

Media Release

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AUTOSAR Appoints Dr Stefan Bunzel as New Spokesperson

With effect from April 1, 2010, the AUTOSAR (AUTomotive Open System ARchitecture) Development Partnership names Dr Stefan Bunzel its new spokesperson. The electrical engineer working for Continental takes over from Simon Fürst, BMW, who remains a member of the AUTOSAR Steering Committee. The replacement is taking place within the general nine-monthly re-appointment of the spokesperson.

The new deputy spokesperson is Dr Stefan Schmerler, Senior Manager Advanced Engineering E/E Architecture and Standards at Daimler, who takes over from Dr Andreas Titze, Head of Networks and E/E Architecture at Volkswagen.

“The upcoming nine months are an important period for the future course of AUTOSAR,” says Stefan Bunzel. “By the end of 2010, new concepts will be jointly worked out and will have to be implemented in Release 4.1. The outcome of this task will affect the schedule for the period until the Release is published at the end of 2012. It is our challenge to find a wise balance with regard to innovation, stability and backwards compatibility for any further development.”

Bunzel has many years of solid experience in the field of software development. Located in Frankfurt, Germany, Stefan Bunzel is responsible for the ‘Software Platforms’ central department at Continental, which globally supports all Continental’s automotive divisions. He has been active in the AUTOSAR development cooperation since 2004, and was Project Leader from 2006 to 2008. Bunzel already held the position of deputy spokesperson of AUTOSAR in 2008. Before AUTOSAR, he was in charge of the introduction of model-based design software development processes. Bunzel holds a PhD in electrical engineering from the University of Hanover, Germany, where he started his professional career as a research associate at the Institute of Automatic Control before joining Continental in 2001.

“I am very proud to take over the role of the new spokesperson and I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Simon Fürst for his extensive and fruitful commitment to the development partnership during his tenure of office,” said Bunzel. “I am looking forward to the ‘2nd AUTOSAR Open Conference’ on May 13, 2010 in Tokyo with pleasure and curiosity, as the impact of AUTOSAR in Asia is continuously increasing. I am convinced that the results of the conference will be further proof that AUTOSAR is playing the leading role as the key software technology in the automotive industries worldwide.”

AUTOSAR (AUTomotive Open System ARchitecture) is a worldwide development partnership of car manufacturers, suppliers and other companies from the electronics, semiconductor and software industry. Since 2003 they have been working on the development and introduction of an open, standardized software architecture for the automotive industry. By simplifying the exchange and update options for software and hardware with the AUTOSAR approach, it forms the basis for reliably controlling the growing complexity of the electrical and electronic systems in motor vehicles. AUTOSAR also improves cost efficiency without compromising quality. The "core partners" of AUTOSAR are the BMW Group, Bosch, Continental, Daimler, Ford, General Motors, PSA Peugeot Citroën, Toyota and Volkswagen. In addition to these companies, more than 65 "premium" and "development members" as well as over 85 "associate members" play an important role in the success of the partnership. Companies which join the AUTOSAR development partnership can use the specifications free of charge.

Additional information is available at:

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