Fixed Income Presentation Q1 2023 Mercedes-Benz Group AG $\mathbf{A}^{\mathbf{A}} \mathbf{A}^{\mathbf{A}} \mathbf{A}$ Mercedes-Benz



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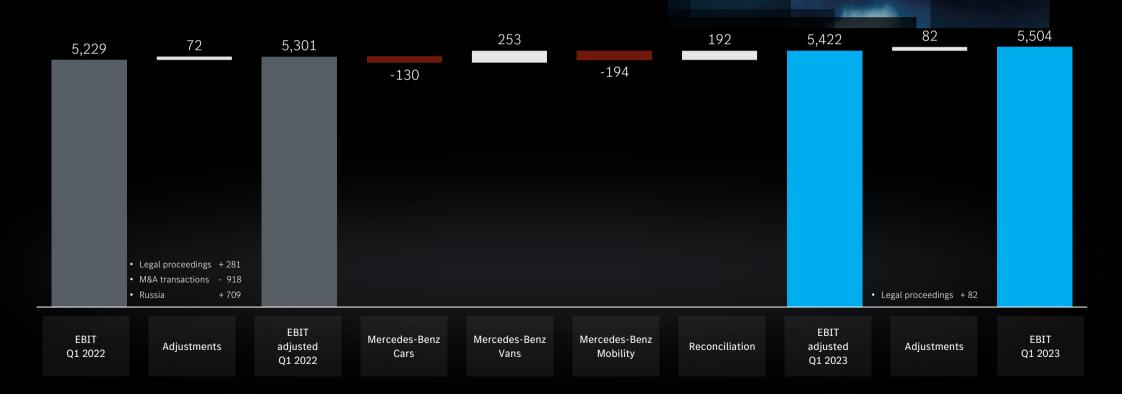
Revenue EBIT EBIT adj. Free Cash Flow (IB) Net Industrial Liquidity in billion euros +8% +5% +2% +8% 37.5 28.9 5.5 5.4 5.3 5.2 26.6 34.9 +78% 2.2 1.2 12/31/2022 03/31/2023 Q1 2022 Q1 2023 Q1 2022 Q1 2023 Q1 2022 Q1 2023 Q1 2022 Q1 2023

Mercedes-Benz Group: Key figures

Fixed Income Presentation Q1 2023 3

Mercedes-Benz Group: Group EBIT

In million euros

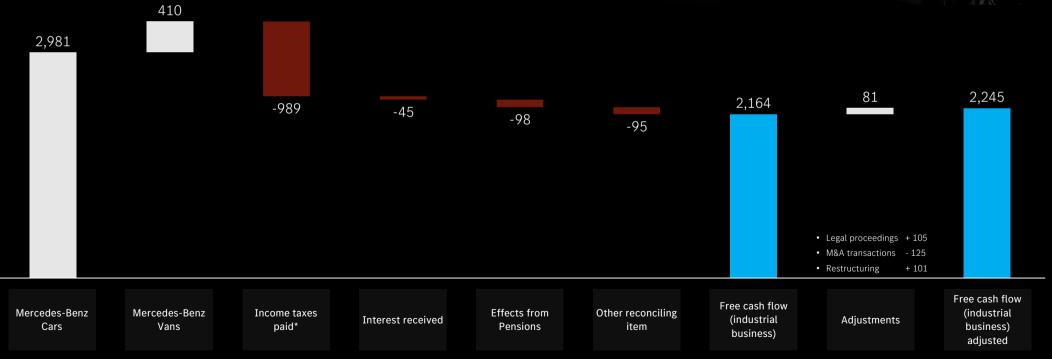


Mercedes-Benz

SeG 3537

Mercedes-Benz Group: Reconciliation from CFBIT to Free Cash Flow*

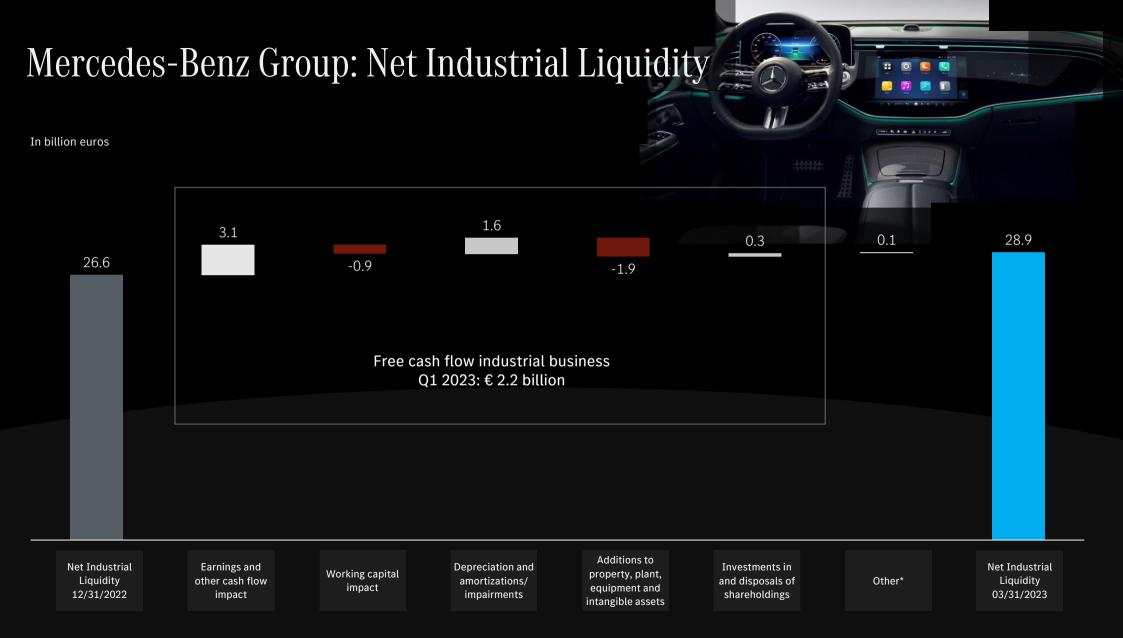




* includes internal tax prepayments from Mercedes-Benz Mobility to the industrial business

