

Press Release

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Volvo Cars celebrates start of Volvo Ocean Race with special V90 Cross Country and supports fight against ocean plastics

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Volvo Cars, the premium car maker, today reveals a special version of its award-winning V90 Cross Country all-road wagon to celebrate the start of the 2017/18 Volvo Ocean Race. The 2018 V90 Cross Country Ocean Race edition will be at US retailers in early spring 2018 with a starting price of \$60,500.

Buyers of the car will contribute directly to helping understand the health of our oceans. To support the Volvo Ocean Race's Science Program around ocean plastics, the company will donate EUR 100 (approximately \$116 USD) for each of the first 3,000 V90 Cross Country Volvo Ocean Race cars it plans to build. The resulting total donation of EUR 300,000 (approximately \$348,000 USD) underlines Volvo Cars' long-standing commitment to environmental care.

The Volvo Ocean Race Science Program equips boats in this year's race with a variety of sensors that will capture data from some of the remotest parts of the world's oceans. This includes temperatures, barometric pressure, currents and wind speed, which will help contribute to more accurate weather forecasts and climate models used by scientists globally.

Furthermore, the boats will measure levels of salinity, dissolved CO₂ and algae in the sea water around them. Combined with other data on microplastics, these measurements will help create a more complete picture of the scale of plastic pollution and its impact on ocean life. The Program's science partners include NOAA, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

"We're proud to support the Volvo Ocean Race's Science Program which will help improve our understanding of the health of the oceans – our greatest natural resource," said Stuart Templar, Director of Sustainability at Volvo Cars. "As a company, we work to minimize our impact on the world around us, so this project's innovative approach to tackling a major environmental problem was a great fit for us - not least as we head towards an electric future."

The car itself will help tackle the problem of marine pollution, as the carpets inlays are made from Econyl, a fabric made from 100% recycled nylon, including abandoned fishing nets reclaimed from the seabed.

The V90 Cross Country Volvo Ocean Race was developed by Volvo designers and a group of engineers within the company's Special Vehicles department, a purpose-built facility at Volvo Cars' base in Torslanda, Sweden. The engineers at Special Vehicles specialize in developing bespoke models and are also responsible for Volvo Cars' ultra-luxurious Excellence models as well as the police version of the V90 and V90 Cross Country.

Taking the existing model as a starting point, the V90 Cross Country Volvo Ocean Race comes with all the standard features customers have come to expect from a Cross Country model, such as all-wheel drive, increased ride height and a chassis optimised for comfort and control in all weather and road conditions.

A special, expressive design and color palette inside and out sets the V90 Cross Country Volvo Ocean Race apart from its siblings in the 90 Series. Matte grey and bright orange details, first shown on the acclaimed Volvo Concept XC Coupé from 2014, are combined with a Crystal White exterior color and special wheels and stitching.

“The V90 Cross Country Volvo Ocean Race is a balanced and capable all-road car, at home on normal roads and off the beaten track,” said Dan Olsson, Vice President Special Vehicles & Accessories at Volvo Cars. “On top of that it includes a range of specially developed standard features such as an integrated, detachable torchlight, additional power outlets and smart dirt- and water-resistant materials.”

The initial production volume of 3,000 cars will be sold in 30 markets around the globe, including most countries in the EMEA region as well as the United States, Japan and China.

Note to editors:

A live Q&A with experts involved in the development of the car will be hosted at 15.00 CET today, Monday, October 30, on Facebook.

Volvo Car Group in 2016

For the 2016 financial year, Volvo Car Group recorded an operating profit of 11,014 MSEK (6,620 MSEK in 2015). Revenue over the period amounted to 180,672 MSEK (164,043 MSEK). For the full year 2016, global sales reached a record 534,332 cars, an increase of 6.2 per cent versus 2015. The record sales and operating profit cleared the way for Volvo Car Group to continue investing in its global transformation plan.

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 534,332 cars in 2016 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.

As of December 2016, Volvo Cars had over 31,000 employees worldwide. 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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Descriptions and facts in this press material relate to Volvo Cars' international car range. Described features might be optional. Vehicle specifications may vary from one country to another and may be altered without prior notification.

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