



For Tomorrow's Drive Systems State-of-the-art AVL Technology Center Opens in Stuttgart Area

After a construction period of just under 15 months, AVL's currently most state-of-the-art technology center, erected near Stuttgart, officially began operations on January 26, 2016. Featuring nine test beds for the development and testing of engines, powertrains and vehicles, its modular design allows the addition of another 16 test beds. AVL CEO Helmut List: "The testing and engineering center was built to accomplish highly sophisticated engineering tasks and has a flexible design that allows us to respond swiftly to future requirements. By opening this Tech Center, we have established a further important milestone in the industrial location of Germany."

As an innovative, highly competent and reliable partner to the automotive industry, AVL has developed in-depth expertise. Future challenges, such as Real Driving Emissions, zero-emission zones, CO₂ reduction and fleet-average fuel economy levels all over the world, require the very best component systems, such as engine, transmission, electric drive system, energy storage, control, and, most importantly, optimal interaction between such drive components. Apart from merely fulfilling the approval regulations, automotive manufacturers in the Stuttgart area are focused on acoustic performance and brand-specific drivability. Elmar Zimmer, Managing Director AVL Deutschland GmbH: "With the new test center, we can now provide the entire range of AVL development methodology – from model-based development on the virtual test bed to engine test bed, powertrain test bed and complete vehicle validation – to our customers at a local level, too."

The new AVL tech center, situated in the industrial park of Laiern in Bietigheim-Bissingen, was designed on the basis of the very latest insights. It currently features two all-wheel chassis dynamometers (for emission testing and acoustic development), several HiL systems, one acoustic engine test bed, two powertrain test beds and (to begin with) four engine test beds. In addition to vehicle and engine assembly facilities, workshops, labs and warehouses, there are also attractive offices available to AVL employees.

The modern technology center is part of AVL's ambition to expand its development sites into new international locations. AVL is headquartered in Graz, Austria. In Germany, AVL currently has around 2,000 employees across six sites in the vicinity of major automotive manufacturers.

AVL is the world's largest independent company for the development, simulation and testing technology of powertrains (hybrid, combustion engines, transmission, electric drive, batteries and software) for passenger cars, trucks and large engines. AVL has more than 7,470 employees all over the world. In 2014, sales revenues reached EUR 1.15 billion.

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