

Continental Holds Groundbreaking Ceremony for its New Research & Development Center in Singapore

- **New chapter of engineering in Singapore**
- **Total capital investment of €21 million**

Singapore, March 17, 2011. The leading international automotive supplier Continental held the groundbreaking ceremony for its new R&D center in Singapore. With a total capital investment of about 21 million Euros, the new Continental Singapore building aims to meet the demand of growing engineering capacities caused by the worldwide business expansion and particularly the growth in Asia.

The relocation project of Continental Automotive Singapore started in April 2010. The new site will be located at Boon Keng Road with total land coverage of 4,500 square meters. According to the project plan, by April 2012 the new site in Boon Keng will have a 7-storey office and R&D building with a total floor space of 10,170 square meters. It is estimated to possess a seating capacity of 860 employees. Based on future development, it is planned to be able to reach 1,000 with a provision for an additional floor. The new Continental Singapore building serves three major purposes: an office site for R&D and related daily operation; a specialized automotive product verification and validation hub; a reliability test laboratory as well as a test car space for in-vehicle R&D activity. Under the highest level of quality control management, the new center will drive the product creation process from conception to realization and finally onto the mass production of instrumentation clusters and displays, multimedia and telematic devices, radio navigation devices, centre stacks, interior modules and control systems. This R&D center houses management and engineering experts, and it will further on be a major R&D engineering resource and competence pool of Continental.

In December 2007, Siemens VDO Singapore Pte. Ltd was acquired by Hanover-based international automotive supplier Continental, and since then it is named Continental Automotive Singapore Pte. Ltd. under the roof of which three Business Units of the Interior Division are active, namely Instrumentation & Driver HMI, Infotainment & Connectivity and Commercial Vehicles & Aftermarket. With current two automotive locations in Singapore and staff strength of about 580, Continental Automotive Singapore commits to use local knowledge, in collaboration with our international teams, to serve customers globally and aims to offer innovative, intelligent and sustainable solutions.

Lo Kien Foh, Managing Director of Continental Automotive Singapore Pte. Ltd. stated: "What we offer our local employees is a global player with 140 years of history and know-how in the automotive industry, the unique opportunity to help shape automotive technologies as well as a company that honors performance and promotes working in a global network of experts. Employees can take the opportunity to work in an international environment with state-of-the-art technologies and innovations."

"We are pleased that Continental chose Singapore as its key R&D base for in-car information management systems in Asia. We believe that our strong base of scientific talent and intellectual property protection makes Singapore an ideal location for Continental to develop innovative solutions for Asia," said Mr Yeoh Keat Chuan, Assistant Managing Director of the Singapore Economic Development Board.

With this new R&D center, Continental will again expand and strengthen its footprint in Asia. According to Kieran O'Sullivan, Executive Vice President Infotainment & Connectivity Business Unit, Interior Division, Continental AG "Being a leader in the automotive megatrends Environment, Safety, Information and Affordable Cars, the new R&D center in Singapore enables Continental to increase its engineering capabilities and capacities further on. It is evident that Continental is sending a strong signal on its serious commitment to expand in Singapore and its aggressive Asia growth strategy to the automotive industry."

With sales of €26 billion in 2010, **Continental** is among the leading automotive suppliers worldwide. As a supplier of brake systems, systems and components for powertrains and chassis, instrumentation, infotainment solutions, vehicle electronics, tires and technical elastomers, Continental contributes to enhanced driving safety and global climate protection. Continental is also a competent partner in networked automobile communication. Continental currently employs approximately 150,000 people in 46 countries.

The **Automotive Group** with its three divisions Chassis & Safety (sales of approximately €5.8 billion in 2010, 30,000 employees), Powertrain (sales of approximately €4.7 billion in 2010, 27,000 employees) and Interior (sales of approximately €5.5 billion in 2010, 30,000 employees) achieved sales of approximately €16 billion in 2010. The Automotive Group is present in more than 170 locations worldwide. As a partner of the automotive and commercial vehicle industry, it develops and produces innovative products and systems for a modern automotive future, in which cars provide individual mobility and driving pleasure consistent with driving safety, environmental responsibility and cost-efficiency.

The **Chassis & Safety** Division develops and produces electronic and hydraulic brake and chassis control systems, sensors, driver assistance systems, airbag electronics and -sensorics, washer systems and electronic air suspension systems. Its core competence is the integration of active and passive driving safety into ContiGuard®. The **Powertrain** Division integrates innovative and efficient

system solutions for vehicle powertrains. The comprehensive range of products includes gasoline and diesel injection systems, engine management, transmission control, including sensors and actuators, as well as fuel-supply systems and components and systems for hybrid and electric drives. Information management is at the very heart of the **Interior** Division, which provides a range of products that includes instrument clusters and multifunctional displays, control units, electronic car-entry systems, tire-monitoring systems, radios, multimedia and navigation systems, climate control systems, telematics solutions and cockpit modules and systems.

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