



## **HELLA expands production capacities in the NAFTA region significantly**

**With a new electronics plant and the expansion of existing lighting plants, HELLAS is strengthening its position in the American market**

**Apaseo el Grande, Mexico, June 11, 2018.** HELLAS has expanded its production capacities in the NAFTA region significantly. To this end, the lighting and electronics specialist has officially opened a new electronics plant in Apaseo el Grande in the Mexican state of Guanajuato. In addition, the production capacities in two existing lighting plants in Mexico were expanded at the end of 2017. The total investment volume in Euro is situated in the medium double-digit millions.

"In North, Central and South America, we are currently growing by more than 15 percent, and therefore much more strongly than the market", explains HELLAS CEO Dr. Rolf Breidenbach. "The capital expenditure in our facilities is primarily to serve existing orders placed by regional customers, as well as to further develop our position in the North American market."

Together with representatives of the local and regional governments, HELLAS has now officially opened the newly built electronics plant in Apaseo el Grande. The plant recently began series production. The new location will specialize in manufacturing body control units, control units for electronic power steering and key fobs, among other products. The plant currently has a total area of 11,000 square meters, and will employ up to 250 members of staff in the first development phase.

"With HELLAS, a very respected, technologically leading and internationally positioned automotive supplier has settled in Guanajuato", said Guillermo Romero Pacheco, Secretary for Sustainable Economic Development for the state of Guanajuato, at the opening ceremony for the new plant. "This once again underlines the attractiveness of this region as an industrial location." Pacheco took part in the opening ceremony with the Municipality President of Apaseo el Grande, Gonzalo González Centeno.

# PRESS RELEASE



HELLA also significantly expanded the production capacities of two existing lighting plants in Mexico at the end of last year. The location in Irapuato has been extended to include series production of innovative LED headlamp modules, while the El Salto lighting plant based in the state of Jalisco has been extended to further include the production of complex rear combination lamps. The area of the two plants has been increased by 16,000 square meters to a total of 79,000 square meters. As a part of this expansion, the total number of employees is now over 3,000, almost twice as many as before.

HELLA currently employs over 7,000 members of staff at 15 locations in the North, Central and South American region. In the 2016/2017 fiscal year, the automotive supplier achieved sales of more than € 1 billion in this market. In addition to the capacity increases in Mexico, Hella is also currently expanding electronics production in Shanghai, and is building additional electronics plants in India and Lithuania.

**Please note:**

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**HELLA GmbH & Co. KGaA, Lippstadt:** Hella is a global, family-owned company, listed on the stock exchange, with more than 40,000 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 more than 7,000 people working in research and development, Hella is one of the most important innovation drivers on the market. Furthermore, with sales of 6.6 billion euros in the fiscal year of 2016/2017, the Hella Group is one of the top 40 automotive parts suppliers in the world and one of the 100 largest German industrial companies.

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