

# Press release

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Stuttgart/Germany, February 12, 2020

## MAHLE and SAP: strong partners for digitalization

- Strategic cooperation and co-innovation
- “Digital Backbone”: MAHLE plans to launch new digital platform

MAHLE and SAP have decided to cooperate closely on the implementation of the MAHLE Group’s digitalization strategy. The “Digital Backbone” will serve as a new, central digital platform for MAHLE, with the specific aim of standardizing data and processes.

The SAP-based platform brings together a total of six strategic projects along the entire value chain of the group. For example, the complete product development process will be standardized across the globe, and modern purchasing solutions—both direct and indirect—will continue to be rolled out. “Digitalization is the key to securing MAHLE’s innovative edge in the global competitive field—in IT as well as in vehicle technology,” explains Dr. Jörg Stratmann, CEO and Chairman of the MAHLE Management Board.

The new platform will be continuously developed in accordance with the principle of co-innovation and optimized specifically for the automotive industry. The competences of the two groups will be combined in the most effective way, with both partners benefiting from the progress achieved. “The strategic partnership between MAHLE and SAP brings together two innovation drivers. Together, we’ll set new standards in terms of standardization as well as agility,” says Michael Frick, CFO and as a member of the MAHLE Management Board also responsible for IT Services.



“The automotive industry is showing impressive momentum in its digital transformation, and we as SAP can support our customers with our in-depth knowledge of the sector. The joint development of best practices and co-innovations also gives customers and partners in the industry valuable insight into how companies can make themselves future proof,” says Thomas Saueressig, Member of the Management Board of SAP SE responsible for the Board area SAP Product Engineering.

### **About MAHLE**

MAHLE is a leading international development partner and supplier to the automotive industry as well as a pioneer for the mobility of the future. The MAHLE Group is committed to making transportation more efficient, more environmentally friendly, and more comfortable by continuously optimizing the combustion engine, driving forward the use of alternative fuels, and laying the foundation for the worldwide introduction of e-mobility. The group’s product portfolio addresses all the crucial issues relating to the powertrain and air conditioning technology—both for drives with combustion engines and for e-mobility. MAHLE products are fitted in at least every second vehicle worldwide. Components and systems from MAHLE are also used off the road—in stationary applications, for mobile machinery, rail transport, as well as marine applications.

In 2018, the group generated sales of approximately EUR 12.6 billion with more than 79,000 employees and is represented in over 30 countries with 160 production locations. At 16 major research and development centers in Germany, Great Britain, Luxembourg, Spain, Slovenia, the USA, Brazil, Japan, China, and India, more than 6,100 development engineers and technicians are working on innovative solutions for the mobility of the future.



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