

## Press Release

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# VOLVO INSURANCE PREMIUMS SET TO FALL ON MODELS FITTED WITH CITY SAFETY

### VOLVO INSURANCE PREMIUMS SET TO FALL ON MODELS FITTED WITH CITY SAFETY

- Annual premium savings of up to £160 on Volvo Cars fitted with City Safety Autonomous Emergency Braking\*
- Insurance ratings of all new Volvo cars\*\* fall by up to four groups
- Tristar Worldwide fleet operating City Safety equipped Volvos saves thousands each year on repairs, hire cars and third party claims

Thanks to Volvo's City Safety Autonomous Emergency Braking (AEB) system, fitted as standard on all new Volvo models\*\*, drivers could see their insurance premiums fall by more than £100 the next time they renew their car insurance policy.

Volvo car models have had their insurance groupings reduced by up to four levels, saving the consumer up to £161.81 per year in reduced insurance premiums according to figures supplied by Volvo Car Insurance.

Volvo model savings	Group ratings drop	Potential insurance premium savings
V70 SE Lux D5	From 35E to 32E	£154.93
S60 R-Design Nav D5	From 34E to 30E	£154.96
XC60 R-Design Lux Nav D5	From 35E to 31E	£161.81
XC70 SE Nav D5	From 33E to 30E	£154.21

Figures provided by Volvo Car Insurance\*\*\*

The Volvo City Safety system, which has been fitted to more than one million new Volvos worldwide, was applauded for its ability to help drivers avoid low speed crashes by Thatcham, which administers the Association of British Insurers group rating system for private cars and commercials.

Alongside Volvo Car's Pedestrian Detection with full auto-brake and the newly launched Cyclist Detection system that joins Volvo's Lane Departure Warning (LDW) system and Blind Spot Info System (BLIS), Volvo continues to be at the forefront of putting all road users' safety first.

Comments Volvo Car UK managing director Nick Connor: "With City Safety AEB now fitted as standard across all new production Volvos except the XC90, it's fantastic to see the technology recognised by Thatcham, ultimately allowing Volvo drivers to enjoy big cost savings on their insurance. The continued introduction of all these lifesaving technologies links back to our Vision 2020 long term objective that by 2020 no one should be killed or injured in a new Volvo."

Comments Thatcham Group Rating Manager, Howard Barron: "Our Crash & Safety team have conducted rigorous AEB testing on all new Volvos fitted with their City Safety AEB technology, in line with our insurer ratified AEB testing protocol. As a result of the successful testing we have been able to recommend to the ABI's Group Rating panel an adjustment in these Volvo model's insurance grouping. For consumers this should mean reduced insurance premiums and safer

motoring, not just for themselves but also other road users."

Thatcham has proven that City Safety reduces accident rates and relevant repair costs since its XC60 launch in 2008. It also prevents expensive personal injury claims for whiplash caused by low speed rear end shunts, and rules out the need to provide a hire vehicle while a driver's car is in for repair.

Tristar Worldwide, a global chauffeur drive company based in Middlesex, has already seen considerable benefits of upgrading much of its 500-strong fleet to the latest Volvo models equipped with City Safety in September 2011.

- First year repair costs fell 56% to just under £270,000, a saving of almost £350,000.
- Third party insurance costs also fell 71% saving Tristar Worldwide £260,000
- Hire costs were reduced by £65,000.

"Our drivers work predominantly in urban areas and have suffered from numerous minor cases of causing rear end shunts which generate repair, hire car and potentially expensive personal injury costs," explained Janusz Kozlowki, Tristar Worldwide's fleet manager.

The European Commission has suggested widespread adoption of AEB could reduce accidents by up to 27 per cent, potentially saving 8,000 lives a year and reducing insurance claims by up to £6.3 billion. In the future it could also be "practically impossible" for car models to obtain an NCAP five-star rating without this technology fitted.

Ends...

Note to editors:

\*Source: Volvo Car Insurance data from July 2013. As well as being awarded a 5 Star rating from Defaqto, the independent financial research company, Volvo Car Insurance has also been named as a Which? Recommended Provider for the third consecutive time, for its high quality of cover and customer service.

\*\*Excludes XC90

\*\*\*Figures show vehicle model group rating drop after vehicle model has been retested after City Safety AEB was fitted. V40 has always been fitted with City Safety AEB and thus has no fall in group rating. All premiums have been calculated by Volvo Car Insurance underwritten by Royal & Sun Alliance Insurance plc. Premium is calculated for a 35 year old man and 33 year old woman married couple living in Central London (W1A 1AA), driving 15,000 miles per annum, with 3 years' worth of claims free driving, parked on a street, £250 voluntary excess and cover for social, domestic and pleasure plus business commuting.

#### **Glossary:**

**City Safety** - Volvo's low speed collision avoidance system to avoid or lessen the severity of an accident. Works up to 31mph (MY2013 onwards) and uses a laser at the top of the windscreen to monitor vehicles in front. Will automatically brake the vehicle if it senses no effort from the driver to avoid the incident. If the relative closing speed between two cars is less than 10mph then City Safety could also stop the impact.

**Pedestrian Detection with Full Auto Brake** - uses the front forward radar that is inbuilt into the grille and also the camera mounted at the top of the windscreen. The radar pre-informs the SRS control module of a potential impact, the camera then checks what is directly in front and closer to the vehicle, identifying a human above 80cm tall (must see the head, torso, arms and legs). If an impact is imminent, the system will warn the driver with an audible signal and lights, and also pre-charge the brakes. If no action is taken the system will use the full braking force to stop the vehicle. An incident can either be avoided completely or severely reduced.

**Cyclist Detection with Full Auto Brake** - World-first technology that uses a camera mounted at the top of the windscreen and a radar to avoid or minimise accidents with cyclists. If a cyclist were to move in front of the vehicle, the system warns the driver and if it determines an impact is imminent, automatically apply the brakes. The system works in combination with Pedestrian Detection and is an optional extra available across the entire Volvo range, except the current XC90.

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*Descriptions and facts in this press material relate to Volvo Car UK's car range. Described features might be optional. All information is correct at time of going to press and may be altered without prior notification.*

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