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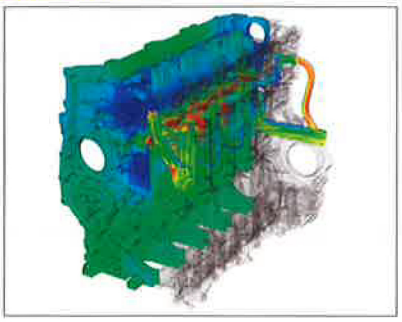

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haymarket

Mahle Group targets 10 billion euro turnover in 2014

THE MAHLE GROUP, a leading global development partner for the automotive and engine industry, plans to achieve sales of around 10 billion euros (Rs 83,510 crore) in 2014, depending on the development of the automotive markets and exchange rates.

The Group plans to expand its current product portfolio. Thermal management, an important topic for the future, is now one of the central themes. Mahle additionally plans to continue its expansion in the field of mechatronics. The aim is to establish a long-term presence of the group in key technology and growth fields in order to continue strengthening its competitive position in view of current technological challenges.

The Group has been pursuing a globalisation strategy for the past few years. In order to safeguard future competitiveness, it is driving forward the continuous expansion of its international orientation. This year, four new plants in China and Indonesia will commence production. Preparations for two new plants are also progressing in Mexico. Extensive expansion-related investments are planned in Romania in the next few years.

With its two business units Engine Systems and Components as well as Filtration and Engine Peripherals, the Mahle Group ranks among the top three systems suppliers worldwide. Since its majority acquisition, the Behr Group makes up the Thermal Management business unit under the Mahle Behr brand, turning Mahle into a globally leading OEM in vehicle air-conditioning and engine cooling.

In end-2013, Mahle increased its equity participation in Indian piston manufacturer Mahle India Pistons from around 60 percent to 100 percent, in order to independently conclude investment measures and technology transfers in the future. The plant, which is located in Chennai, generated sales of approximately 15 million euros (Rs 125 crore) in 2013.

FAST FACTS

With its two business units Engine Systems and Components and Filtration and Engine Peripherals, the Mahle Group ranks among the top three systems suppliers worldwide. Since its majority acquisition, the Behr Group makes up the Thermal Management business unit. Mahle has a local presence in all major world markets. In 2014, around 65,000 employees at 140 production locations are expected to generate sales of around 10 billion euros. At 10 major R&D centres in Germany, UK, the USA, Brazil, Japan, China, and India, more than 4,000 development engineers and technicians are working on forward-looking concepts, products, and systems.

Range Rover drives away with the Autocar Asian Car of the Year Award

By Darren Moss, *Autocar UK*

The Range Rover has won the Autocar Asian Car of the Year Award for 2014. The trophy was handed over to Jaguar Land Rover boss Dr Ralf Speth by *Autocar UK* brand editor Chas Hallett and *Autocar China* editor in chief Qin Minghua at the Beijing motor show.

The SUV beat competition from the Volkswagen Golf, Mercedes-Benz A-class, Mazda 6, Jaguar F-type and Citroën DS5. That shortlist was drawn from an initial selection of 34 cars. Each was rated on criteria including design, comfort, safety, economy, handling, performance and driver satisfaction.

Autocar India editor and judge Hormazd Sorabjee said the latest-generation Range Rover "is everything a Range Rover should be, only better. It pampers you more than some of the best luxury cars in the world and has the go-anywhere capability of a hardcore off-roader. Its sheer breadth of talents have rightfully earned it the title of this year's Autocar Asian Car of the Year."

Speaking at the award ceremony, Dr Speth said: "To win an award judged by so many experienced and respected journalists is a huge honour for the company. Asia is a fast-expanding market for us. We've listened to our Asian customers and developed tailor-made solutions to address our customers' values and enhance their experiences. "We're delighted the car's excellence has been recognised."

Jaguar Land Rover chief Dr Ralf Speth with *Autocar China*'s Qin Minghua and *Autocar UK* editor Chas Hallett (far right).

Autocar's Asian Car of the Year Award is the only trophy of its kind to recognise success across the Asian car market, and was created in 2012. The overall winner is judged by editors of *Autocar* magazine in China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

The award organisers said: "Asia is home to some of the world's biggest automotive markets. Car sales and local market design, manufacturing and production are growing at an unprecendented pace as consumers across Asia take to the road."