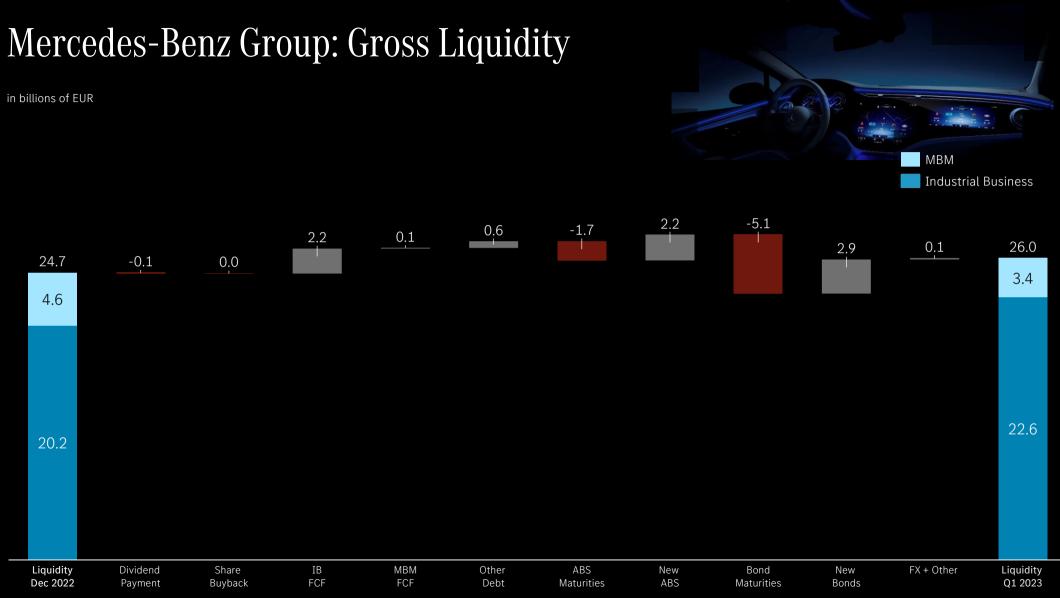
Mercedes-Benz

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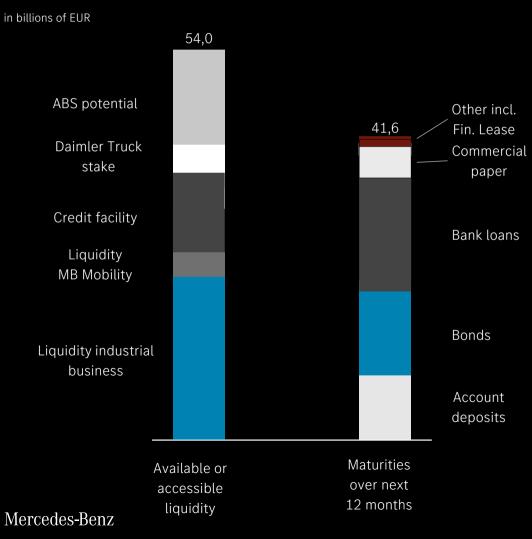
Mercedes-Benz

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Note: Figures may not be additive due to rounding.

Mercedes-Benz Group: Financial flexibility over a 12-month period Q1 2023



Net industrial liquidity increased to €28.9 billion

Gross industrial liquidity at €22.6 billion

Financial flexibility supported by €11 billion revolving credit facility, which is unutilized

Financial flexibility supported by 30% Daimler Truck stake

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Mercedes-Benz Cars: Key messages



Performance: Significant Top-End sales and almost doubled BEV sales

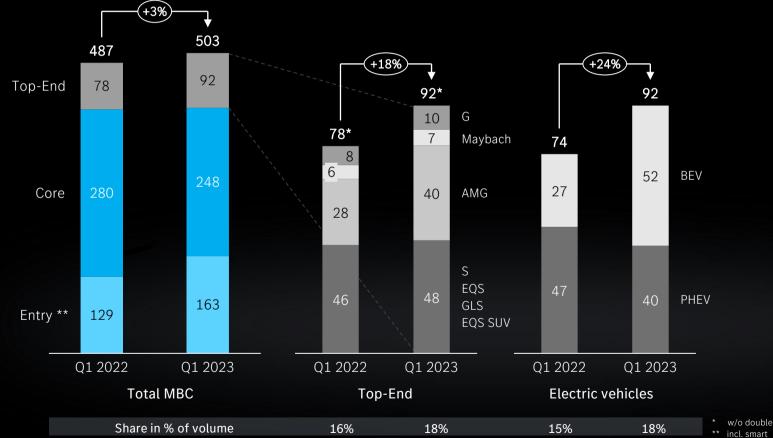
Profitability: Strong net pricing and double-digit margin demonstrating weatherproofed business

Products: New Mercedes-Maybach EQS SUV and all new E-Class unveiled, EQE SUV start of sales

Strategy: MB.OS Software strategy & ESG progress outlined

Mercedes-Benz Cars: Top-End and electric vehicle unit sales

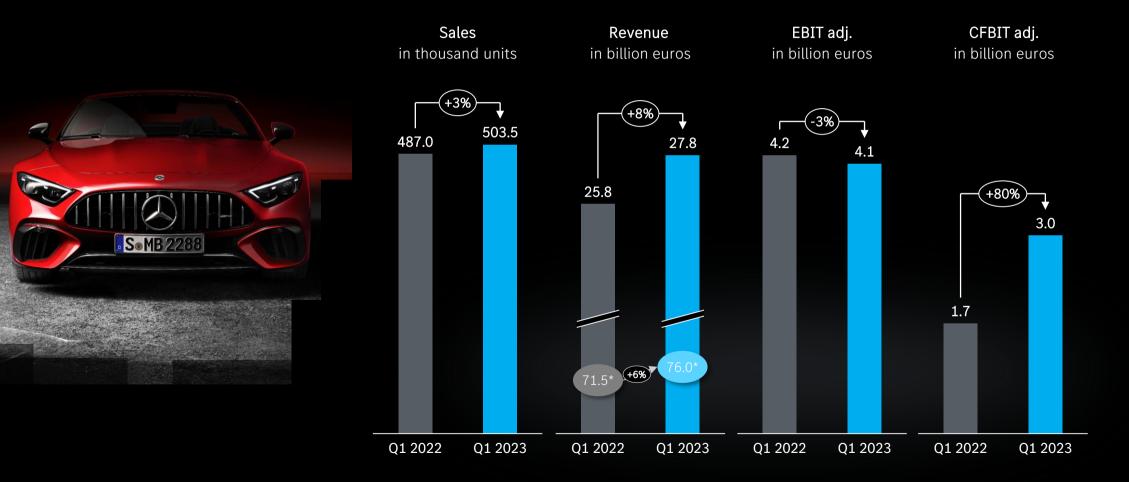
In thousand units





* w/o double counting (e.g. G63, S-Class, Maybach)

Mercedes-Benz Cars: Financials



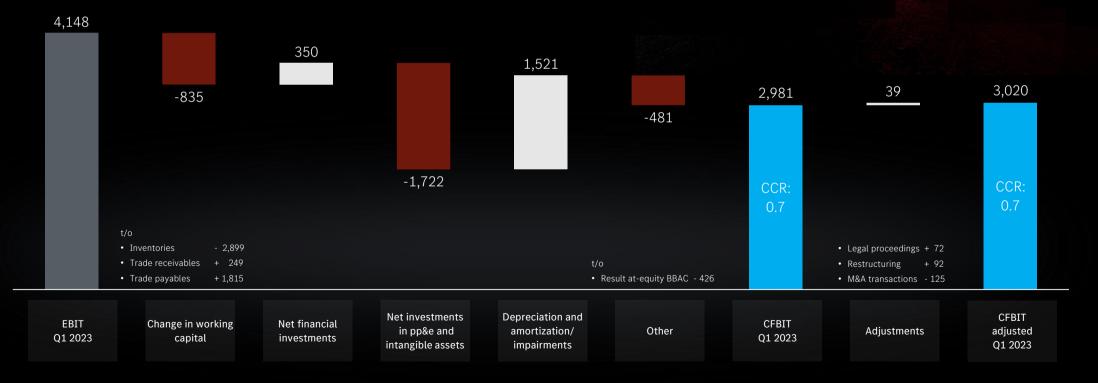
* ASP in thousand euros excl. Smart, BBAC sales and pbp revenues

