

Press Release

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Volvo Cars debuts three-cylinder engine in new XC40 compact SUV

Volvo Cars, the premium car maker, today launched its new three-cylinder Drive-E powertrain in the XC40, the company's first entry into the compact SUV segment.

The new powertrain is the first three-cylinder engine in the company's 91-year history.

The all-new 1.5-litre, three-cylinder, direct-injection petrol engine was developed in-house using the same modular design as Volvo's four-cylinder Drive-E engines. The three-cylinder powertrain (badged T3) comes with a six-speed manual transmission. An optional eight-speed automatic transmission will follow next year.

In line with Volvo Cars' strategy to continue improving economies of scale, the engine will roll off the same production lines as the company's four-cylinder petrol and diesel engines.

"Our new three-cylinder engine is an exciting development for the XC40 and for Volvo Cars in general," said Alexander Petrofski, Senior Director Cluster 40 at Volvo Cars. "This compact engine design provides the flexibility we need as we introduce more powertrain options for XC40 customers."

Volvo's current D3 150 hp diesel and T4 190 hp petrol engines are also added to broaden the XC40 engine offer.

Furthermore, the new three-cylinder powertrain has been deliberately designed for integration into Twin Engine plug-in hybrid cars. A hybridised as well as a pure electric powertrain option for the XC40 will be added later. More details will be available in due course.

XC40 customers now also have more choice in trim levels, including entry-level Momentum and dynamic R-Design versions, plus the luxurious new Inscription trim level.

Inscription trim offers exterior styling choices with 18", 19", 20" or 21" wheels, unique skid plates, side window and grille mesh chrome, plus model-specific paint colours. Inside, Inscription adds a newly designed crystal gear knob (on versions with an automatic transmission) and the attractive Driftwood deco inlays, which Volvo introduced in its award-winning XC60 mid-size SUV.

XC40 customers can further express themselves with accessories such as the new exterior styling kit that offers brushed stainless steel skid plates, lower door trim mouldings and integrated dual tailpipes, and the new accessory roof spoiler.

"The new XC40 is a youthful car that suits drivers with a strong sense of individuality," said Alexander Petrofski. "We want our customers to be able to make a statement their way – subtle or otherwise – and so we want to offer them more choices, both in performance and styling."

UK prices for the XC40 T3 start at £27,905 on the road, with Inscription versions available from £30,405. First customer deliveries are expected this summer.

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Note to editors: items included for each trim level may vary market to market. XC40 customers are advised to check with their local Volvo retailer for market-specific details.

Volvo Car Group in 2017

For the 2017 financial year, Volvo Car Group recorded an operating profit of 14,061 MSEK (11,014 MSEK in 2016). Revenue over the period amounted to 210,912 MSEK (180,902 MSEK). For the full year 2017, global sales reached a record 571,577 cars, an increase of 7.0 per cent versus 2016. The results underline the comprehensive transformation of Volvo Cars' finances and operations in recent years, positioning the company for its next growth phase.

About Volvo Car Group

Volvo has been in operation since 1927. Today, Volvo Cars is one of the most well-known and respected car brands in the world, with sales of 571,577 cars in 2017 in about 100 countries. Volvo Cars has been under the ownership of the Zhejiang Geely Holding (Geely Holding) of China since 2010. It formed part of the Swedish Volvo Group until 1999, when the company was bought by Ford Motor Company of the US. In 2010, Volvo Cars was acquired by Geely Holding.

In 2017, Volvo Cars employed on average approximately 38,000 (30,400) full-time employees. Volvo Cars' head office, product development, marketing and administration functions are mainly located in Gothenburg, Sweden. Volvo Cars' head office for China is located in Shanghai. The company's main car production plants are located in Gothenburg (Sweden), Ghent (Belgium), Chengdu and Daqing (China), while engines are manufactured in Skövde (Sweden) and Zhangjiakou (China), and body components in Olofström (Sweden).

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