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Volkswagen strives for digital leadership – the ID. Family will be launched with regular “Over-the-Air” updates in 2021

- ID.3¹ and ID.4² can now be profoundly updated online in Europe with the latest software
- First “Over-the-Air” updates will be available to ID. customers before the end of summer 2021
- New agile project unit ID.Digital coordinates preparation and playout of updates

Wolfsburg, March 3, 2021 – Volkswagen ID.3 and ID.4 models in Europe can now receive new functions and in-depth technical updates via W-LAN or mobile network. The customer's vehicle always remains at the cutting edge of digital developments with the so-called “Over-the-Air” updates. The software version ID.2.1, which establishes the technical prerequisites for “Over-the-Air” updates, is automatically included with all new ID. models produced since calendar week 8.

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ID.3 is provided with updates “Over-the-Air”



ID.4 in future with “Over-the-Air” update



ID.4: The infotainment system also benefits from regular updates

“Volkswagen is driving forward the digitalization of its products at pace and is transforming itself into a full-service provider of hardware, software and services. The introduction of Over-the-Air updates is the next important step in our transformation



into a tech company and in the development of new business models," says Ralf Brandstätter, CEO of the Volkswagen brand.

Starting this summer, Volkswagen will provide owners of ID. Vehicles with an update every three months. In addition to optimizing software performance, these may also include new functions and customization options.

"This will ensure that all delivered ID. Models will be kept at the same software level as new cars throughout their entire life cycle. Over-the-Air updates will also be the new normal in cars in the future. With them, we will keep all delivered ID. models on the same software level as new cars for years to come," says Thomas Ulbrich, Board Member for Technical Development at Volkswagen.

The newly founded ID.Digital project unit will consistently drive the further development of the ID.family and coordinate the implementation of "Over-the-Air" updates in the ID.family. The project team's agile approach will set new standards in software maintenance with short update cycles and flexible consideration of customer requirements. In this way, decisions about new digital services and improved customer interaction can be realized quickly and easily.

The new ID.Software 2.1 is already on board as standard for vehicles produced from calendar week 8. For customers who have already received an ID. Vehicle, the new software will now be made available successively. As announced, they will have to visit their dealer once for this purpose. With the new software, it will then be possible for the first time in the volume segment to update control units installed in the vehicle, among other things, without the customer having to go to the workshop.

The first "Over-the-Air" updates are currently being successfully tested on over 3,000 company cars so that the first customers will soon be able to benefit from the continuous performance improvements and new functions. Volkswagen is thus setting an important milestone in the further development of its own electronics architecture.

Software is increasingly becoming a competitive differentiating factor and therefore a decisive purchase reason in the automotive market of the 21st century.

¹⁾ ID.3 – combined power consumption in kWh/100 km (NEDC): 17.7 - 14.5, CO₂ emissions in g/km: 0; efficiency class: A+

²⁾ ID.4 – combined power consumption (NEDC) in kWh/100 km: 16.9 – 15.5; CO₂ emissions in g/km: combined 0; efficiency class: A+

About the Volkswagen brand:

The Volkswagen Passenger Cars brand is present in more than 150 markets throughout the world and produces vehicles at over 50 locations in 14 countries. In 2020, Volkswagen delivered 5.3 million vehicles including bestselling models such as the Golf, Tiguan, Jetta or Passat. Currently, 195,878 people work for Volkswagen across the globe. The brand also has over 10,000 dealerships with 86,000 employees. Volkswagen is forging ahead consistently with the further development of automobile production. E-mobility, smart mobility and the digital transformation of the brand are the key strategic topics for the future.
