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## **Modification work: Preparations underway at Audi Böllinger Höfe for the Audi e-tron GT**

- **Audi R8 and e-tron GT to be produced on a single assembly line from 2020**
- **Construction of two new lightweight construction halls and modifications at existing production facilities**
- **Production Manager Schanz: “Here a unique combination of craftsmanship and smart factory is coming to life”**

Heilbronn/Neckarsulm, July 17, 2019 – The electric powered Audi e-tron GT will be manufactured alongside the Audi R8 supercar at Audi Sport GmbH’s production facilities in the Böllinger Höfe from late 2020. At present, the required construction work is underway at the R8 production facilities to integrate the electric sports car. Additional logistics halls are being added and state-of-the-art equipment set up in the body shop and assembly areas. The modification work will largely take place during ongoing production, with the completion date slated for the fall.

Through fall 2019, two new lightweight construction halls will provide around another 10,000 square meters (*107,639.1 sq ft*) for logistics in the Böllinger Höfe. The new halls on the west side will lie directly adjacent to the existing assembly and body shop facilities. “Since the Böllinger Höfe was already created in the design phase as a small-series production facility with innovative and flexible production processes, that gives us the ideal conditions to produce the e-tron GT alongside the Audi R8,” says Production Manager Wolfgang Schanz. “Here a unique combination of craftsmanship and smart factory is coming to life.”

The Audi e-tron GT and the Audi R8 will be produced separately in the body shop. While the body shop for the R8 stands out with its largely handcrafted finish, a separate, highly automated body shop facility is being created for the e-tron GT. A complete mezzanine level with conveyor system now occupies some 4,000 square meters (*43,055.6 sq ft*). The assembly line is being extended by 20 cycles, making 36 in total, for the joint production of the R8 and e-tron GT. As part of this upgrade, new conveyor systems are being integrated, since assembly in future will no longer rely solely on driverless transport vehicles (DTV), but will also include an electrified monorail system (EMS).

In future, the basement in the Böllinger Höfe will also be used for production, with painted bodies of the R8 and e-tron GT stored here temporarily. As part of this development, the existing areas have been extended by 800 square meters (*8,611.1 sq ft*). From this area,



driverless transport vehicles autonomously bring the R8 and e-tron GT bodies using an elevator from the basement straight to the assembly line on the ground floor.

In preparation for the modifications, part of the R8 body shop has been moved to a production hall in the Böckingen district of Heilbronn at the end of last year to make room for the body shop equipment for the e-tron GT. Since January, around 40 of the 150 employees have been manufacturing the substructure components for the R8 supercar at this new location.

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The **Audi Group**, with its brands Audi, Ducati and Lamborghini, is one of the most successful manufacturers of automobiles and motorcycles in the premium segment. It is present in more than 100 markets worldwide and produces at 18 locations in 13 countries. 100 percent subsidiaries of AUDI AG include Audi Sport GmbH (Neckarsulm), Automobili Lamborghini S.p.A. (Sant'Agata Bolognese, Italy) and Ducati Motor Holding S.p.A. (Bologna, Italy).

In 2018, the Audi Group delivered to customers about 1.812 million automobiles of the Audi brand, 5,750 sports cars of the Lamborghini brand and 53,004 motorcycles of the Ducati brand. In the 2018 fiscal year, AUDI AG achieved total revenue of €59.2 billion and an operating profit of €4.7 billion. At present, approximately 90,000 people work for the company all over the world, more than 60,000 of them in Germany. Audi focuses on sustainable products and technologies for the future of mobility.

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