



**ŠKODA**  
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# PRESS RELEASE

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## ŠKODA AUTO wins Pioneer Award for its use of artificial intelligence and Sound Analyser app

- › German trade magazines Auto Bild and Computer Bild have presented ŠKODA AUTO with their Pioneer Award for the brand's Sound Analyser innovation
- › The AI-based app detects when a vehicle requires maintenance
- › The software – when downloaded to a smartphone or tablet – can compare car noises with stored sound patterns to detect any abnormalities

Mladá Boleslav / Weiterstadt, 17 December 2020 – ŠKODA AUTO has been presented with the Pioneer Award for its use of artificial intelligence in vehicle diagnostics. At this year's CONNECTED CAR Awards, the trade magazines Auto Bild and Computer Bild chose ŠKODA's Sound Analyser app as the winner of the editorial prize reserved for particularly innovative ideas. Using a smartphone or tablet, the noises a car makes while in operation can be recorded and compared with stored sound patterns. On this basis, the software can quickly and reliably detect if the vehicle in question requires any maintenance.

ŠKODA AUTO has been using AI technologies for even more accurate car diagnostics in terms of servicing since June 2019. The [Sound Analyser](#) app, which runs on standard smartphones or tablets, is just one example. It records the noises a car makes while it is running and compares them with stored sound patterns. In the event of any discrepancies, the app uses an algorithm to determine what they are and how they can be resolved. In this way, Sound Analyser helps to make vehicle maintenance more efficient, reduce the time a car spends at the garage and achieve even higher levels of customer satisfaction.

The smartphone app was developed by ŠKODA AUTO DigiLab, the Czech carmaker's innovation workshop, and was initially trialled with a total of 245 ŠKODA dealers across 14 countries in June 2019. With ongoing use, the AI-based app continuously recognises and learns new sound patterns. The software can identify the sounds produced by components such as the steering system, the air conditioning compressor or the clutches in the direct-shift gearbox with an accuracy of over 90 per cent.

The Pioneer Award is part of the CONNECTED CAR Awards, which was hosted by Auto Bild and Computer Bild for the seventh time. The readers are invited to vote for tomorrow's most promising trends and the biggest innovations. Special ideas, projects and concepts are presented with the two trade journals' editorial Pioneer Award.

Technologies based on artificial intelligence perform cognitive functions that otherwise only humans are capable of. In addition to Sound Analyser, ŠKODA AUTO is exploring numerous other applications for AI-based technologies. The ['Follow the Vehicle'](#) project sees the car manufacturer, together with the VŠB Technical University of Ostrava, test passenger car convoys, in which autonomous cars follow a lead vehicle with a driver. The company also uses imaging technology to identify available parking spaces at its headquarters in Mladá Boleslav.



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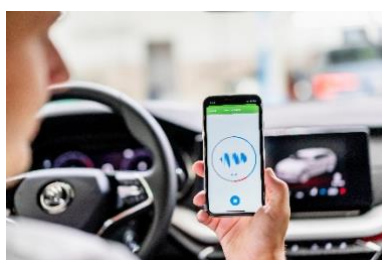
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## Media images:



### ŠKODA AUTO wins Pioneer Award for its use of artificial intelligence and Sound Analyser app

German trade magazines Auto Bild and Computer Bild have presented ŠKODA AUTO with the Pioneer Award for the brand's use of artificial intelligence in servicing. The smartphone/tablet app records car noises, compares them with stored sound patterns and, on this basis, accurately and reliably identifies maintenance requirements for the vehicle in question.

[Download](#)

Source: ŠKODA AUTO



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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 ten passenger-car series: the CITIGO® iV, FABIA, RAPID, SCALA, OCTAVIA and SUPERB as well as the KAMIQ, KAROQ, KODIAQ and ENYAQ iV.
- › 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.