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Anniversary exhibition at the Audi museum mobile: "Revolution – 60 years of the NSU/Wankel engine"

- **Innovative engine concept celebrates a special anniversary**
- **Rotary engine technology for use on land, on water and in the air**
- **Special exhibition in Ingolstadt from May 20 to November 5, 2017**

Ingolstadt, May 16, 2017 – An exciting piece of technological history is on-show in the Audi museum mobile in Ingolstadt as part of the new special exhibit entitled "Revolution – 60 years of the NSU/Wankel engine". The special occasion is the 60th anniversary of this once revolutionary rotary engine concept. Audi's predecessor brand NSU took on the new technology at an early stage in vehicles like the "Prinz 3" prototype. The exhibition runs from May 20 to November 5, 2017 and shows this and further models featuring the Wankel engine. What's more, boat, airplane and motorcycle engines, as well as those used in lawnmowers and power saws of various manufacturers also demonstrate the eventful history of this progressive technology.

"Rotating instead of punching" – this idea for an internal combustion engine with rotating pistons fascinated Felix Wankel from the late 1920s. The development of the concept to readiness for series production took more than 30 years. As part of his research work, self-taught Wankel became an expert in seals, but kept his aim of creating a machine with rotating pistons firmly in sight. At the end of 1953, the methodical analysis of possible rotors and housing combinations led Wankel to look more closely at the idea of a rotating oval-shaped piston in an almost circular housing which also rotated. The principle awakened the interest of NSU's management. In March 1954, Wankel drafted the basic form of the engine which was to be named after him at a later stage. Three years later, on February 1, 1957, the engine ran for the first time under its own power on a test rig at the NSU plant.

In Neckarsulm, Dr Walter Froede, Head of NSU's Development department, and his team simplified the technologically complex structure which initially used two components which rotated one inside the other. The first time the KKM (Kreiskolbenmotor) version of the engine with inverted kinematics was used was in 1962, when it was fitted in the so-called "Ski-Craft". This towing device for water skis is on show in the Audi museum mobile. Just one year later, in September 1963, the NSU/Wankel Spider celebrated its premiere at the IAA in Frankfurt. As the world's first series-produced vehicle featuring the NSU/Wankel engine, it spurred on the euphoria surrounding the Wankel engine. In the following years, virtually all of the notable

*The consumption figures for all named models available on the German market can be found in the list at the end of this MediaInfo.



manufacturers of automobiles, motorcycles or engines became part of the large group of NSU/Wankel licensees.

Visitors to the "Revolution – 60 years of the NSU/Wankel engine" exhibition can expect to see not just the NSU/Wankel Spider but also further exhibits like the first NSU "Prinz 3" Wankel prototype from 1959 and the NSU Ro 80. In 1967 this model with its innovative technology and timeless design was awarded the title of Car of the Year. Two Audi models are also exhibited: the Audi 200 KKM prototype from 1979 and an Audi A1 e-tron from 2012. A true looker, the Italdesign Namir sports car from 2009 will also be present. Further highlights include the Mazda Cosmo 110S, a Citroën M35 as well as the Malibu Virage racing car.

The Wankel engine wasn't just used in cars, it was also used in snowmobiles, fire engines, power saws, motorboats and motorcycles. The exhibition shows a whole host of these products, as well as free-standing engines and cutaway models.

The Audi museum mobile is open daily from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. The opening times will change from June 1: Monday to Friday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

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The four rings of the Audi badge symbolize the brands Audi, DKW, Horch and Wanderer, which were combined to form Auto Union in 1932. Auto Union and NSU, which merged in 1969, both made many significant contributions towards the development of the car. AUDI AG was formed from Audi NSU Auto Union AG in 1985. Together with the two traditional companies Auto Union GmbH and NSU GmbH, Audi Tradition has nurtured the extensive, diverse history of Audi for many years and presented it to the public. The Audi museum mobile at the Audi Forum Ingolstadt is open daily from Monday to Sunday, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. The August Horch Museum in Zwickau is open from Tuesday to Sunday from 9.30 a.m. to 5 p.m. www.audi.de/tradition

Audi Tradition supports the work of Audi Club International e.V. (ACI). Officially recognized by AUDI AG, this umbrella organization represents all Audi brand clubs and the clubs of the predecessor brands of the present-day AUDI AG. Information at www.audi-club-international.de
Photos and further information are available at www.audi-mediaservices.com/en.

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 16 locations in twelve 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 2016, the Audi Group delivered to customers about 1.868 million automobiles of the Audi brand, 3,457 sports cars of the Lamborghini brand and 55,451 motorcycles of the Ducati brand. In the 2016 financial year, AUDI AG achieved total revenue of € 59.3 billion and an operating profit of € 3.1 billion. At present, approximately 88,000 people work for the company all over the world, about 60,000 of them in Germany. Audi focuses on sustainable products and technologies for the future of mobility.