Mercedes-Benz Cars: Q1 2023 EBIT & RoS and the In million euros Gross Profit +591 1.342 -203 -548 4,271 4,243 -127 -46 4.148 4.113 35 -292 -28 -257 RoS: RoS: RoS: RoS: 16.5% 16.4% Strongly improved net pricing ÷ 14.8% 14.9% Slightly increased unit sales & favourable product mix + Higher raw material prices and one time commodity charges M&A Transactions + 863 Higher investments in future technologies and vehicles Legal proceedings - 177 Discounting of non-current provisions 658 Russia Legal proceedings + 35 Research & EBIT Volume / Foreign General EBIT EBIT Industrial Selling non-capitalized EBIT administrative adjusted Adjustments adjusted structure / exchange Others Adjustments 01 2022 01 2023 performance expenses development Q1 2022 Net pricing rates expenses Q1 2023 costs

Mercedes-Benz Cars: EBIT to CFBIT

In million euros





Mercedes-Benz Vans: Key messages



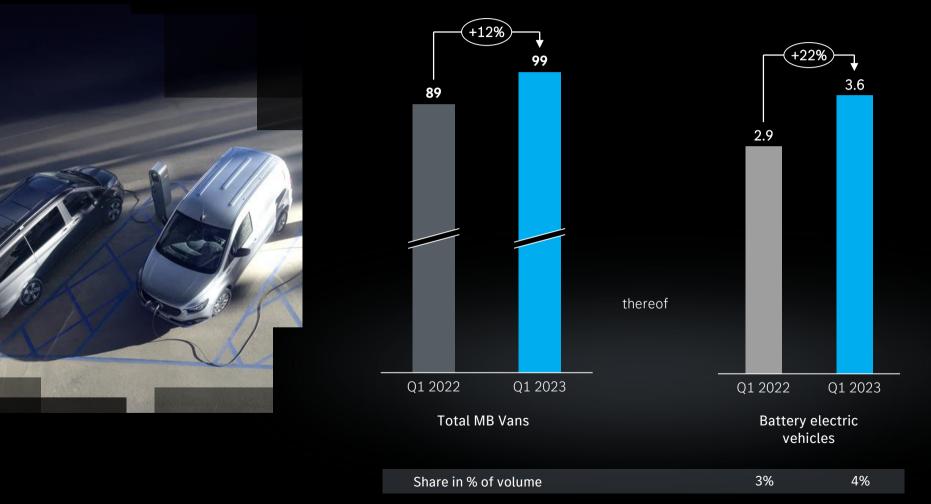
Performance: Healthy sales with strong earnings

Profitability: Strongly improved net pricing outweighs cost inflation

Products: World premiere of new eSprinter very well perceived

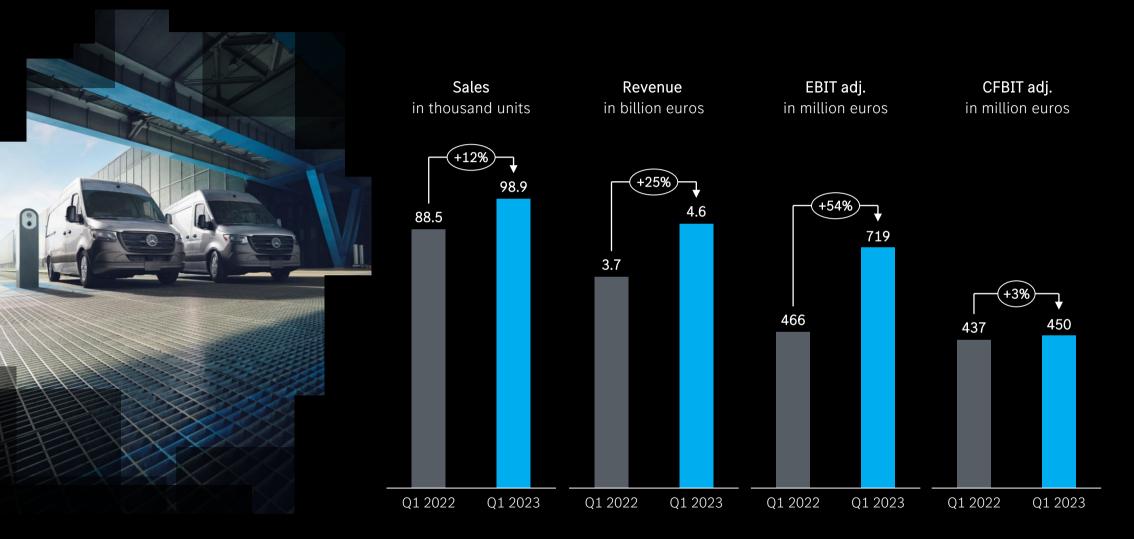
Strategy: Virtual Van CMD on May 16

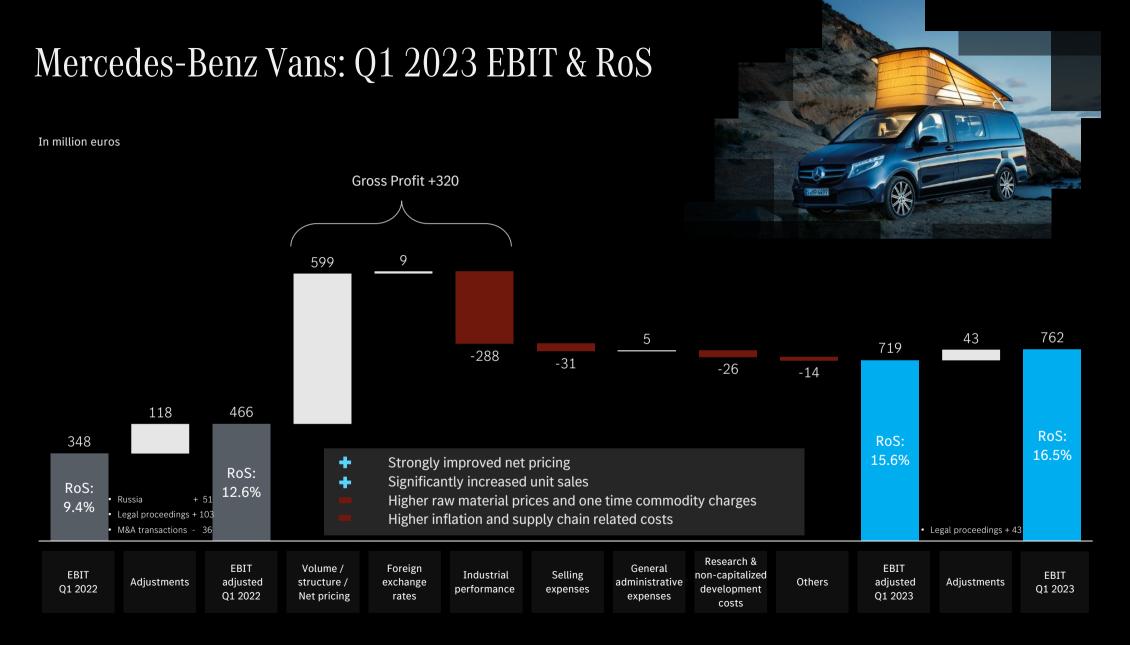
Mercedes-Benz Vans: Electric vehicle unit sales



