

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **Sumitomo Electric Bordnetze SE celebrates opening of first highly automated facility for high-voltage wiring systems in Spain**

- Highly automated production facility will produce high-voltage wiring systems for electric vehicles
- Up to 350 new jobs are expected to be created by 2028
- Facility supports Volkswagen Group and SEAT S.A.'s "Future: Fast Forward" project that aims to develop Spain into a European center for electromobility

**Cuenca, Spain, October 30, 2024** - Sumitomo Electric Bordnetze SE (SEBN), a leading automotive supplier in the field of wiring systems, today opened its first highly automated production facility for high-voltage wiring systems in Spain. The facility supports the "Future: Fast Forward" project of the Volkswagen Group and SEAT S.A., which aims to develop Spain into a European center for electromobility.

The new facility, on a 14,000 square meter property area, features pioneering technologies and will produce high-voltage wiring harnesses for the urban electric car family produced by SEAT S.A. and Volkswagen in Spain starting 2026. This progressive production facility underlines SEBN's pioneering spirit in wiring harness automation and the development of advanced design and manufacturing solutions that increase production efficiency while ensuring the highest quality standards.

Around 30 people have been hired since the beginning of 2024 and are currently employed at the site. Up to 350 new jobs in administration and production are expected to be created by 2028. Production of the first prototypes will begin as early as the end of 2024, with series deliveries starting at the beginning of 2026. The new plant in Cuenca is SEBN's first production facility in Spain and its 23rd production plant worldwide. The new site will further strengthen the company's presence in Europe, complementing its already strong presence in North Africa, Mexico, and its joint ventures in China.

"With the opening of this highly automated production facility here in Spain, we are taking an important step towards a more sustainable future for the automotive industry," said Masanori Ibuki, CEO of Sumitomo Electric Bordnetze SE. "We were attracted to the Castilla-La Mancha region due to its excellent infrastructure, highly qualified workforce, and goal-oriented cooperation with regional officials. We are proud to contribute to electromobility and offer our customers innovative solutions that meet the demands of the rapidly changing automotive industry."

The First Vice President of the Castilla-La Mancha Regional Government, José Luis Martínez Guijarro, present at the event, expressed his gratitude to Sumitomo for choosing Cuenca and emphasized that it represents a commitment to "the industrialization of the province."

For his part, the Mayor of Cuenca, Darío Dolz, has described the start-up of the new Sumitomo Electric Bordnetze production plant as "*excellent news*", which "*puts us on the world industrial map and also means job creation in the city, one of the priorities we have always set ourselves in the Cuenca City Council*". The Mayor stressed that, "*as I have said on previous occasions, we are in the legislature of industrialization and the creation and installation of companies in the city is one of the areas in which we are making the greatest efforts*".

Around 70 guests attended the inauguration ceremony, including representatives from the local government and SEAT.

### **About Sumitomo Electric Bordnetze SE (SEBN)**

Sumitomo Electric Bordnetze SE (SEBN) is a global automotive supplier with over 36,000 employees in 13 countries. SEBN is part of the Japanese group Sumitomo Electric Industries, which has 380 subsidiaries in various industries worldwide. The Sumitomo Electric Group employs 280,000 people and had net sales of 30 billion USD in 2023. SEBN's product portfolio comprises wiring systems as well as electrical and electronic components for conventional and electric drive technologies, including multi- and high-voltage wiring harnesses.

For more information: <https://www.sebn.com/en/>

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