

MEDIA INFORMATION (English)

'Project Qatar Mobility': Self-driving shuttles set to take Doha's local public transport to the next level in 2022

- QIA and Volkswagen AG announce pioneering autonomous, electric transport initiative to transform urban mobility in Qatar
- Prototypes of ID. BUZZ AD shuttles from Volkswagen Commercial Vehicles and of Scania buses to operate on a SDS (self-driving system) with zero emissions
- MOIA ride hailing app is used to run the service, AID delivers SDS knowledge
- Autonomous Driving Roadmap pulled forward

Hannover/Doha, 14 December 2019 – For the first time ever a cutting-edge fleet of self-driving Level 4 electric shuttles will usher in a new era of urban mobility in a capital city in 2022: Earlier today at the Doha Forum in Qatar, in the presence of several Qatari dignitaries, representatives of Volkswagen AG and the Qatar Investment Authority (QIA) signed the 'Project Qatar Mobility'.

The goal is to develop a ground-breaking autonomous transport project and transform the future of urban mobility to a sustainable and commercial deployment of AD shuttles and Bus Services – even beyond 2022. Fostering a cross-brand collaboration as blueprint for future AD solutions, Volkswagen Commercial Vehicles, Scania, MOIA and AID-Autonomous Intelligent Driving will play an important role in this project. During the largest sporting event in the world, Qatar will thus be the venue for the world's first emission-free, electric and autonomous public transport system.

The agreement was signed by QIA CEO Mr Mansoor Al-Mahmoud and Dr Herbert Diess, Chairman of Volkswagen Group, at a ceremony in Doha today. The initiative, which is known as "Project Qatar Mobility", underlines the mutual commitment to both smart technologies and green transport:

QIA and Volkswagen will work together to develop the required physical and digital infrastructure to seamlessly integrate a fleet of self-driving vehicles into Doha's existing public transport network. Autonomous, electric ID. BUZZ AD from Volkswagen Commercial Vehicles will shuttle up to 4 passengers in Westbay area on semi-fixed routes, while high-tech Scania buses pick up larger groups. Volkswagen Group's units AID and MOIA will provide the SDS knowledge and the app software to run the service. For the first time four Volkswagen Group brands work together on such a project of urban mobility.

The landmark project will create a holistic ecosystem for autonomous driving, including the creation of an appropriate legal framework, smart city infrastructure and transfer of knowledge, which can be used as a blueprint to transform urban mobility, both in Qatar and beyond. Closed testing of the shuttle vehicles and buses



is expected to begin in 2020 and trials will start as early as 2021. The project will go live during 2022, providing a technical showcase of future autonomous driving.

Dr Herbert Diess, Chairman of Volkswagen, said: "Project Qatar Mobility will play a very important role in our Strategy Together 2025+. Addressing the economic growth, social development, and environmental management challenges identified as part of our vision and underlines our commitment to investing in next generation mobility. We will be experiencing real-world learnings and use the project as a steppingstone – for generations to come."

Within the Volkswagen Group, Volkswagen Commercial Vehicles (VWCV) is responsible for Autonomous Driving, Mobility as a Service (MaaS) and Transport as a Service (TaaS), due to the fact that first use cases are planned in the commercial sector. In future, VWCV will therefore be developing and producing corresponding Special Purpose Vehicles (SPV), such as robo-taxis and robo-vans. Outlining the aims of the project, Dr Thomas Sedran, Chairman of the Board of VWCV: "Utilising the Bulli of tomorrow with the autonomous driving system currently being developed by AID, adding the intelligent ride pooling from MOIA and enabling it to be booked via an app – thus beginning the future of urban transport: CO_2 neutral mobility combined with SDS technology for maximum efficiency and safety. In this way we are transporting an entire society, with all its requirements for clean, intelligent and sustainable mobility. VWCV is becoming an integrated mobility provider. Autonomous Driving is the key issue for the transformation of our core business."