In thousand units

Mercedes-Benz Vans: Financials

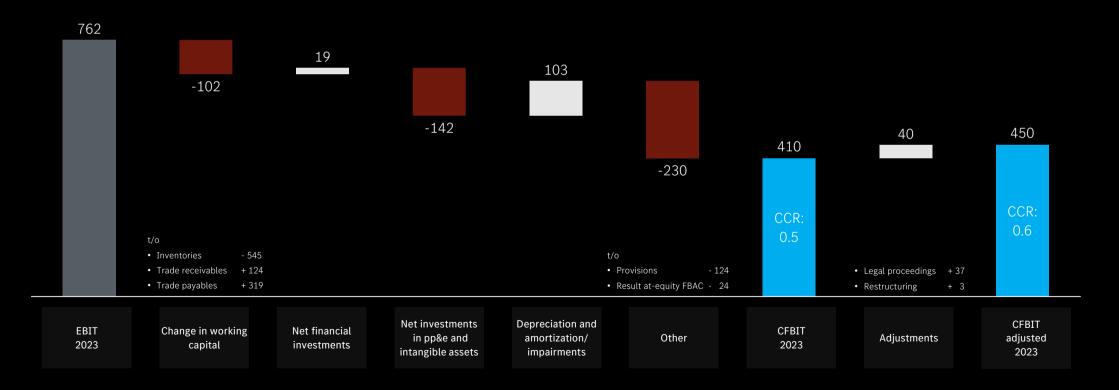




Mercedes-Benz Vans: EBIT to CFBIT

In million euros





Mercedes-Benz Mobility: Key messages

Business: Stable portfolio and penetration rate development

Performance: Stable cost of credit risk despite challenging environment reflecting high portfolio quality

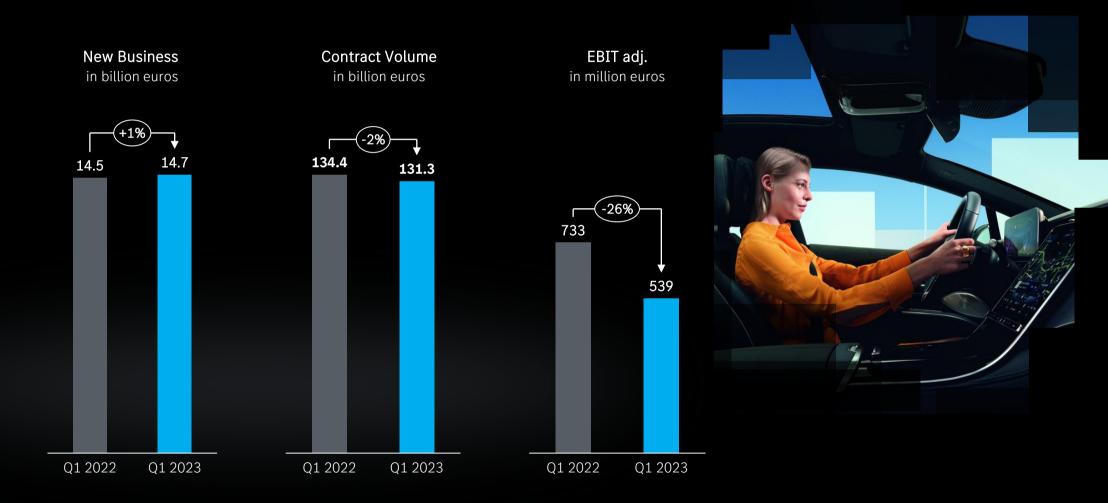
Profitability: Interest margin impacted by headwinds from higher interest rates

Strategy: Actively supporting electric vehicle sales and slightly increased investments in the transformation

Products: Elevating customer experience by setting-up a Mercedes-Benz high-power charging network



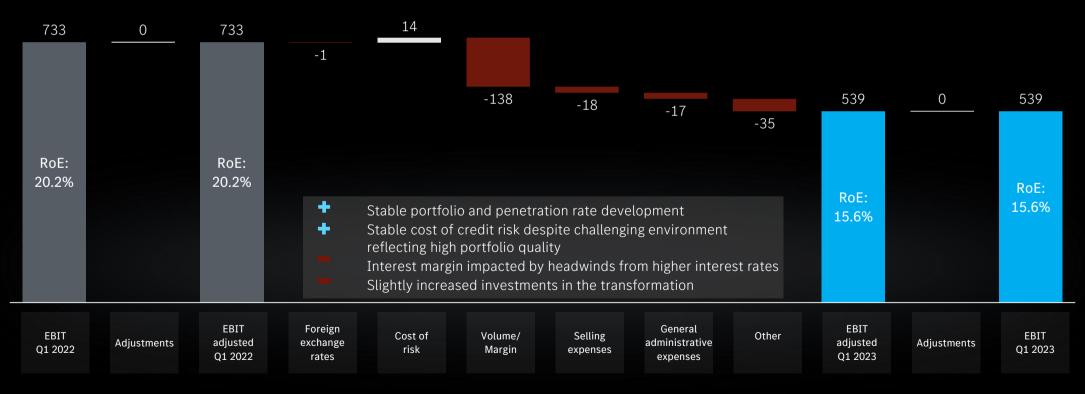
Mercedes-Benz Mobility: Financials

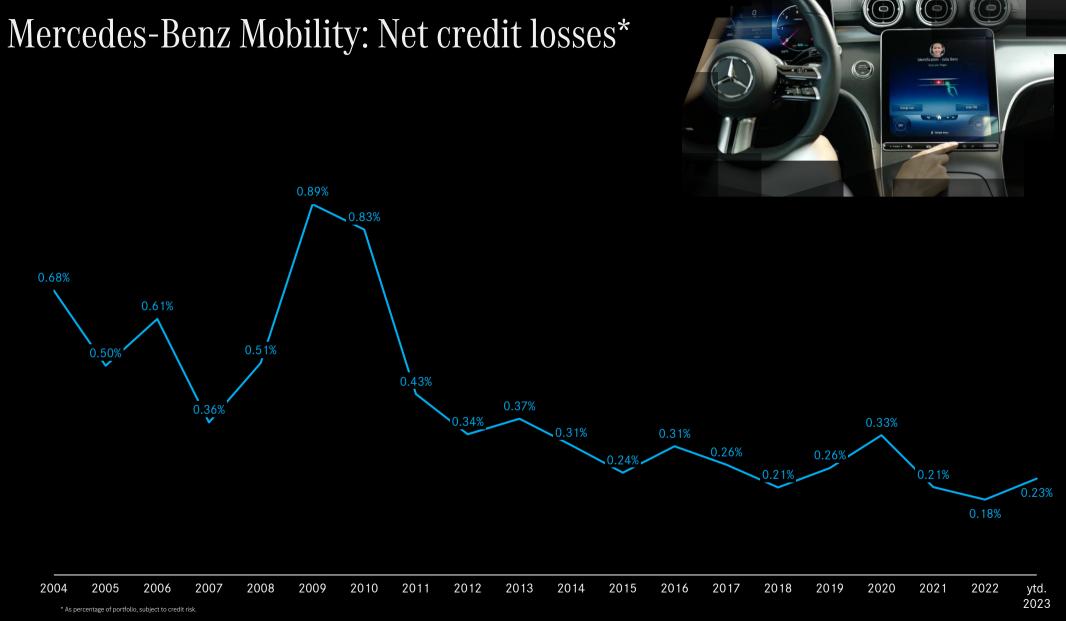




Mercedes-Benz Mobility: Q1 2023 EBIT & RoE

In million euros





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Mercedes-Benz Divisional Guidance 2023

ASSUMPTION

With regional differences the overall growth momentum of the world economy is likely to remain rather subdued for the rest of the year. High, albeit gradually declining, inflation rates in many markets combined with very restrictive monetary policies at major central banks, are likely to continue to weigh on growth. In addition, the recent turbulence in the US and European banking sectors brought new uncertainties for the further development of the global economy. Geopolitical imponderables remain another uncertainty factor. By contrast, energy prices are expected to be less volatile than in the previous year. In addition, global supply bottlenecks are expected to ease further, which should benefit the development of <u>global</u> automotive markets.

