

Digitalization push: Mercedes-Benz and Siemens launch strategic partnership for sustainable automotive production

Summary

- Mercedes-Benz and Siemens are working together with the support of the state of Berlin in the sustainable digitalization and automation of the automotive industry.
- Both companies will develop innovative solutions for digitizing production, increasing energy efficiency and digitally qualifying employees
- The Mercedes-Benz Berlin-Marienfelde site will be transformed into a competence centre for digitalization with a focus on the development and implementation of MO360, the digital Mercedes-Benz production ecosystem.
- The Mercedes-Benz Digital Factory Campus in Berlin will refine and test new digitalized production processes before rolling them out to the global Mercedes-Benz Cars production network.
- Together with Siemens, Mercedes-Benz will establish highly flexible, efficient and sustainable automotive production.
- Siemens, as a leading provider of automation and industrial software, is bringing its know-how and technologies into the partnership.
- Siemens plans to invest a double-digit million amount to drive the digital transformation of the automotive industry – both in Berlin and globally.
- Mercedes-Benz is investing a double-digit million amount to transform its Berlin-Marienfelde plant in Germany into a campus for developing, testing and

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implementing pioneering software applications for its global production network.
In the future, e-mobility components will also be assembled in Berlin.

Strategic focus topics at the start of the partnership

The future of technology in industry

- The Industrial Internet of Things (IIoT) connects of operational technology (OT) and IT.
- Siemens brings together data from the virtual and physical world with hardware and software solutions.
- This enables products and production processes to be digitally improved through continuous data evaluation, for example.
- Data technology prerequisites for the IIoT are **flexible, modular communication systems**, for example local and highly flexible location systems based on 5G.
- Using agile software development, Mercedes-Benz has created the **MO360 digital production ecosystem** as an important step in the digitalization of its production processes.
- Various applications of this flexible ecosystem are already being used in **around 30 plants** of the global production network of Mercedes-Benz Cars, helping to increase efficiency.
- In the automotive industry, only a small proportion of manufacturing, engineering and administration employees currently have in-depth programming skills.
- That is why Mercedes-Benz introduces the **low-code platform mendix from Siemens**.
- This allows employees to quickly and easily develop apps for their workspaces and to further qualify. At the same time, new **job profiles** are emerging.
- Siemens and Mercedes-Benz have set up a working group to optimize engineering and production processes using mendix apps.

- In addition, a hackathon for app development for sustainable automotive production will be conducted.
- Existing automation solutions are to be expanded at the Berlin site with new technologies such as **virtualization, artificial intelligence and edge computing**.
- This enables Mercedes-Benz to react even more flexibly to changing market requirements.

More information about the MO360 digital ecosystem:

<http://mb4.me/UWbRz2GR>

Weitere Informationen zu Mendix:

<https://www.mendix.com>

The future of sustainability in industry

- Automation, digitalization and the intelligent use of production data can make a decisive contribution to reducing energy and resource consumption, CO₂ emissions and costs.
- In the cooperation, Mercedes-Benz and Siemens want to focus on energy efficiency and a sustainable heat supply of the production plants.
- To this end, the companies are expanding their existing **energy efficiency partnership**:
- The aim is to decarbonize the Mercedes-Benz Digital Factory Campus Berlin and roll out into the global Mercedes-Benz Cars production network.
- Siemens develops holistic solutions for energy efficiency for Mercedes-Benz, for example at the interface of infrastructure and production.
- In addition to innovative technical solutions, Siemens offers new financing concepts in which remuneration is based on the savings.

- The aim is to create a blueprint for the global Mercedes-Benz production network and the industrial landscape of Berlin with the **digital and sustainable transformation** of the Berlin-Marienfelde plant, which was founded in 1902.
- **Experience from Factory 56 at the Mercedes-Benz plant in Sindelfingen and Siemensstadt²** in Berlin will also be used, exchanged and further developed.
- In addition to the design of a sustainable "zero emission building", the focus is also on the establishment of **modern working environments**.

The future of people in industry

- The partnership will focus on the creation of **state-of-the-art working environments** by interlinking production processes, technologies, infrastructure, and people.
- The **Comfy app**, which is already used at Siemens locations, shows how this can work in practice. It allows employees to report their presence or check the availability of rooms and places. The app creates the foundation for future-proof, digital work environments.
- With the help of the Digital Factory Campus Berlin, Mercedes-Benz will qualify all its production staff in the global Mercedes-Benz Cars production network with regard to digital key competencies. The focus is on topics such as the **use of digital tools, data literacy and low-code platforms**.
- Mercedes-Benz AG is already using **digital solutions such as Augmented Reality (AR) and Virtual Reality (VR) for example in qualification**.
- **Digital simulations and gamification** are further approaches to learning the future.
- Concepts and experiences from the Siemensstadt² and the Mercedes-Benz Digital Factory Campus will serve as a basis for an in-depth exchange.

- Siemens, for example, offers digital learning opportunities for flexible, continuous, individual online learning as well as solutions for virtual training for production employees with the help of 3D models.
- In addition, Siemens supports programs at various educational institutions in Berlin to impart digitalization skills.

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Siemens AG (Berlin and Munich) is a global technology powerhouse that has stood for engineering excellence, innovation, quality, reliability and internationality for more than 170 years. Active around the world, the company focuses on intelligent infrastructure for buildings and distributed energy systems and on automation and digitalization in the process and manufacturing industries. Siemens brings together the digital and physical worlds to benefit customers and society. Through Mobility, a leading supplier of intelligent mobility solutions for rail and road transport, Siemens is helping to shape the world market for passenger and freight services. Via its majority stake in the publicly listed company Siemens Healthineers, Siemens is also a world-leading supplier of medical technology and digital health services. In addition, Siemens holds a minority stake in Siemens Energy, a global leader in the transmission and generation of electrical power that has been listed on the stock exchange since September 28, 2020.

In fiscal 2020, which ended on September 30, 2020, the Siemens Group generated revenue of €57.1 billion and net income of €4.2 billion. As of September 30, 2020, the company had around 293,000 employees worldwide. Further information is available on the Internet at www.siemens.com.

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Mercedes-Benz AG at a glance

Mercedes-Benz AG is responsible for the global business of Mercedes-Benz Cars and Mercedes-Benz Vans, with over 170,000 employees worldwide. Ola Källenius is Chairman of the Board of Management of Mercedes-Benz AG. The company focuses on the development, production and sales of passenger cars, vans and vehicle-related services. Furthermore, the company aspires to be the leader in the fields of electric mobility and vehicle software. The product portfolio comprises the Mercedes-Benz brand with the sub-brands of Mercedes-AMG, Mercedes-Maybach, Mercedes-EQ, G-Class and the smart brand. The Mercedes me brand offers access to the digital services from Mercedes-Benz. Mercedes-Benz AG is one of the world's largest manufacturers of luxury passenger cars. In 2020 it sold around 2.1 million passenger cars and nearly 375,000 vans. In its two business segments, Mercedes-Benz AG is continually expanding its worldwide production network with around 35 production sites on four continents, while gearing itself to meet the requirements of electric mobility. At the same time, the company is constructing and extending its global battery production network on three continents. As sustainability is the guiding principle of the Mercedes-Benz strategy and for the company itself, this means creating lasting value for all stakeholders: for customers, employees, investors, business partners and society as a whole. The basis for this is Daimler's sustainable business strategy. The company thus takes responsibility for the economic, ecological and social effects of its business activities and looks at the entire value chain.

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