

09.08.2001 – 10:08 Uhr

## Group Interim Report of AUDI AG



*Ingolstadt (ots) -*

- Cross-reference: photo was sent via satellite and is available at: <http://www.presseportal.de/galerie.htx?type=obs>

### Rise in vehicle sales

Audi is defying the trend. Despite the general shrinking of the car market in Europe and the USA, the markets on which Audi substantially depends, in the first half of 2001 the group was once again able to increase its vehicle sales worldwide by 7.0 percent on the corresponding prior-year period, to 523,261 vehicles. This figure includes 368,838 (345,071) Audi cars, 162 (137) Lamborghini sports cars and 154,261 (143,954) vehicles of the Seat, Skoda, Volkswagen Commercial Vehicle and Volkswagen Passenger Car brands that were distributed via the Italian importer AUTOGERMA S.p.A.

In Europe excluding Germany, a growth rate of 5.9 percent was achieved, taking the total to 156,999 Audi cars. In Germany, 129,660 customers took receipt of their new Audi; this re-presents an increase of 3.6 percent. The largest European export market was Great Britain, followed by Italy, Spain and France.

Audi was able to build on the previous year's record total in the USA in the period under review: in selling 43,300 cars sporting the four-ring emblem, it improved on the prior-year figure by a considerable margin.

Japan suffered from persisting economic weakness which likewise affected the car sector. Audi achieved unit sales of 3,196 cars, as against 3,576 vehicles in the corresponding period of 2000.

Audi has consolidated its position as market leader in the premium class in China. The Changchun-built Audi A6, which was specially modified for the requirements of the Chinese market, has increased vehicle sales by almost 80 percent.

Major markets    Unit sales    % change on

	1-6/2001	1-6/2000
Audi cars		
worldwide	368,838	6.9
Germany	129,660	3.6
USA	43,300	7.3
Great Britain	27,971	20.5
Italy	23,780	7.6
Spain	22,514	0.2
France	20,817	8.7
China	14,982	79.0
Belgium	10,802	-1.2
Switzerland	9,770	4.3
Austria	8,928	5.3
Brazil	6,060	42.9
Netherlands	5,968	-15.9
Sweden	5,446	-20.0
Portugal	3,757	13.6
South Africa	3,224	-3.7
Japan	3,196	-10.6
Lamborghini		
worldwide	162	18.2

#### Vehicle production up

Thanks to high demand, Audi was also able to step up production by 13.5 percent in the first six months of the year, to 371,572 cars. This total was made up of 371,408 (327,167) bearing the Audi badge and 164 (134) sporting the Lamborghini bull emblem.

In Ingolstadt, Audi built 213,380 A3 and A4 models. 132,884 cars left the assembly lines in Neckarsulm, where the Audi A8, Audi A6, Audi allroad quattro and Audi A2 are - and the RS 4 until July 2001 was - built. The Győr plant in Hungary built 21,658 of the Audi TT Coupé and Audi TT Roadster jointly with the Ingolstadt plant. It in addition produced 3,423 of the Audi A3 on behalf of AUDI AG. The sports car specialists in Sant'Agata Bolognese (Italy) built 164 of the Lamborghini Diablo.

Models with permanent four-wheel drive continue to be much in demand: 29.0 percent of all Audi vehicles built in the first half of 2001 were equipped with four-wheel drive. The proportion of TDI engine versions continued to rise, reaching 43.4 percent.

Production output of engines fell slightly by 2.4 percent to 616,336 units as a result of reorganisation within the Volkswagen Group. The complete transfer of all engine production activities from Ingolstadt to Győr boosted the production figures at AUDI HUNGARIA MOTOR Kft. by 12.7 percent, to 611,850 units. Engine production at COSWORTH TECHNOLOGY LIMITED more than doubled in the first half of the year, to 4,322 engines. Automobili Lamborghini S.p.A. manufactured 164 (134) engines for sports cars.

#### Higher sales and earnings

The Audi Group recorded sales of EUR 11,427 million in the first half of the year. This represents a 14.5 percent increase on the prior-year figure of EUR 9,979 million.

Earnings before taxes improved yet again; compared with the figure of EUR 388 at the end of June 2000, the total of EUR 463 million on June 30, 2001 represented a rise of 19.3 percent.

Total capital investments of EUR 605 million in the first half of the year were slightly down on the high figure for the corresponding period of 2000.

#### Growing group workforce

As a result of extended business operations and the launching of new products, the total number of employees within the Audi Group was up 4.3 percent on the figure for June 30, 2000, to 51,130 employees.

Of this total, 44,415 were employed by AUDI AG, 4,809 by AUDI HUNGARIA MOTOR Kft. and 748 by COSWORTH TECHNOLOGY LIMITED. The Lamborghini Group had 477, and AUTOGERMA S.p.A. 665 employees.

#### Key Figures

##### Audi Group

	1-6/2001	1-6/2000	1) Change in %
<b>Production</b>			
Cars	371,572	327,301	13.5
Engines	616,336	631,197	-2.4
<b>Vehicle sales</b>			
Cars	523,261	489,162	7.0
Audi	368,838	345,071	6.9
Europe	286,659	273,436	4.8
of which Germany	129,660	125,122	3.6
Rest of world	82,179	71,635	14.7
Lamborghini	162	137	18.2
Other Volkswagen			
Group brands	154,261	143,954	7.2
<b>Sales revenues</b>			
EUR million	11,427	9,979	14.5
<b>Earnings before taxes</b>			
EUR million	463	388	19.3
<b>Sales return before taxes</b>			
%	4.1	3.9	-
<b>Capital investments</b>			
EUR million	605	699	-13.4
<b>Depreciation</b>			
EUR million	639	637	0.3
<b>Cash flow</b>			
EUR million	1,021	803	27.1
<b>Employees</b>			
Average	51,170	48,517	5.5

1) Figures for the first half of 2000 have been adjusted to reflect the current reporting entity.

Note to editorial staff:

\* The complete Interim Report can be requested by phoning ++49 (0) 841/89-36189.

The Interim Report can also be found on the Internet at [www.audi.com](http://www.audi.com), sub-menu "facts".

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#### Medieninhalte



*Audi has recorded the best first-half result in company history and defied the general downward trend in major markets. Earnings before taxes in the first six months totalled EUR 463 million, an increase of 19.3 percent compared with the same period last year. (Audi photo: Audi production)*

Original content of: Audi AG, transmitted by news aktuell

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