Unit Sales	Mercedes-Benz Cars	At prior-year level	
Unit Sales	Mercedes-Benz Vans	Slightly above	
	Mercedes-Benz Cars	12 to 14 %	
Return on Sales (adjusted*)	Mercedes-Benz Vans	11 to 13 %	
	Mercedes-Benz Mobility (RoE)	12 to 14 %	
Cash Conversion	Mercedes-Benz Cars	0.8 to 1.0	
Rate** (adjusted)	Mercedes-Benz Vans	0.6 to 0.8	
Investment in pp&e	Mercedes-Benz Cars	Significantly above	
	Mercedes-Benz Vans	Significantly above	
D ⁰ D ovpondituro	Mercedes-Benz Cars	Significantly above	
R&D expenditure	Mercedes-Benz Vans	Significantly above	



* The adjustments include material adjustments if they lead to significant effects in a reporting period. These material adjustments relate in particular to legal proceedings and related measures, restructuring measures and M&A transactions.

** Adjusted Cash Flow before Interest and Taxes (CFBIT) divided by adjusted EBIT.

Mercedes-Benz Group Guidance 2023

ASSUMPTION

With regional differences the overall growth momentum of the world economy is likely to remain rather subdued for the rest of the year. High, albeit gradually declining, inflation rates in many markets combined with very restrictive monetary policies at major central banks, are likely to continue to weigh on growth. In addition, the recent turbulence in the US and European banking sectors brought new uncertainties for the further development of the global economy. Geopolitical imponderables remain another uncertainty factor. By contrast, energy prices are expected to be less volatile than in the previous year. In addition, global supply bottlenecks are expected to ease further, which should benefit the development of global automotive markets.

Revenue	At prior-year level
EBIT	Slightly below
Free Cash Flow (Industrial Business)	At prior-year level
CO ₂ emission (g/km)*	Significantly below



* Average CO2 emissions of the total fleet of newly registered Mercedes-Benz cars in Europe (European Union, Norway and Iceland) in the reporting year as measured on the basis of the WLTP, i.e. including vans that are registered as passenger cars.

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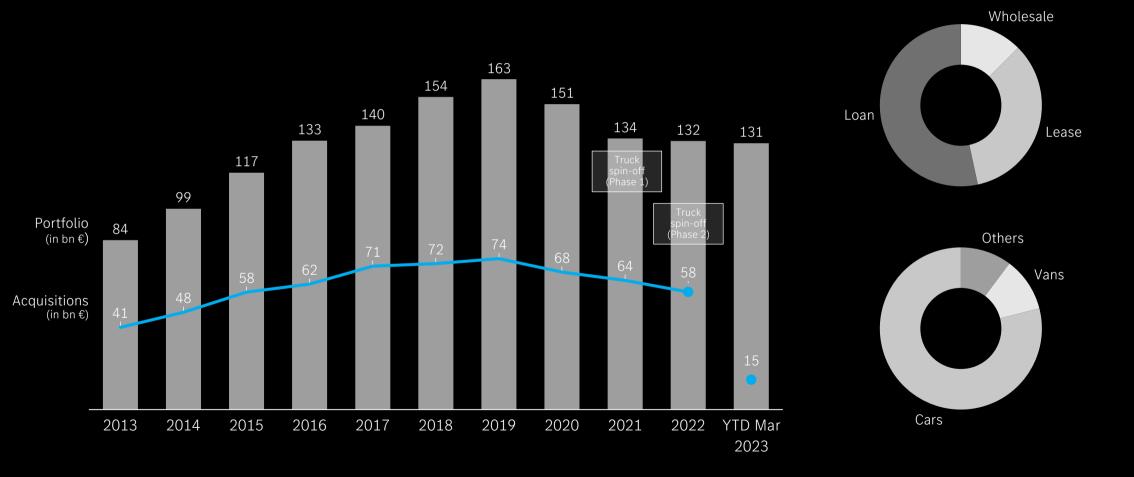
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Our funding strategy is built on strict principles

Targeting Financial Independence	No dependence from single markets, instruments, banks or investors	
	Diversification of funding sources and instruments: Bank Loans, Bonds, ABS, Commercial Paper	
	No Covenants and asset pledges, no Credit Support Agreements	
Maximizing Financial Flexibility	Keeping prudent amount of Cash and Committed Credit Facility	
	New markets funded via global and local banks first	
	Early capital market funding to save credit capacity in growth regions	
Stringent Global Funding Policy	Liquidity matched funding	
	Interest rate matched funding	
	Currency matched funding	
	Country matched funding	

Portfolio at Mercedes-Benz Mobility remained stable compared to 2022



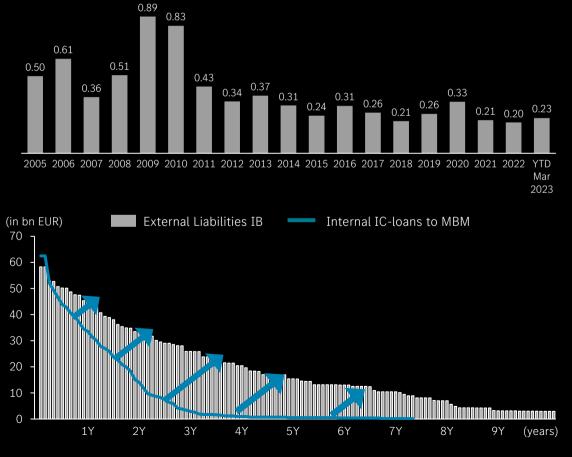
Mercedes-Benz Mobility business benefits from stringent credit management and solid refinancing

Net credit losses remain on a low level benefiting from strong used car markets. Yet risks remain to the upside due to tense macroeconomic outlook and easing trend of used car prices.

