

## Press Release

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# Volvo Cars teams up with world's leading mobility technology platform DiDi for self-driving test fleet

Volvo Cars, a global leader in automotive safety, and DiDi Autonomous Driving, the self-driving technology arm of Didi Chuxing, the world's leading mobility technology platform, have signed a strategic collaboration agreement on autonomous vehicles for DiDi's self-driving test fleet.

Volvo Cars will provide DiDi with XC90 cars equipped with necessary backup systems for functions such as steering and braking, and collaborate with DiDi Autonomous Driving to integrate the additional software and hardware required to make it fully ready for autonomous drive.

The XC90 cars will be the first to integrate DiDi Gemini, DiDi Autonomous Driving's new self-driving hardware platform, and are intended to be deployed for ride-hailing in DiDi's network in the future.

The agreement reinforces Volvo Cars' position as a provider of cars and the partner of choice for self-driving fleets, building on its reputation as a global leader in automotive safety.

The built-in backup systems and safety features on the XC90s, combined with DiDi Autonomous Driving's advanced self-driving system, will eventually allow the cars to operate without safety drivers in robotaxi services.

Building on today's agreement, Volvo Cars and DiDi Autonomous Driving look to build a long-term partnership as DiDi continues to expand its autonomous test fleets across China and the US, and scales up its commercial robotaxi operations.

As the world's leading shared-mobility technology platform, DiDi uses its deep expertise in network operation and large bank of real-world driving data to develop commercial autonomous transportation services by collaborating with the world's premium car makers.

In 2020, Volvo Cars provided DiDi with Volvo XC60s for use in Shanghai's first pilot robotaxi programme. People in certain areas of Shanghai could book trips by robotaxi in the DiDi app and be driven autonomously, while the cars were monitored by a safety driver and engineer.

"This strategic collaboration with DiDi Autonomous Driving is further validation of our ambition to be the partner of choice to the world's leading ride-hailing companies," said Håkan Samuelsson, Volvo Cars' Chief Executive. "Combining DiDi's expanding robotaxi programme with our safe cars creates a great match to build trust among consumers for autonomous ride-hailing."

"In expanding partnerships with global automotive industry leaders, we believe shared, electric and autonomous vehicle networks will be crucial for future urban transport systems to achieve the highest safety and sustainability standards," said Bob Zhang, CEO of DiDi Autonomous Driving and CTO of Didi Chuxing. "DiDi Gemini, our new self-driving hardware platform, incorporates critical hardware improvements from our test passenger service operations in Shanghai. With Volvo Cars' leadership in safety, we look forward to achieving new milestones towards future autonomous transport services."

Volvo Cars' partner-of-choice ambition comes as ride-hailing firms around the globe seek to expand their fleets with fully autonomous cars in a safe and responsible way. The reputation of

Volvo Cars as a global leader in automotive safety is a strong asset as it pursues this ambition.

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### **Volvo Car Group in 2020**

*For the 2020 financial year, Volvo Car Group recorded an operating profit of 8.5 BSEK (14.3 BSEK in 2019). Revenue over the period amounted to 262.8 BSEK (274.1 BSEK). For the full year of 2020, global sales reached 661,713 cars (705,452), a decline of 6.2 per cent compared to 2019.*

### **About Volvo Car Group**

*Volvo Cars was founded in 1927. Today, it is one of the most well-known and respected car brands in the world, with sales of 661,713 cars in 2020 in about 100 countries. Volvo Cars has been under the ownership of Zhejiang Geely Holding since 2010.*

*As of December 2020, Volvo Cars employed approximately 40,000 (41,500) full-time employees. Volvo Cars' head office, product development, marketing and administration functions are mainly located in Gothenburg, Sweden. Volvo Cars' head office for APAC is located in Shanghai. The company's main car production plants are located in Gothenburg (Sweden), Ghent (Belgium), South Carolina (US), Chengdu and Daqing (China), while engines are manufactured in Skövde (Sweden) and Zhangjiakou (China), and body components in Olofström (Sweden).*

*Under its new company purpose, Volvo Cars aims to provide customers with the Freedom to Move in a personal, sustainable and safe way. This purpose is reflected in a number of business ambitions: for example, by the middle of this decade it aims for half of its global sales to be fully electric cars and to establish five million direct consumer relationships. Volvo Cars is also committed to an ongoing reduction of its carbon footprint, with the ambition to be a climate-neutral company by 2040.*

### **About Didi Chuxing**

*Didi Chuxing ("DiDi") is the world's leading mobility technology platform. It offers a wide range of app-based services across Asia Pacific, Latin America, Africa and Russia, including taxi-hailing, private car-hailing, ridesharing, bus, bikes and e-bikes, designated driving, automobile solutions, delivery, freight and logistics, and financial services.*

*DiDi provides car owners, drivers and delivery partners with flexible work and income opportunities. It is committed to collaborating with policymakers, the taxi industry, the automobile industry and the communities to solve the world's transportation, environmental and employment challenges through the use of AI technology and localised smart transportation innovations. DiDi strives to create better life experiences and greater social value, by building a safe, inclusive and sustainable transportation and local services ecosystem for cities of the future.*

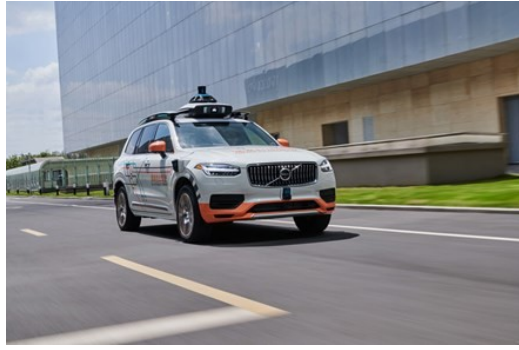
*For more information, please visit: [www.didiglobal.com/news](http://www.didiglobal.com/news)*

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