Henrik Henriksson, President and CEO of Scania says: "At Scania, our purpose is to drive the shift to sustainable transport. In the coming years, technological and infrastructural progress in electric and autonomous vehicles will be key enablers in that shift. With regards to people transport, a higher degree of sharing is also important and through advances in autonomous transport it will be simpler to introduce more flexibility in shared people transport. It is exciting to play a role in cutting edge projects like this one in Qatar."

Commenting on the announcement, Mr Mansoor Al Mahmoud, CEO of QIA said: "For our cities to progress we need a new wave of innovation. Al-enabled, emission-free transportation technologies will help advance urban mobility, while diminishing congestion and improving energy efficiency.

The CEO of QIA added: "We are proud that QIA has been able to partner with Volkswagen to ensure that Qatar is at the forefront of these new technologies. The development of a smart transport solution will help transform the future of urban mobility, both at home and around the world."

QIA's investment strategy is based on a responsibility to generate strong and sustainable returns and our ability to identify the long-term value within a global leading company is a key driver of our success.

As such, QIA maintains a close contact with its portfolio companies and is deeply invested in their vision. QIA is a long-term investor in the Volkswagen group and has two highly regarded representatives on its Supervisory Board of Directors. QIA continues to support the continued growth of the VW group, including its ongoing expansion and the leadership position it has taken in mass vehicle electrification.



About AID-Autonomous Intelligent Driving:

AID is the Centre of Excellence for the development of level 4 autonomous driving in urban environments for the whole VW Group. We are bringing together the world's top software, robotics, Al and automotive talents to build a self-driving system capable of improving life for millions of people. Headquartered in Munich, the AID team has presently over 260 experts from 47 different nations. For us, the future isn't about merely making vehicles more autonomous, it's about making people more autonomous.

About the Volkswagen Commercial Vehicles brand:

We transport success'. As a stand-alone brand within the Volkswagen Group, Volkswagen Commercial Vehicles (VWCV) is responsible for the development, construction and sales of light commercial vehicles. They include the Transporter, Caddy and Amarok ranges, which are produced in Hannover (D), Poznań (PL), Września (PL) and Pacheco (ARG). Our vehicles transport construction workers, families and adventurers, bread rolls, parcels and surfboards. Every day they help countless people all over the world to do a good job, they operate as mobile workshops and they bring paramedics and the police to wherever they are needed. In 2018, the Volkswagen Commercial Vehicles brand shipped around 500,000 vehicles. Working at the company's sites around the globe are more than 24,000 employees, including around 15,000 at the Hannover site.

Information about the Hannover site can be found at:

https://www.facebook.com/VolkswagenNutzfahrzeugeMeinWerk/

About the Scania brand:

Scania is a provider of sustainable transport solutions and is part of the project that is exploring opportunities for autonomous people transport in the context of mobility solutions in Doha, Qatar.

About MOIA:

MOIA, a subsidiary of the Volkswagen Group, develops mobility services and works in partnership with cities and local public transport operators. MOIA is currently developing and implementing a ride pooling system to avoid individual car traffic and to use the road infrastructure more efficiently. Cities are relieved of congestion, noise and emissions. MOIA started its on-demand bus service in the German cities of Hannover and Hamburg.

About Qatar Investment Authority (QIA)

Qatar Investment Authority is the sovereign wealth fund of the State of Qatar and is a major contributor to realizing the Qatar National Vision of 2030. QIA was founded in 2005 to strengthen the country's economy by diversifying into new asset classes. Building on the heritage of Qatar investments dating back more than three decades, QIA's growing portfolio of long-term investments help complement the State of Qatar's wealth in natural resources. Headquartered in Doha, and with a subsidiary in New York (QIA Advisory), QIA is structured to operate at the very highest levels of global investing. As a world-class investor, QIA adheres to the strictest financial and commercial disciplines. QIA has a strong track record of investing in multiple asset classes, including listed securities, property, alternative assets and private equity in all the major markets globally. QIA seeks socially, economically, and environmentally responsible investments and looks beyond short-term returns, as QIA pursues balanced and sustainable growth to maximize long-term returns.



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