The matched-funded approach ensures that liquidity risks are managed properly

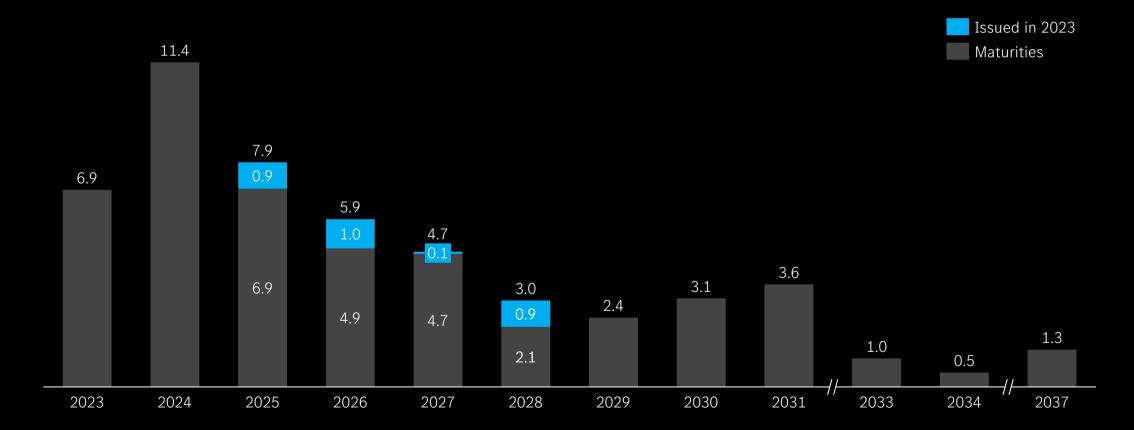
External liabilities of Mercedes-Benz Group have a longer duration due to capital market refinancing than internal allocation to MBM via IC-loans

Net credit losses as a percentage of portfolio, subject to credit risk



Well balanced Bond Maturity Profile

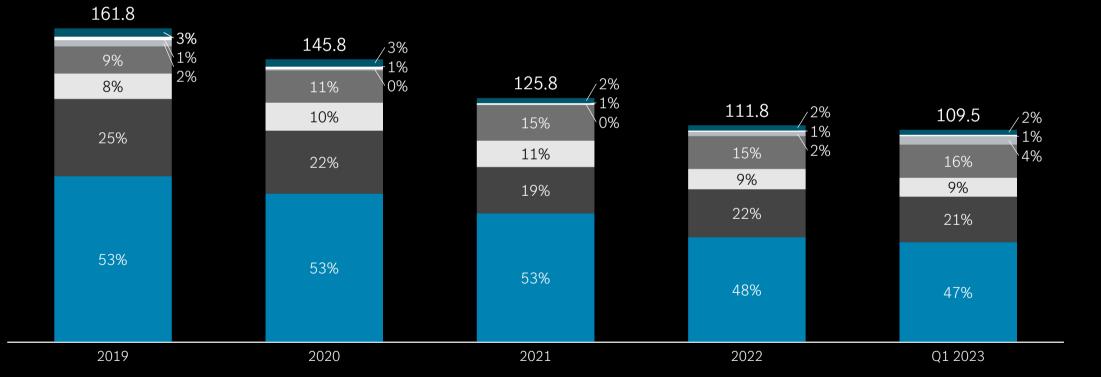
in billions of EUR as of 31st March 2023



Financing liabilities show a diversified funding mix

in billions of EUR

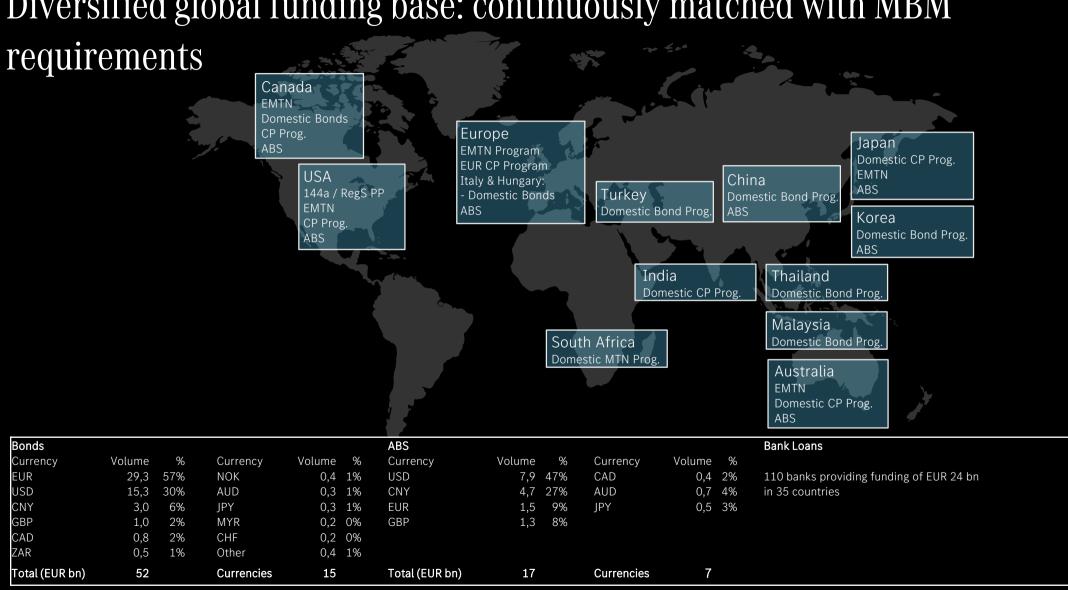




To ensure sustainable portfolio growth, we mitigate risk and volatility through a balanced mix of funding instruments



Planned to increase Green Finance Share in the upcoming years

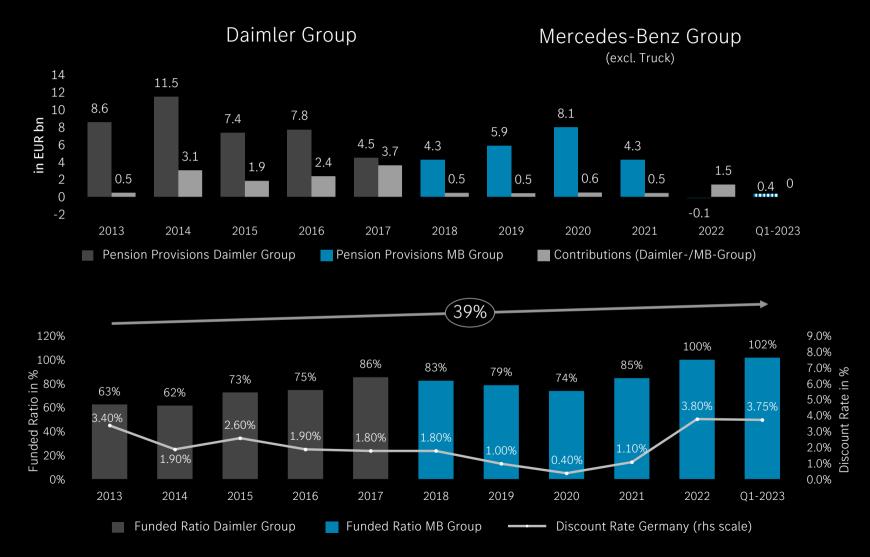


Diversified global funding base: continuously matched with MBM

Mercedes-Benz Group's financial KPIs set to support a strong rating

	Agency	Long-term	Outlook	Short-term
Current Ratings:	Standard & Poor's:	A-	positive	A-2
	Moody's:	A2	stable	P-1
	Fitch:	A-	positive	F1
	DBRS:	A (low)	stable	R-1 (low)
	Scope:	А	positive	S-1

Contributions stabilized funded ratio in low interest rate environment



Significant contributions since 2013 support the solid capital structure (no more pension provisions required)

With the rebound of discount rates to levels higher than 2013, pension plans turn to a funded ratio above 100%

