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## Non-profit educational institute '42 Prague' opens its doors

- › '42 Prague' is the third offshoot of the Volkswagen Group's 'École 42' coder training network
- › 150 software developers will be graduating every year from the non-profit educational institute co-founded by ŠKODA AUTO

**Mladá Boleslav, 9 May 2022 – Courses started at the educational institute '42 Prague' in the Czech capital. The innovative didactic concept focuses on continuous learning and sustainably strengthening social skills. In the future, 150 programmers will be graduating from the educational institute every year.**

Maren Gräf, ŠKODA AUTO Board Member for People & Culture, emphasises: "By opening '42 Prague', we are creating the ideal conditions to actively address and successfully shape our company's transformation. The new training institute offers talented IT professionals the optimal conditions to acquire new knowledge and to develop and enhance their skills. Thanks to its innovative didactic approach, the entire program is geared towards life-long learning."

Christian Schenk, ŠKODA AUTO Board Member for Finance and IT, adds: "As one of the country's largest employers, we are committed to strengthening the Czech Republic as an international high-tech location. The graduates of the '42 Prague' educational institute will make a decisive contribution to making our company even more digital in the future, especially in the areas of software engineering, data analytics, robotics and artificial intelligence."

Initially, 150 software developers will prepare for new job descriptions and requirement profiles at the training institute co-founded by ŠKODA AUTO starting in September; in three years, 450 students are expected to learn here. The institute's didactic focus is on continuous learning and strengthening social skills. To this end, '42 Prague' relies on three different approaches. The first pillar is gamification, each student's progress is measured in levels. Furthermore, the students learn according to the concept of peer learning, collaborative learning, and independent work. The third pillar is peer evaluation, which involves learners correcting each other and thus promoting constructive discussions about project results.

The Czech Ministry of Industry and Trade awarded the educational institute auspices for the year 2022, which shows the prestige of the project. '42 Prague' is headed by [Daria Hvižďalová](#) and is the third offshoot of the Group's 'École 42' coder training network after '42 Wolfsburg' and '42 Berlin'. Apart from ŠKODA AUTO, the other co-founding companies are for example [Trask](#) and [Green:code](#). '42 Prague' cooperates with companies such as [Digiteq Automotive](#) or with local partners, such as [Czechitas](#), and others.



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## Media images:



### Non-profit educational institute '42 Prague' opens its doors

From left to right: Alexis Dutertre, Ambassador of France to the Czech Republic, Daria Hvižďalová, "42 Prague" CEO, Maren Gräf, ŠKODA AUTO Board Member for People & Culture and Christian Schenk, ŠKODA AUTO Board Member for Finance and IT, officially open the non-profit institute for up-and-coming programmers. The unique educational concept promotes lifelong learning and social skills.

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Source: ŠKODA AUTO



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Maren Gräf, ŠKODA AUTO Board Member for People & Culture, during her speech at the opening ceremony.

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## ŠKODA AUTO

- › is successfully steering through the new decade with the NEXT LEVEL – ŠKODA STRATEGY 2030.
- › aims to be one of the five best-selling brands in Europe by 2030 with an attractive line-up in the entry-level segments and additional e-models.
- › is emerging as the leading European brand in important growth markets such as India or North Africa.
- › currently offers its customers twelve passenger-car series: the FABIA, RAPID, SCALA, OCTAVIA and SUPERB as well as the KAMIQ, KAROQ, KODIAQ, ENYAQ iV, ENYAQ COUPÉ iV, SLAVIA and KUSHAQ.
- › delivered over 870,000 vehicles to customers around the world in 2021.
- › has been a member of the Volkswagen Group for 30 years. The Volkswagen Group is one of the most successful vehicle manufacturers in the world.
- › independently manufactures and develops not only vehicles but also components such as engines and transmissions in association with the Group.
- › operates at three sites in the Czech Republic; has additional production capacity in China, Russia, Slovakia and India primarily through Group partnerships, as well as in Ukraine with a local partner.
- › employs 45,000 people globally and is active in over 100 markets.