

## PRESS RELEASE

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# ŠKODA AUTO produces 250,000th KAROQ compact SUV

- > Compact all-rounder surpasses the mark of 250,000 models built just two years after production began
- > KAROQ enters the 2020 model year with safety and comfort features that have yet again been improved
- > SUV models and further expansion of the portfolio in this vehicle segment are key pillars of the ŠKODA 2025 Strategy

Mladá Boleslav, 20 September 2019 – Today, the 250,000<sup>th</sup> ŠKODA KAROQ rolled off the production line at the ŠKODA AUTO plant in Mladá Boleslav. The milestone model is a 1.0 TSI, 85-kW KAROQ in a metallic Black Magic finish. The compact SUV celebrated its world premiere in Stockholm in mid-May 2017; serial production began in July 2017. The KAROQ has therefore surpassed the mark of a quarter of a million units manufactured just two years after start of production.

Michael Oeljeklaus, ŠKODA AUTO Board Member for Production and Logistics, stressed, "This milestone is proof of how popular the ŠKODA KAROQ is. The fact that it has just taken a little over two years after start of production to exceed the mark of 250,000 cars manufactured is a huge success and underlines the importance of the KAROQ in our attractive model range."

ŠKODA has been building the KAROQ at its plant in Kvasiny since mid-July 2017 and also in Mladá Boleslav since January 2018. In 2018, the Czech car manufacturer delivered 115,700 KAROQs to its customers; this year it has been 97,900 vehicles so far. This makes the model one of the currently most popular ŠKODAs.

ŠKODA's SUV campaign started in 2016 with the KODIAQ, the carmaker's first large sport utility vehicle. It has been manufactured in Kvasiny since October 2016 and was launched onto the markets in the spring of 2017. Having the KODIAQ, KAROQ and the new KAMIQ city SUV in its line-up, the Czech brand offers its customers three attractive models in this vehicle segment. All of them bear 'ŠKODA' in block lettering on the tailgate instead of the logo.

For the 2020 model year, ŠKODA has provided the KAROQ with visual and technological enhancements: the successful compact SUV now comes with a comprehensive range of equipment for even more safety and comfort. Side Assist is available for example, warning the driver of vehicles in the blind spot up to 70 m away. The KAROQ's connectivity is also state-of-the-art, offering a plethora of different online services in addition to the innovative ŠKODA Connect features. What's more, the ŠKODA KAROQ sets benchmarks in terms of its chassis too, allowing for trips on rougher terrain at all times, and adaptive Dynamic Chassis Control (DCC) being available for both the front- as well as all-wheel-drive variants.

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#### Media image:



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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, SCALA, OCTAVIA, KAROQ, KODIAQ, as well as the KAMIQ and the SUPERB.
- > delivered more than 1.25 million vehicles to customers around the world in 2018.
- has been 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; manufactures in China, Russia, Slovakia, Algeria and India mainly through Group partnerships, as well as in Ukraine and Kazakhstan with local partners.
- > employs over 39,000 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.