Fixed Income Presentation Q1 202336

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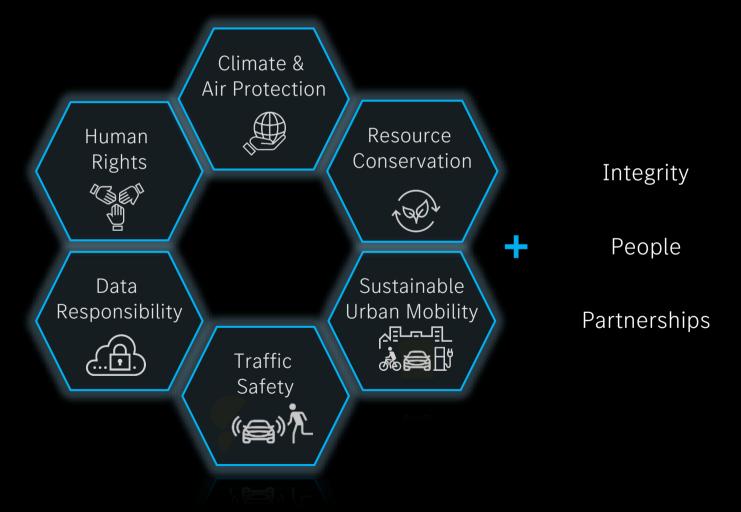
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We follow a holistic sustainable business strategy: Ecological, social, economical



Ambition 2039 – our commitment to net carbon-neutrality along the entire value chain in the new vehicle fleet in 2039

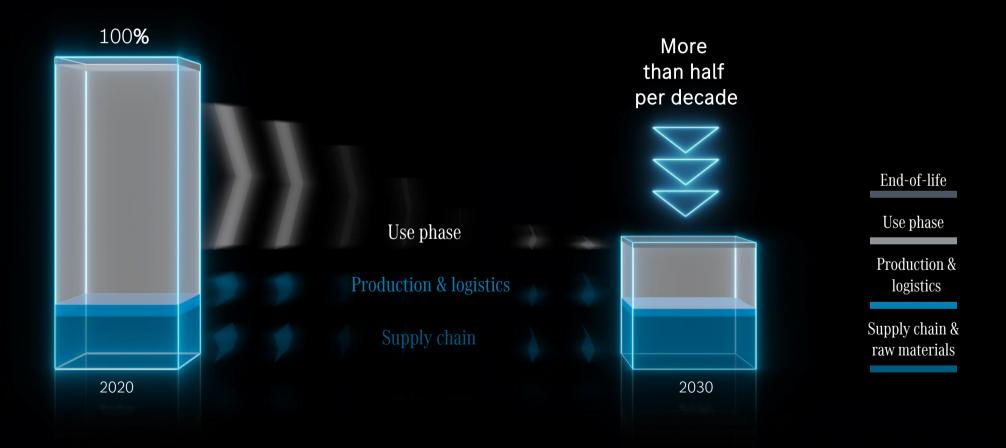


TODAY'S PROPORTIONAL CO₂ IMPACT ALONG THE VALUE CHAIN

 49.7 tCO_2 in $2020 - 47.8 \text{ tCO}_2$ in 2022 - more than half per decade

We will at least halve lifecycle CO₂ emissions per vehicle in this decade*

Mercedes-Benz Cars – on our way towards Ambition 2039 – we target the full lifecycle of the car



Our electric product rollout is running at full speed with nine electric models on the road and more to come

Since 2022 we offer an all-electric alternative in every segment we serve

By 2025, our customers will be able to choose an all-electric alternative for every model we make

It's our ambition to drive the plug-in hybrid & BEV share up to 50% by mid-decade

By the end of the decade, we aim to be ready to go all-electric where market conditions allow



We are on the way to an all-electric future - MMA followed by three "electric only" architectures mid-decade







MEDIUM AND FULL-SIZE CARS

Scalable modular system for our EV portfolio

PERFORMANCE ELECTRIC VEHICLES Architecture

NEW ERA

For electric vans and light commercial vehicles

Together with our partners, we will expand our activities in battery cells and systems

Our target: Capacity of more than 200 Gigawatt hours

Local-for-local strategy with partners and new cell factories around the world

Envision AESC

- Cell production in Bowling Green, USA
- Cell production in Caceres, Spain

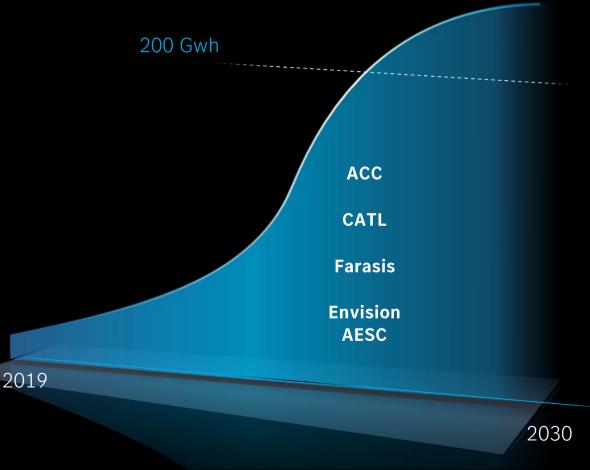
CATL

New plant in Debrecen, Hungary

ACC building 3 plants in Europe

- Douvrin, France
- Kaiserslautern, Germany
- Termoli, Italy

Mercedes-Benz



Needed battery volume for all car lines

By joining ACC, we build a European battery champion

We take a one third stake in Automotive Cells Company (ACC).

Our goal: Joint development and production of cells and modules in Europe.

ACC will reach a capacity of at least 120 Gigawatt hours in Europe by the end of the decade.

ACC will supply Mercedes-Benz with high-performance battery technologies from its production locations from mid of the decade.



All of our own Mercedes-Benz plants world-wide are producing 100% net carbon-neutral

Together with our EV strategy, net carbon-neutral production is a key driver of Ambition 2039

Since the beginning of 2022, production sites worldwide fully owned by Mercedes-Benz have been net carbon-neutral.

We plan to cover 70% of our energy needs through renewable sources¹ and will also produce energy on site

¹ by 2030

Mercedes-Benz global production network

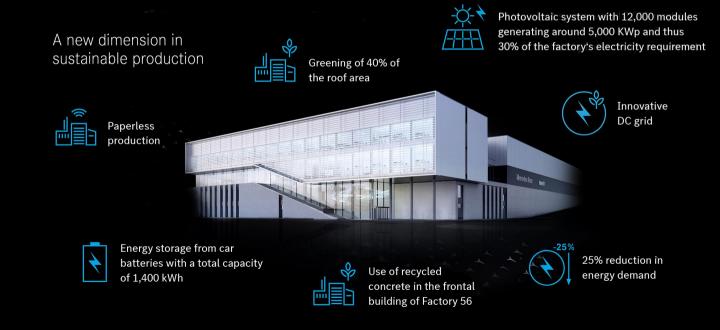


Our Factory 56 is a zero-carbon factory and serves as a blueprint for our global Mercedes-Benz production network

At our Factory 56 in Sindelfingen producing more sustainable is already reality

The innovative energy concept includes a photovoltaic system, a DC power grid and energy storage based on reused vehicle batteries

Self-generated, green electric power is sufficient to cover about 30% of the factory's annual power requirements



Having achieved net carbon-neutral production in 2022, not only do we use clean energy in production, we also produce it

It is our ambition to make all Mercedes-Benz factories renewable energy production sites

