



Key component for automated driving: HELLA launches latest generation of steering electronics on the market

Series production of steering control modules as fail operational system successfully started

Lippstadt, 1 July 2021. The internationally positioned automotive supplier HELLA has further expanded its leading market position in the field of steering electronics. The company was able to secure further major orders and successfully commence series production of the latest product generation of steering electronics. The new modules, which are designed as a fail operational system and thus represent an essential key component for automated driving, are manufactured at the HELLA electronics plant in Amexhe, Mexico. A North American automotive supplier of steering and drive components will initially be supplied with this component; further customer projects for fail operational designs are currently under development with start of production in 2022. HELLA has been producing steering electronics for various customers for more than ten years; the 30 millionth steering control module rolled off the production line in Hamm (Germany) at the beginning of the year. In addition, the products are manufactured in China since 2017. Further sites in Germany and Romania shall also start production.

"Our business success is primarily due to the fact that, as a technology leader, we offer a high-performance, scalable product that can be easily adapted to different customer requirements," says Björn Twiehaus, who is responsible for the Electronics division on the HELLA Management Board. "Our steering electronics also increase vehicle efficiency and are an indispensable component for automated driving as fail operational version."

Steering electronics are the basis for electric power steering. By assisting the steering with the aid of an electronically controlled electric motor when required, they improve the energy efficiency of vehicles. The basic version of the fail-safe system also enables certain driver assistance functions such as lane departure warning or automated



parking. Fail safe means that a system detects when it stops working and then enters a passive safe state. This is not sufficient for more highly automated driving functionalities, in which there is no longer any interaction with the driver in certain use cases. In such cases, the steering system must rather be designed as a fail operational system. It must therefore ensure via a redundant architecture that in the event of a potential fault in the electronics, power steering support is still maintained and vehicle control is unrestricted.

In pre-development projects in the area of steering control, HELLA is also working on new product solutions for steer-by-wire functions which are also required for the more advanced development stages of automated driving and open up new design possibilities for the vehicle interior, for example.

Please note: This text and corresponding photo material can also be found in our press database at: www.hella.com/press

HELLA GmbH & Co. KGaA, Lippstadt: HELLA is a global, family-owned company, listed on the stock exchange, with over 125 locations in some 35 countries. With sales of € 5.8 billion in the fiscal year 2019/2020 and 36,000 employees, HELLA is one of the leading automotive suppliers. HELLA specialises in innovative lighting systems and vehicle electronics and has been an important partner to the automotive industry and aftermarket for more than a century. Furthermore, in its Special Applications segment, HELLA develops, manufactures and sells lighting and electronic products for specialist vehicles.

For more information please contact:

Dr. Markus Richter
Company spokesman
HELLA GmbH & Co. KGaA
Rixbecker Strasse 75
59552 Lippstadt
Germany
Phone: +49 (0)2941 38-7545
Fax: +49 (0)2941 38-477545
Markus.Richter@hella.com
www.hella.com