AUTOSAR™

Announcement

January 2026

AUTOSAR appoints new Chairperson Team 2026

The AUTOSAR Chairperson Team transitioned from the 2025 to the 2026 term with the formal appointment of the Chairperson Team for the current year.

Thomas Rüping assumes the role of AUTOSAR Chairperson, supported by Deputy Chairperson Ralf Schneider, and complemented by Christian Nickl as AUTOSAR Project Leader Team Speaker. The term of office runs from January to December 2026. The AUTOSAR organization is further supported by Joachim Langenwalter, the recently appointed AUTOSAR Spokesperson.

The role of AUTOSAR Chairperson will remain with **Thomas Rüping**, who is an active member of the AUTOSAR Steering Committee representing Robert Bosch GmbH and has, among other roles, served as Chairperson in 2023 and 2025 and as Deputy in 2024. The duties of the AUTOSAR Deputy Chairperson will remain with **Ralf Schneider**, who has been an active member of the AUTOSAR Steering Committee representing Mercedes-Benz AG since 2023. The duties of the Speaker of the AUTOSAR Project Leader Team will be taken over by **Christian Nickl**, who has been an active member of the AUTOSAR Project Leader Team representing AUMOVIO since 2018 and previously served as PL Team Speaker in 2020.

The AUTOSAR organization will be supported by **Joachim Langenwalter**, newly appointed AUTOSAR Spokesperson. Mr. Langenwalter is CEO and Founder of TMT CoPilots and an executive advisor with over 30 years of experience across automotive engineering, software platforms, and large-scale organizational transformation. As AUTOSAR Spokesperson and Strategy Advisor, he aims to build on AUTOSAR's unmatched automotive-grade foundation and guide the consortium toward open, software-centric collaboration, positioning AUTOSAR as the trusted global backbone for software-defined vehicles.

With this announcement, AUTOSAR extends its heartfelt thanks to Carmine De Iesu, former AUTOSAR Project Leader Team Speaker of 2025 representing Stellantis, for his dedication and contributions.

The Chairperson Team assumed their responsibilities at the start of 2026 and looks forward to a successful year of growth, new opportunities, and continued development for both the standard and the organization.

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About AUTOSAR (AUTomotive Open System ARchitecture)

AUTOSAR (AUTomotive Open System ARchitecture) is a global partnership of leading companies in the automotive and software industry to develop and establish the standardized technical framework enabling scalable E/E system architectures for intelligent mobility. Since 2003, they have been working on the development and introduction of several open, standardized software platforms including the joining methodology for the automotive industry. By simplifying replacement and update for software and hardware, the AUTOSAR approach forms the foundation for reliably controlling the growing complexity of electronic and software systems in today's and future vehicles. As AUTOSAR is open to new features in the Automotive area it will continuously adapt the standards. In addition, AUTOSAR improves cost efficiency and quality by enabling its partners to cooperate in a competitive way but on the same solution. The "Core Partners" of AUTOSAR are AUMOVIO Germany GmbH, Bayerische Motoren Werke AG, Robert Bosch GmbH, DENSO Corporation, General Motors Holdings LLC, Huawei Technologies Co., Ltd., Mercedes-Benz AG, Toyota Motor Corporation, Vector Informatik GmbH, and Volkswagen AG. The AUTOSAR partnership of over 300 partners play an important role in the success of the partnership and can use the standards free of charge.

About the AUTOSAR Adaptive Platform

AUTOSAR first released its Adaptive Platform on March 31st, 2017 as a standardized integration platform for microprocessor-based electronic control units (ECU). The AUTOSAR Adaptive Platform is based on POSIX operating systems and is the ECU standard for new automotive megatrends. It provides an unique holistic AUTOSAR safety and security approach for microcontroller-based ECUs and high performance microprocessor-based ECUs throughout the whole EE-Architecture with a consistent software and methodology design. Additionally, AUTOSAR Adaptive Platform also introduces a holistic approach for updatability (over the air) throughout the whole EE-Architecture. By doing so, the new standard avoids the costly alternative for OEMs and their suppliers of repeatedly developing the critical and complicated functionality of such software platforms with proprietary and individual solutions.

About the AUTOSAR Classic Platform

The AUTOSAR Classic Platform is the well-established standardized software and methodology framework for deeply embedded electronic control units (microcontroller ECUs), which offers OEMs and suppliers a safe, secure, and stable foundation to build up their distributed software systems. By using a layered software architecture based on a methodology that configures the software stack as well as the complete communication for a given EE-Architecture, the AUTOSAR Classic Platform supports all kinds of interconnected microcontroller-based ECUs.

Further information

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