

Media Release

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AUTOSAR reaches significant milestone First specifications to be published

On May 2nd, 2006, the AUTOSAR development partnership will publish a first set of the major results of its first development phase. The specifications that will then be presented are results of the first three years of development work in the partnership, which was founded by carmakers and automotive suppliers in 2003. The aim of AUTOSAR (AUTomotive Open System ARchitecture) is to develop a standardized software architecture and development interfaces for automotive electronic systems. It is expected that this will reduce development effort and allow multiple use of software modules. "The first publication of specifications marks a significant milestone for the AUTOSAR partnership, and defines the path the next development phase will take," said Dr. Thomas Scharnhorst, currently spokesperson for the AUTOSAR initiative and director of the EE Architectures and Concepts department at Volkswagen: "The next phase will now see the consolidation of the standard, and extension to include further functions."

The published specifications contain definitions relating to the operating system, communication, hardware abstraction, and what is known as the run-time environment. In a second stage, the specifications will be implemented into software and thus be integrated into the electronic control units.

From May 2nd, 2006, a download of the results is accessible at www.autosar.org. Every company that joins AUTOSAR is allowed to implement and market these specifications in its products – there are many possible forms of collaboration.

AUTOSAR (AUTomotive Open System ARchitecture) is a global development partnership of automotive manufacturers, suppliers and further companies specialized in electronics, semiconductors and software. Since 2003, they are working together to develop and establish an open and standardized automotive software architecture. By facilitating the exchange

and update of software and hardware, AUTOSAR will be an enabling technology to manage the growing electrics/electronics complexity and to improve cost-efficiency without making any compromise with respect to quality. The core partners of AUTOSAR are the BMW Group, Bosch, Continental, DaimlerChrysler, Ford, Opel, PSA Peugeot Citroën, Siemens VDO Automotive, Toyota, and Volkswagen. In addition to these companies, the about 50 premium members are playing a significant role in the success of the partnership. AUTOSAR specifications can be used free of charge by any companies that join the AUTOSAR development partnership.

For further information:

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