



**Commercial  
Vehicles**

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# VWCV Annual Media Conference 2024 - Speech by Carsten Intra, CEO Volkswagen Commercial Vehicles

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- The spoken word is binding -

(Embargo ends with the beginning of the speech)



Ladies and gentlemen,  
I, too, would like to wish you a good morning, and  
a very warm welcome! Thank you for your interest  
in our company.

The past year was remarkable for Volkswagen  
Commercial Vehicles in many respects.

2023 was a very successful year economically. It  
was the best in the history of our brand. Sales revenue was at a record high of 15.3  
billion euros. The same applies to the operating result at 873 million euros. The  
strong result is the basis for our further development.

However, 2023 was also and above all a strategically important year for us.  
Important decisions were taken for our future, because the Group has commissioned  
us to develop our new product family: It bears the name SPACE for spacious  
commercial vehicles, in other words, vehicles in the B and C segment. Fully electric  
and all on one platform. The plans extend far into the next decade and underline our  
future viability.

And just as important: 2023 was also a highly emotional year for us VWCV. After the  
pandemic, we were able to hold a family celebration with our colleagues at the  
Hanover plant and celebrate our 30th anniversary in Poland. Yes, and then there was  
the amazing VW Bus Festival in the summer. Together with 80,000 fans, friends and  
customers, we were able to celebrate our products and our commercial vehicles  
family. We were able to experience how much passion our customers feel and how  
much enthusiasm our vehicles generate – directly and up close – that really moved  
us all. We will all remember these moments.

And one thing was particularly important to us: that we delivered as promised in  
2023.

- We launched the new Amarok.
- Our ID. Buzz with long wheelbase celebrated its world premiere.
- The 200,000th California rolled off the assembly line in Limmer. And we  
presented the California Concept Car.



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- At the Polish site in Września, the Crafter hit the half-million mark.
- Customers are placing orders for our new Transporter even before it has had its world premiere. Several thousand orders have already been received, without customers knowing exactly what the vehicle will look like.
- And we have also made good progress on the topic of autonomous driving. Large numbers of people in Munich, Hamburg and Austin in the USA have already been able to gain their own impressions. Not just on test tracks – but on public roads.

All of this is the result of an outstanding team performance. We have the entire VWCV team to thank for this! At this point, please allow me to expressly say:  
Dear colleagues, 2023 is your success story. Thank you!

Ladies and gentlemen,

This year's strong results give us the momentum we need for the tasks ahead. And we need this momentum. After all, the second half of 2024 is sure to be challenging, with markets generally experiencing moderate development or decline. Nevertheless, there is no way around electric mobility. There is no question that there is no alternative. And that's why we're prepared.

Last year, we discussed our GRIP2030 strategy here in detail. And the 10-point plan, which we have successfully worked through point by point. Our strategy is clear. We have a clear vision based on our three pillars. Success for our commercial customers, freedom for our private and camping customers and future solutions through new technologies. For customers with all their individual needs and wishes when it comes to mobility and transport. And with vehicles and services that create excitement among our customers. Now and in the future.

To live up to this promise, we are revamping almost our entire model range. Never before have we previously presented so many new products in such a short period of time. Almost all models are either new – or feature noticeable upgrades.

I would like to start with the new Transporter. We are looking forward to the world premiere in September at the IAA Transportation here in Hanover. Many don't want to wait for this premiere and are already placing their orders for it. I think this is great proof of customer trust in our brand.

Our commercial customers will get a genuine Volkswagen Transporter: with more load capacity, with more payload, and a higher maximum trailer weight. For the first time, the Transporter will be available with turbo-diesel, plug-in hybrid and all-electric drive systems. A complete range of drive options.

Together with our customers, we are developing holistic solutions. That's why we are developing an entire ecosystem. We offer solutions for demanding mobility needs. And the New Transporter is the perfect embodiment of this approach. With the ID. Buzz and Multivan, the new Transporter is now part of the most innovative trio of Bullis of all time. There is the ideal model for everyone.

We are celebrating yet another world premiere in the first half of the year with the New California. Our customers can look forward to more space, which means more living space, more comfort, more safety, and more flexibility. We achieve this through more length and more width. Even in the entry-level model, two sliding doors help to create a brand new three-zone concept and an overall more spacious



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living feeling.

At the same time, the new California will also be equipped with a plug-in hybrid drive for the first time. We have also set the course for the future. Until now, California has been synonymous with our camping models. In the future, we will continue to develop the name into its own brand. In addition to our premium camping vehicles we will then bundle the California Universe under this: a holistic world of experience around the topic of camping as well as convenient control of many camping functions with the help of the Cali-on-Tour app.

Next is the Multivan. Like its predecessors, our customers will be able to drive it with 4MOTION all-wheel drive in the future. The plug-in hybrid version will feature a very exciting innovation: while the front axle is powered by the combustion engine, an electric motor drives the rear axle. This is a much easier and uniquely efficient way to implement an all-wheel drive system. Innovation that generates benefits.

We will be opening pre-sales for the new Crafter as early as next month. We have completely redesigned the cockpit landscape – the latest infotainment system, new digital displays and controls with IDA voice assistant and much more. There are also a host of helpful assist systems. From a turn assist system and an Autonomous Emergency Braking system through to Lane Assist and Side Assist. Many of these systems are now included in the standard equipment of the vehicle. This means that the Crafter remains the most advanced commercial vehicle product line in its class. And at the same time continues to set standards.

