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ŠKODA AUTO opens co-working lab at Technical University of Liberec

- › The co-working lab serves as a platform for interaction between students and ŠKODA AUTO representatives
- › The car manufacturer supports a variety of opportunities and events for pupils and students
- › Solid training in technical professions is crucial for ensuring that the Czech Republic remains an automotive hub in the long run

Mladá Boleslav, 27 February 2019 – ŠKODA AUTO opened its UNI.Lab at the Technical University of Liberec this month. The lab is a place for students to find out about the entry-level and career opportunities ŠKODA offers for graduates. What is more, students and the car manufacturer's representatives can discuss current developments in the automotive industry, with a particular focus on electromobility, digitalisation and automation. The lab is the first facility of its kind in the Czech Republic and supports training in vocational fields central to Industry 4.0. ŠKODA AUTO supports many training projects across the country and has joined forces with two dozen universities as well as 40 vocational secondary schools and academies for technical professions.

Michael Oeljeklaus, ŠKODA AUTO Board Member for Production and Logistics, explained, "The current transformation in the automotive industry also calls for innovative concepts and interesting formats with regards to the collaboration between our company and the country's universities." He added, "In order to remain an attractive employer for the best specialists, constant interaction with up-and-coming talent is just as important as offering a wide range of entry-level and career opportunities."

ŠKODA AUTO Board Member for Human Resources, Bohdan Wojnar, said, "A solid education in technical professions is crucial for the future development of the Czech Republic as an automotive hub. That's why we have established long-term collaborations with many schools and universities that benefit everybody involved. By opening the new co-working lab at our partner university in Liberec, we have created an information hub that combines theory and practice to further improve education in technical professions in the Czech Republic."

UNI.Lab is the first co-working lab in the Czech Republic. There, students discuss specific projects and developments in the automotive industry with ŠKODA AUTO representatives and can find out about career opportunities for graduates. In addition to lectures, students are also given advice on their bachelor and master dissertations.

Across the country, ŠKODA AUTO supports 20 universities and four dozen vocational secondary schools. The car manufacturer also supplies vehicles and components for studying and research purposes. In 2018, ŠKODA donated 60 non-homologated vehicles, 55 engines, 31 gearboxes and 205 pieces of other technical equipment, which teachers and students are using to gain a deeper understanding of technology and new technological practices.

As a sponsor of the national 'Junior Mechanic' competition, ŠKODA AUTO is also actively involved in training for technical trades. More than 4,000 pupils and students regularly take part in this



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competition, which will be held this year for an impressive 25th time. The finale is traditionally held at the ŠKODA AUTO Service Training Centre.

The promotion of vocational training has a long history at ŠKODA AUTO. The car manufacturer supports pupils and students with a variety of different opportunities and events, including specialist lectures, factory visits, competitions, exhibitions, workshops, hackathons and ŠKODA DAY – an open day which takes place in autumn each year. In addition, ŠKODA offers a variety of programmes for students of technical subjects; up-and-coming talent are awarded a paid internship at the company and offered assistance with writing their final dissertation. ŠKODA offers university graduates a place on an international trainee programme including an internship abroad and a PhD course.

For more information on career opportunities for students and graduates, visit www.skoda-career.com.

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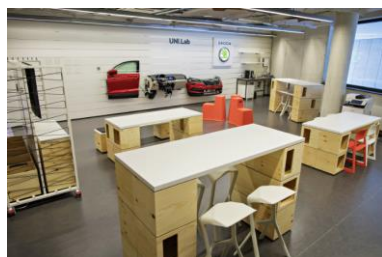


ŠKODA AUTO opens co-working lab at Technical University of Liberec

The unique lab was opened by (from left): Michael Oeljeklaus, ŠKODA AUTO Board Member for Production and Logistics, Doc. RNDr. Miroslav Brzezina, Rector of the Technical University of Liberec, and Prof. Petr Lenfeld, Dean of the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering at the Technical University of Liberec.

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At the new UNI.Lab, students can discuss specific projects from the automotive industry with ŠKODA AUTO representatives and find out about career opportunities for graduates.

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ŠKODA AUTO

- › was founded during the pioneering days of the automobile in 1895, making it one of the longest-established car companies in the world.
- › currently offers its customers nine 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 been a part of Volkswagen Group since 1991. 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, produces in China, Russia, Slovakia, Algeria and India mainly through Group partnerships, as well as in Ukraine and Kazakhstan through local partners.
- › employs over 35,000 people globally and is active in more than 100 markets.
- › is pressing ahead with the transformation from a traditional car manufacturer to the 'Simply Clever company for the best mobility solutions' as part of the ŠKODA 2025 Strategy.

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