



**ŠKODA**  
SIMPLY CLEVER

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## ŠKODA AUTO wraps parts to be delivered to India in biodegradable film

- › **GreenLogistics:** ŠKODA AUTO staff working at the CKD centre in Mladá Boleslav wrap vehicle components using eco-friendly packaging
- › **Avoiding plastic:** biodegradable film replaces approximately 500 kg of plastic film each month
- › **Recycling:** the organic packaging material is composted at the Indian plant in Pune and used to enrich the soil in the logistics park

**Mladá Boleslav, 9 September 2020 – In a current pilot project, ŠKODA AUTO is testing biodegradable film for the packaging of vehicle components shipped to the Indian plant in Pune. The film protects the parts as effectively as conventional plastic film. There is, however, an essential difference: after use, it can be composted. Three to six months later, the film goes on to help improve the soil at the logistics park in Pune. Employees at the CKD centre in ŠKODA AUTO's main plant are implementing this packaging concept, saving around 500 kg of conventional plastic film each month.**

David Strnad, Head of Brand Logistics at ŠKODA AUTO, emphasised, “At ŠKODA AUTO we take a holistic approach to continuously improving our ecological footprint. To this end, we systematically encourage our staff to develop and implement innovative concepts. The compostable packaging for our component deliveries to India is a concrete example of this. Together with our colleagues at the Pune site, we are currently successfully testing the use of corn starch-based film. This has enabled us to halve the amount of conventional plastic packaging used on parts delivered there while providing the same level of protection.”

In order to effectively reduce the amount of plastic film required to wrap the components for shipping to Pune, the ŠKODA logistics department was specifically looking for biodegradable alternatives. A compostable film was subsequently put to the test at the CKD centre in Mladá Boleslav. Several sample consignments were then checked to see whether they met the strict requirements for shipping overseas in containers. And indeed, quality control on the shipment's arrival in Pune confirmed that the components neither showed any signs of damage nor traces of corrosion. To assess whether the packaging could be composted as intended, logistics staff built composters on site using recycled material. In addition to the film, the composters were also filled with other biowaste. Just six months later, the film had largely biologically decomposed. ŠKODA AUTO is now testing the innovative film's suitability for everyday use on a larger scale. July 2020 saw the launch of a pilot project for this purpose, which will initially run until June 2021.

The composted packaging goes on to be used in Pune as organic fertilizer for the trees in the logistics park among other things. Since March 2019, employees from the logistics department and visitors alike have had the opportunity to plant a tree in front of the factory gates, thus transforming former wasteland into a park.



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## Sustainable operations and avoiding waste as important pillars of ŠKODA AUTO's environmental strategy

The site in Pune is also pursuing the implementation of numerous other projects to make its production even more sustainable and to consistently minimise its ecological footprint. In December 2019, for example, ŠKODA AUTO Volkswagen India Private Limited [commissioned one of India's largest solar-power rooftop installations](#) at the location, thereby reinforcing its commitment to an ecologically sustainable future. The rooftop system consisting of 25,770 photovoltaic panels can cover up to 15 per cent of the plant's annual electricity requirements. This reduces CO<sub>2</sub> emissions resulting from car production by more than 9,000 tonnes per year.

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### Media image:



### ŠKODA AUTO wraps parts to be delivered to India in biodegradable film

In a current pilot project, ŠKODA AUTO is testing biodegradable film for the packaging of vehicle components shipped to the Indian plant in Pune. The film meets the strict packaging requirements for shipping overseas and protects the parts as effectively as conventional plastic film.

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Source: ŠKODA AUTO

### ŠKODA AUTO

- › is this year celebrating 125 years since the company was founded during the pioneering era of the automobile in 1895, making it one of the longest-established car manufacturers in the world.
- › currently offers its customers nine passenger-car series: the CITIGO, FABIA, RAPID, SCALA, OCTAVIA and SUPERB as well as the KAMIQ, KAROQ and KODIAQ.
- › delivered 1.24 million vehicles to customers around the world in 2019.
- › 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 and India mainly through Group partnerships, as well as in Ukraine and Kazakhstan with local partners.
- › employs approximately 42,000 people globally and is active in more than 100 markets.
- › is pressing ahead with the transformation from a traditional car manufacturer into the 'Simply Clever company for the best mobility solutions' as part of the ŠKODA 2025 Strategy.