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## AUDI AG: continuing growth in Europe too

Ingolstadt (ots) -

- Deliveries worldwide reach around 119,600 in July - up 12.9 percent
- Audi boss Stadler: "We expect extra lift from new A3"
- United States powerhouse of growth with 28 percent gain

AUDI AG carried over the double-digit growth of the first half of 2012 into July, when the Company delivered some 119,600 automobiles worldwide, an increase of 12.9 percent. This strongest-ever July performance was boosted by a healthy 28 percent increase in unit sales in the United States. In Germany, too, demand for models from the Ingolstadt carmaker were yet again clearly up by 10.7 percent. Overall, Audi handed over some 852,900 cars to customers in the first seven months of the year, 12.4 percent more than in the same period of 2011.

"Following this successful start to the second half, we are expecting the new A3 to give us an extra lift over the coming months," said Rupert Stadler, Chairman of the Board of Management of AUDI AG. "Because we aim to continue pioneering the premium compact class with the new generation, too." The new Audi A3 will appear on the first markets from the end of August.

Despite the continuing difficult economic environment in some markets, July saw AUDI AG secure further growth in Europe. With around 60,800 cars sold, the Company improved on the prior-year month by 5.5 percent. The Ingolstadt carmaker achieved especially strong growth in Eastern Europe - unit sales there climbed by 31.4 percent to a deliveries total of around 4,800 last month. The main driver of growth in that region was Russia, where 2,757 Audi models were sold (up 35.6 percent). The brand with the four rings also maintained its dynamic performance in its home market of Germany. Sales there rose 10.7 percent to 23,712 automobiles. Cumulatively, the unit total for Germany over the first seven months is up 7.8 percent (157,885 units). This growth was fueled in particular by the A1 Sportback, the A6 Avant and the Q3. From January through July, Audi delivered some 14,500 units of its new compact SUV to customers in Germany.

New models also boosted sales in the United States, where July's unit total of 11,707 was up 28 percent on the prior-year month. The new generations of the A4 and A5 families, which went on sale at U.S. dealers in June, were particularly in demand. Sales of the A4 models were up 51.7 percent, while the A5 models gained 31.9 percent. July also saw the first units of the RS 5 high-performance model delivered to customers in the United States.

In China, the first seven months of the year saw Audi improve on the deliveries total for the prior-year period by 34.6 percent, with sales reaching a total of 226,748 automobiles. The locally built models displaying the four rings were especially in demand. Sales of the Changchun-made Audi Q5 soared by 80 percent, with 50,170 customers choosing this SUV model between January and July. Elsewhere in the Asia-Pacific region, Audi also continues to make impressive progress in India. July saw the Company double its sales in that market (up 100 percent), where growth was driven by the appearance of the Q3 in June.

Sales for		In July		Total			
AUDI AG							
		2012	2011	Change	2012	2011	Change
			from			from	
			2011			2011	
Worldwide		119,600	105,993	+12.9%	852,900	758,885	+12.4%
Europe		60,800	57,688	+5.5%	454,200	440,471	+3.1%
-		23,712	21,423	+10.7%	157,885	146,514	+7.8%
Germany							
- UK		8,872	8,155	+8.8%	75,060	71,515	+5.0%
- France		5,207	5,294	-1.6%	38,286	38,242	+0.1%
- Italy		4,170	4,668	-10.7%	31,691	38,517	-17.7%
- Spain		3,106	3,589	-13.5%	24,871	27,733	-10.3%
- Russia		2,757	2,033	+35.6%	19,320	13,790	+40.1%
USA		11,707	9,146	+28.0%	76,865	65,055	+18.2%
Mexico		829	532	+55.8%	4,691	4,175	+12.4%
Asia-							
Pacific		38,900	32,562	+19.5%	267,900	203,686	+31.5%
- China		32,877	27,767	+18.4%	226,748	168,466	+34.6%
(incl.							
Hong Kong)							
- India		686	343	+100.0%	4,686	3,145	+49.0%

- End -

The Audi Group delivered 1,302,659 cars of the Audi brand to customers in 2011. In 2011 the Company posted revenue of E44.1

billion and an operating profit of E5.3 billion. Audi produces vehicles in Ingolstadt and Neckarsulm (Germany), Gyor (Hungary), Changchun (China) and Brussels (Belgium). The Audi Q7 is built in Bratislava (Slovakia). In July 2010, CKD production of the Audi Q5 was added to the existing Audi A4 and A6 manufacturing operations in Aurangabad (India). At the Brussels plant, production of the Audi A1 has been running since 2010, while production of the new A1 Sportback began in 2012. The Audi Q3 has been built in Martorell (Spain) since June 2011. The Company is active in more than 100 markets worldwide. AUDI AG's wholly owned subsidiaries include AUDI HUNGARIA MOTOR Kft. (Gyor/Hungary), Automobili Lamborghini S.p.A. (Sant'Agata Bolognese/Italy), AUDI BRUSSELS S.A./N.V. (Brussels/Belgium), quattro GmbH in Neckarsulm and the sports bike manufacturer Ducati Motor Holding S.p.A. (Bologna/Italy). Audi currently employs around 65,000 people worldwide, including over 48,000 in Germany. Between 2012 and 2016 the brand with the four rings is planning to invest a total of E13 billion - mainly in new products and the extension of production capacities - in order to sustain the Company's technological lead embodied in its "Vorsprung durch Technik" claim. Audi is currently expanding its site in Gyor (Hungary) and will start production in Foshan (China) in late 2013 and in Mexico in 2016.

Audi has long been fulfilling its social responsibility on many levels - with the aim of making the future worth living for generations to come. The basis for Audi's lasting success is therefore formed by environmental protection, the conservation of resources, international competitiveness and a forward-looking human resources policy. One example of AUDI AG's commitment to environmental issues is the Audi Environmental Foundation. Within the context of "Vorsprung durch Technik," which extends far beyond its products, the Company is directing its activities toward a major goal - comprehensive CO2-neutral mobility.

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