

Press Release

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Volvo XC90 receives the renowned Red Dot 'Best of the Best' Product Design Award

- Volvo XC90 impresses Red Dot jury with high quality and pioneering design
- Red Dot: Best of the Best - highest individual product design award

Volvo Cars has been awarded one of the world's premier product design awards for its ground-breaking XC90 luxury SUV.

The Best of the Best award, based on the results of a 38-strong international jury of experts, was presented to Volvo for the XC90's pioneering design and high level of quality. The car was chosen from almost 5,000 participating product designs across 31 product categories in the much coveted Red Dot awards.

"The new XC90 is the vanguard of Volvo's new design direction. In our work on this car we have been very much aware of Volvo's heritage, the value of authenticity and Scandinavian design, but we have also taken some bold and progressive steps forward, aiming for a design style and execution level that pushes our boundaries. I am very proud that our new flagship has won the prestigious Red Dot: Best of the Best award," said Thomas Ingenlath, Senior Vice President Design at Volvo Cars.

The XC90 represents a new beginning for Volvo in terms of design philosophy and has been credited with taking the luxury SUV to a new level. Characterized by precision design and attention to detail, the XC90 paves the way for future Volvo car designs with signature design elements. These include the new face of Volvo with a new Volvo logo and a floating grille, and the celebrated T-shaped 'Thor's Hammer' daytime running lights.

The XC90 design was made possible thanks to the new Scalable Product Architecture (SPA) which will underpin many of Volvo's forthcoming models which supports the dynamic and balanced proportions of the new XC90.

Carrying the precision and pioneering exterior design inside the car, Head of Volvo Design, Thomas Ingenlath and his team have created a serene and relaxing interior combining the finest natural materials such as leather, wood and crystal with a calming and luxurious take on Scandinavian Design. This is also reflected in the way that Volvo approached the total redesign of the information displays and interaction in the car, reducing complexity and creating a uniquely intuitive interface.

"It is particularly challenging to develop a new design language which refers to well-known brand values while presenting a modern, desirable interpretation. The all-new Volvo XC90 symbolizes the cornerstone of a complete new generation of cars where our progressive design combines innovative technology with Scandinavian design virtues and stands for a new individual approach in the premium segment."

Red Dot: Best of the Best is awarded for pioneering design and is the highest individual Red Dot award: Product Design. Only the outstanding products in a category receive this award - in 2015, only 81 products from 31 categories received the coveted seal of approval.

"For 60 years, the most respected design experts come to Essen in order to reward the best designs. This year we had just under 5,000 products - a record number of entries - an extreme workload for our judges who evaluate each product, and due to the high numbers, this illustrates the special value of the awards. The winners of the Red Dot Award: Product Design 2015 have delivered an extremely high level of performance and have therefore been recognized by the largest design competition in the world," said Professor Dr. Peter Zec, initiator and CEO of Red Dot Awards.

Notes to Editor:

About the Red Dot Award

In order to assess the diversity in professional design, the Red Dot Design Awards are divided into three disciplines: Red Dot Award: Product Design, Red Dot Award: Communication Design and Red Dot Award: Design Concept. The Red Dot Award was created by the Design Centre of North Rhine Westphalia, has around 17,000 submissions in one of the most renowned design competitions in the world. It is celebrating its 60th anniversary in 2015: A jury came together for the first time in 1955 to evaluate the best designs of that era. A coveted award, the Red Dot is an internationally respected award for outstanding design quality.

On June 29, 2015, the crowning achievement of the internationally renowned product competition will be celebrated at the Red Dot Gala.

Volvo Car Group in 2014

For the 2014 financial year, Volvo Car Group recorded an operating profit of 2,252 MSEK (1,919 MSEK in 2013). Revenue over the period amounted to 129,959 MSEK (122,245 MSEK). For the full year 2014, global sales reached a record 465,866 cars, an increase of 8.9 per cent versus 2013. 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 465,866 in 2014 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 2014, Volvo Cars had over 25,000 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) and Chengdu (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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