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## SEAT and Grupo Sesé link up via drone

- **For the first time in Spain, two companies launch a parts delivery service using drones**
- **The drones will guarantee just in time delivery of parts in only 15 minutes**
- **This innovation will increase efficiency and flexibility at the Martorell plant**



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The SEAT factory in Martorell is the first Spanish plant to receive components via drone delivery. In collaboration with Grupo Sesé, the Spanish carmaker has a pioneering service connecting Sesé's logistics centre in Abrera with the SEAT factory in Martorell using drones.

The first parts delivery service between two production plants in Spain by drone was initialised and will continue with deliveries of steering wheels and airbags to the SEAT assembly lines. The pilot project is being carried out under the supervision of the Spanish Aviation Safety and Security Agency (AESA) and will go forward in an experimental phase with several flights per day.

The addition of drones will improve flexibility on the production lines by connecting the just over two kilometre distance that separates both facilities for just in time fast deliveries in only 15 minutes, a process which is currently done by truck and takes 90 minutes. With this move, every

time a part is needed on the production line, delivery will be made quickly, thus improving efficiency.

This innovation is framed within SEAT's commitment to Industry 4.0. The company is now undergoing an ambitious transformation process aimed at making the Martorell factory smarter and further digitalised and connected in order to boost efficiency, flexibility and sustainability. Delivery using drones represents a reduction in CO2 emissions compared to truck transport and in addition, the drone's batteries are recharged using renewable energy.

SEAT Vice-president for Production and Logistics Dr. Christian Vollmer, who brought this idea to SEAT, emphasised that **“today's flight is the first step in transforming the supply chain in the automotive industry. Delivery using drones is going to revolutionise logistics, as for example in the case of SEAT it will reduce delivery time by 80%. With this innovation we are boosting Industry 4.0 and we will become more efficient, agile and competitive, as well as much more sustainable.”**

Furthermore, Grupo Sesé CEO Ángel Pueyo indicated that **“this project that SEAT presented to us a few months ago is a clear example of our intention to be at the forefront of innovation and process development that can optimise and improve our clients' supply chain and that positions us in the market as a global, comprehensive logistics operator.”**

### **SEAT, a benchmark of Industry 4.0**

SEAT is undergoing a transformation process to become a smart factory and is adapting all its production activities to the digital environment with the most disruptive technologies on the market. The carmaker is developing and applying digital tools and solutions aimed at producing cars that make the company more efficient, flexible and agile, and that put the customer at the core of its strategy.

As an example of this transformation, SEAT plans its supply chain with simulation tools and uses smart picking and autonomous navigation systems. Furthermore, the company has introduced big data tools and artificial intelligence to monitor and control the main facilities and infrastructure of the supply chain in real time. SEAT's innovation in its logistics processes has recently been acknowledged by the International Logistics Exhibition (SIL) held in Barcelona at the end of June with an award in the supply chain digitalisation category, which King Felipe VI presented to SEAT Vice-president for Production and Logistics Dr. Christian Vollmer.

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**SEAT** is the only company that designs, develops, manufactures and markets cars in Spain. Member of the Volkswagen Group, the multinational has its headquarters in Martorell (Barcelona), exporting 80% of its vehicles, and is present in 80 countries on all five continents. In 2018, SEAT sold 517,600 cars, the highest figure in the 68-year history of the brand, posted a profit after tax of 294 million euros and a record turnover of close to 10 billion euros.

The SEAT Group employs more than 15,000 professionals and has three production centres – Barcelona, El Prat de Llobregat and Martorell, where it manufactures the highly successful Ibiza, Arona and Leon. Additionally, the company produces the Ateca in the Czech Republic, the Tarraco in Germany, the Alhambra in Portugal and soon Mii electric production will start in Slovakia.

The multinational has a Technical Centre, which operates as a knowledge hub that brings together 1,000 engineers who are focussed on developing innovation for Spain's largest industrial investor in R&D. SEAT already features the latest connectivity technology in its vehicle range and is currently engaged in the company's global digitalisation process to promote the mobility of the future.