia, Algeria and India mainly through Group partnerships, as well as in Ukraine and Kazakhstan with local partners.
- › employs over 35,000 people globally and is active in more than 100 markets.
- › is transforming from being a traditional car manufacturer to a 'Simply Clever Company for Optimal Mobility Solutions' as part of ŠKODA Strategy 2025.

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