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# **HELLA** expands footprint in India

Automotive supplier opens second electronics plant and additional development center for lighting technology in India

**Lippstadt, 05 October 2017.** HELLA KGaA Hueck & Co., one of the world's leading automotive suppliers for lighting and electronics, is expanding its development and production footprint in India. To this end, it is building its second electronics plant near the city of Mehsana in the state of Gujarat. Furthermore, the automotive supplier has recently inaugurated an additional development center for automotive lighting technology in the southern Indian city of Coimbatore.

"The investments serve to increase HELLA's presence in one of the fastest growing automotive markets in the world", says HELLA CEO Dr. Rolf Breidenbach. "This will enable us to meet the growing demand for lighting and electronics products even better while providing custom-made solutions for the Indian market." Dr. Naveen Gautam, Managing Director of HELLA India Automotive adds: "The expansion is a clear commitment of HELLA to the Indian market and its trust in Indian opportunities. With the new automotive trends, especially for e-mobility, we expect increasing demand of our products and solutions."

The additional electronics plant near the major city of Mehsana in the state of Gujarat allows HELLA increasing the proximity to important customers, especially in the west and south of India. The region is considered as an up-and-coming economic location with increasing significance for the automotive industry. The plant opening is anticipated for early 2019. During the first expansion phase, the location will comprise a production surface of roughly 4,000 square meters and employ about 100 persons. Investments for this first phase will total approximately five million euros. Initially, the plant will mostly produce accelerator pedal sensors for the domestic market. During the second phase, other products are additionally planned.

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Complementing the existing lighting development site in Chennai, HELLA has, in the summer of 2017, additionally opened a new development center for automotive lighting technology in the southern Indian city of Coimbatore. The new location focuses primarily on developing headlamps, rear combination lamps, lighting modules and lighting electronics. The development team in Coimbatore is anticipated to increase to more than 200 employees over the coming years.

HELLA has already been present in India since the 1980s. Currently, the company employs more than 1,700 persons at a total of six locations there.

#### Please note:

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**HELLA KGaA Hueck & Co., Lippstadt:** HELLA is a global, family-owned company, listed on the stock exchange, with currently over 38,000 employees at over 125 locations in some 35 countries. The HELLA Group develops and manufactures products for lighting technology and electronics for the automotive industry and also has one of the largest retail organizations for automotive parts, accessories, diagnostics, and services within Europe. With nearly 7,000 people working in research and development, HELLA is one of the most important innovation drivers on the market. Furthermore, the HELLA Group is one of the top 40 automotive suppliers in the world and one of the 100 largest German industrial companies. It achieved sales of approx. € 6.6 billion in the fiscal year 2016/2017.

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