2024 is also the year that the Caddy will enter the electric age as a plug-in hybrid. Here we are combining a 1.5-litre petrol engine with an electric drive capable of fast charging. This allows us to achieve a system output of 110 kW and an electric range of approx. 100 kilometres. In addition, all Caddy models will receive significant upgrades in terms of equipment: a new digital cockpit and also here a number of intelligent assist systems.

And finally, we are looking ahead with excitement to when the long-wheelbase ID. Buzz will roll off the production line here in Hanover. It will be optionally available as a 6- or 7-seater. Including a larger battery, improved charging capacity and large display. With this model, our bus icon is finally returning to North America. The vehicle is eagerly awaited by the market.

These were a few selected highlights. We have taken on a lot of things to do. Significant, noticeable innovations across almost the entire model range. And that's not all: We transport success and freedom – and we transport the future. We provide access to tomorrow's technology.

And we mean that literally. Nowadays, nothing is changing human-machine communication as much as AI. Our customers will benefit from this in the future. That's why we are integrating ChatGPT into our IDA voice assistant. Not just in one vehicle, but in all of them! This can be used to control the infotainment system, navigation and air conditioning.

A good example of the future of mobility is also the vehicle that we will present to you now. One that I am very excited about. One that our customers are particularly looking forward to. An absolute highlight. So, I will now hand you over to my colleague Lars Krause.



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[Word Premier Film is being played]

Ladies and gentlemen,

This brings me to our strategic plans. These focus on our new SPACE vehicle family, which the Volkswagen Group has commissioned us to develop. For this purpose, we will – for the first time in our history – build on our own scalable commercial vehicle platform. The Group platform SSP will form the basis. We will use this to develop vehicles in the B and C segments. For people and for goods.

We have high expectations for this development. On the one hand, we are consolidating our commercial vehicle expertise. On the other hand, we are gaining planning certainty well into the next decade. And for all VWCV locations in Germany and Poland. The first vehicle in the SPACE family will be an all-electric Crafter. It is scheduled to roll off the production line in 2028. By the way, this also applies to all other SPACE models: they will all be fully-electric vehicles, too.

With the SPACE programme, we are thus supporting the three major dimensions of sustainability in the long term: environmental protection, social responsibility and business efficiency. SPACE will contribute to achieving a BEV share of more than 55 percent by 2030. It will help secure our employment – and at the same time reduce emissions into air, soil and water at our production sites. By 2025, we want our VWCV production facilities to be powered by one hundred per cent green energy. And in our production, we will have reduced our environmental impact by more than half compared to 2010 by the end of 2025. We can only achieve these results with a motivated team working in an environment characterised by equal rights, diversity and social equality.

Ladies and gentlemen,

We are developing the future of mobility – and also keeping ourselves fit to do so. This involves a fundamentally different understanding of the mobility of tomorrow. To do this, we are also transforming ourselves – from just a vehicle manufacturer into a mobility provider.

As you know, we are the powerhouse in the Group for the development of autonomous driving for mobility and transport as a service. Our goal is still to offer affordable, sustainable and universally accessible mobility in large cities. The tests in Austin, Hamburg and Munich are very encouraging. We want to offer test drives for customers in Hamburg this year – under realistic conditions.

And with our subsidiary ADMT, and with MOIA we are developing the necessary operating software for use in autonomous vehicle fleets at our partners. With MOIA, we have the largest ride pooling service in Europe. Here, we are expanding this offer through MOIA and with external partners. In and for North America, we are developing vehicles and fleet solutions for transport service providers that are already established there.

For us, one thing is at the centre of everything: safety and transparency are our watchwords when it comes to both the development and operation of our products. That's why we've always said: when it comes to autonomous driving, you need to be prepared for a marathon. And we are. We can do long distances. The team here at Commercial Vehicles have proven this enough throughout our history.

Ladies and gentlemen,

It is time to wrap things up. I hope you've been able to get an idea of



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- what we have achieved so far,
- where we are today,
- what you can expect from us this year
- and where we want to go in the medium and long term.

I would like to sum up the most important points once more:

- With our GRIP 2030 corporate strategy, we have a clear vision.
- This includes launching a firework display of new products in 2024 – unlike anything VWCV has ever seen.
- With the development of our SPACE vehicle family and autonomous driving, we are re-imagining commercial vehicles – while at the same time, securing planning reliability far into the next decade.

Thank you very much for your attention.

**Notes for editors:** You will find this text along with the pictures [here](#) and at [www.vwn-presse.de](http://www.vwn-presse.de)



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## All images:



## Volkswagen Commercial Vehicles

### We Transport Success, Freedom and Future

As a leading manufacturer of light commercial vehicles, the Volkswagen Commercial Vehicles brand (VWCV) is reshaping the transportation of goods, services and people in a fundamental and lasting way. Our vehicles transport construction workers, families and adventurers, bread rolls, parcels and surfboards. Every day they help countless people all over the world to do a good job, they operate as mobile workshops and they bring paramedics and police personnel to wherever they are needed. At our sites in Hanover (D), Poznań (PL), Września (PL) and Pacheco (ARG), around 24,000 employees produce the Transporter, the new Multivan, Caddy, Crafter and Amarok model lines, and since May 2022 the ID. Buzz – the fully electric version of our iconic Bulli. Within the Volkswagen Group, VWCV is also the lead brand for autonomous driving and for mobility offerings such as Mobility-as-a-Service and Transport-as-a-Service - areas in which we are shaping the future of mobility. In this way, the brand is transporting the society of tomorrow with all its requirements for clean, intelligent and sustainable mobility. It is this that Volkswagen Commercial Vehicles stands for with its brand promise: We transport success, freedom and future.

Information on all aspects of the Volkswagen Commercial Vehicles brand and the Hanover site can be found at:



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