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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Where the future of Škoda brand engenders

Škoda Auto technical development is the third largest development center in the VW concern. It is a part of the concern development strategy and participates in many important concern projects.

“The Czech Republic as a country of cars, Škoda Auto company and Mladá Boleslav is always sight worthy because the cars for tomorrow, for future of the VW concern are made here. Škoda brand – these are the high-tech cars with an excellent value for money. Awards that Škoda models win, indicate that the Škoda company is a strong brand and we are glad it belongs to our family,” said the Chairman of the VW Board of Directors Mr. Martin Winterkorn at the Škoda Auto technology centre opening ceremonial on December 16, 2008.

According to him, hybrids, electronic drives and modular conceptions are the future of cars. That’s why the research and development are even more important than ever before (VW concern invests about 8 billion euros to the new cars and technologies every year).

This also the Chairman of the Škoda Auto Board of Directors Mr. Reinhard Jung has confirmed. Opening of the technology centre means the significant day in the history of Škoda Auto company which thereby becomes the company with a great future and the competitor of prestigious brands.

Škoda has great products with a very positive customer feedback, nevertheless the year 2009 will be a great challenge for us. Year 2008 is also in our company signed by the crisis. That’s why we have to work even more intensively and come with new models and derivatives. We invest to the future of the Škoda company,” said Reinhard Jung.



M. M. Winterkorn, R. Jung and E. Scholz answered numerous questions of the Czech and foreign media representatives at the press conference after the ceremony.



Volkswagen AG BOD Chairman Martin Winterkorn, Škoda Aut BOD Chairman Reinhard Jung and Eckhard Scholz, BOD Member for Technical Development signed the memorial deed.



Development and testing of the electronic parking sensors, which work on the base of ultra-sound, proceed in a special room with a number of road surfaces.



In more than 50m long light tunnel, which fulfils all the parameters of main road, developers review headlights of prototypes and take photometric and colorimetric measurements.



Development and testing three-cylinder engines and transmissions for needs of Škoda Auto and the VW concern has also its workplace in the technology centre.



Measurement of weight on axle of the 4x4 drive belongs to the important activities in developing new car.



Designers pay high attention to development of the new Škoda model's interior, particularly to the driver's space, which has to meet the highest standards of operating comfort..



The tireless robot takes care of long-time checking of quality, function and reliability of controls on the dashboard..

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