Maximising our on-site photovoltaic systems worldwide by 2025 – adding up to 140 MWp new PV

By 2025 we will invest a triple-digit million amount to install photovoltaic systems

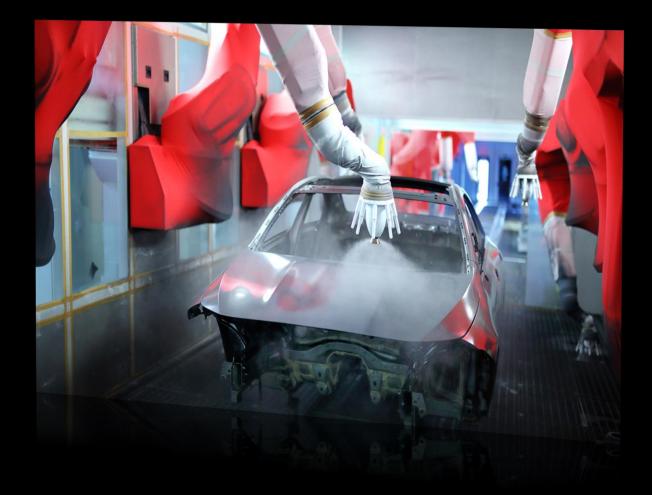


Water usage reduction and a sustainable heat supply are cornerstones in reducing our ecological footprint

Our use of water will be cut by 35% by 2030 thanks to multi-reuse of water in production

We boost the sustainability of our plants' heat supply, especially focusing on our paint shops

We plan to use biogas and biomass as well as geothermal and solar thermal energy instead of conventional gas



We create sustainable supply chains for focus materials via technology changes

Steel – CO_2 reduction: optimised conventional Base green electricity H₂GS Oxygen furnace Directly reduced iron/electric arc furnace

~90%

of our annual purchasing volume is supplied by companies that follow our ambition to become net carbon-neutral

Further materials in focus:

Aluminium sheet/cast Thermoplastics Battery materials

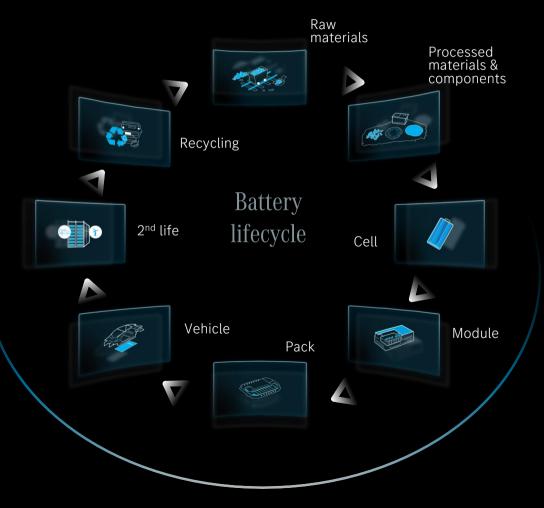
We are establishing a green and net carbon-neutral supply chain

In the future, raw materials for battery components only from IRMA-certified mines

Cooperation with strategic partners, e. g. for lithium hydroxide with German-Canadian Rock Tech Lithium Inc.

Direct sourcing of battery raw materials like nickel and cobalt under consideration

2020: Big River Steel reduced CO_2 emissions by >70% 2021: Salzgitter AG reduces CO_2 emissions by >60% 2025: CO_2 free steel from H2 Green Steel 2026: CO_2 free steel from SSAB



Mercedes-Benz is closing the loop on batteries through sustainable recycling

Own CO_2 -neutral recycling plant in Kuppenheim, southern Germany start operations in summer 2024 with the first phase - shredding batteries - in 2023

Hydrometallurgy: Innovative technology increases recovery rate to more than 96%

Cooperation with high-tech partners in China and the U.S. ensures the closure of the recyclable materials loop worldwide



Our people plan focuses on a just transition for our employees

Re-shape streamlining our organisation

in a responsible way

Re-skill

developing future-oriented qualifications

Re-charge

defining the Mercedes-Benz way as an employer 3,000 positions for software engineers worldwide

Individual target plans for our entities, plants and functions Realignment of our global production network towards electric vehicles and digitalisation

Turn > 1.3 bn

investment in Turn2Learn qualification initiative in Germany 2022-2030 65,000

employees in Germany qualified in e-mobility since 2020

Specific it training for strategically important data and use cases 320 colleagues currently in training

Modern, flexible and diverse working environment

30% share of women in senior management positions by 2030

Competitive salary Profit-sharing bonus for tariff-scale employees Employee shares

We empower our team to shape a successful transformation

>1,300,000,000 € for qualification from 2022 until 2030

~1,900,000 hours of professional and personal training in 2022

ø 1,000 \in per employee/ year

in Germany









We provide transparency and support direct communication with our shareholders

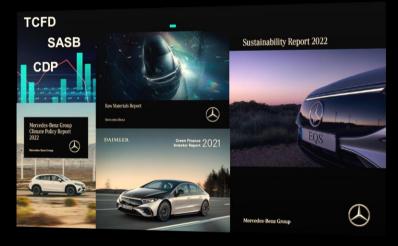


COMMUNICATION

Multi-platform-based shareholder communication

&

Comprehensive disclosure according to capital market standards & frameworks



REPORTING

We finance our transformation in a sustainable manner







GREEN FINANCE FRAMEWORK

In line with Ambition 2039 "DARK GREEN" by CICERO Green Mercedes-Benz Mobility assets and Green ABS

REVOLVING CREDIT FACILITY

In line with Ambition 2039

11 billion euros linked to carbon footprint and BEV share

Proof point for future set-up

GREEN PANDA BOND

First automaker to issue a Green Panda Bond

Green Finance regional footprint expanded

Net proceeds for BEVs

We are making substantial progress in our climate efforts



CLIMATE

230 of ~19,000

companies worldwide received an A rating from CDP¹ for their climate efforts – Mercedes-Benz is one of them

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Mercedes-Benz – The original and most valuable luxury car brand

Heritage: Mercedes-Benz is built on constant reinvention Formula 1: The power of F1 for our brand







Source: Interbrand Best Global Brands 2021

Zeitgeist relevance: There's no luxury without sustainability

Our sustainability goals:

2022

Net carbon-neutral production

Mid-Decade

Up to 50% xEVs

2030

ready to go all electric where market conditions allow 2039

Net carbon-neutral



Approaching our customers

Specific Mercedes-AMG touchpoints continue to grow worldwide



Digitalisation drives the importance of the physical brand experience



Direct sales: one giant leap for our customers and for us

Our ambition for 2025

 $20 \; ^{\text{markets}}_{\text{globally}}$

80% direct sales in Europe

over

25% online sales

Exclusivity: Significant progress with our top-end vehicles and increasingly electric with even more conquest potential



Top-end vehicle unit sales in 2022 vs. 2019



Expected growth of top-end vehicle share of total Mercedes-Benz sales 2019-2026



Our game plan: generate returns consistent with our luxury status

What we are going to do

- Focus on pricing power
- Optimise product portfolio
- Tap full potential of top-end segment
- Exit lower margin products and channels
- Control investment and capacity while driving up contribution margins



The financial Impact

- Drive ASP higher
- Find a superior operating equilibrium
- Structurally higher profitability and improved margin resilience
- Higher return on invested capital

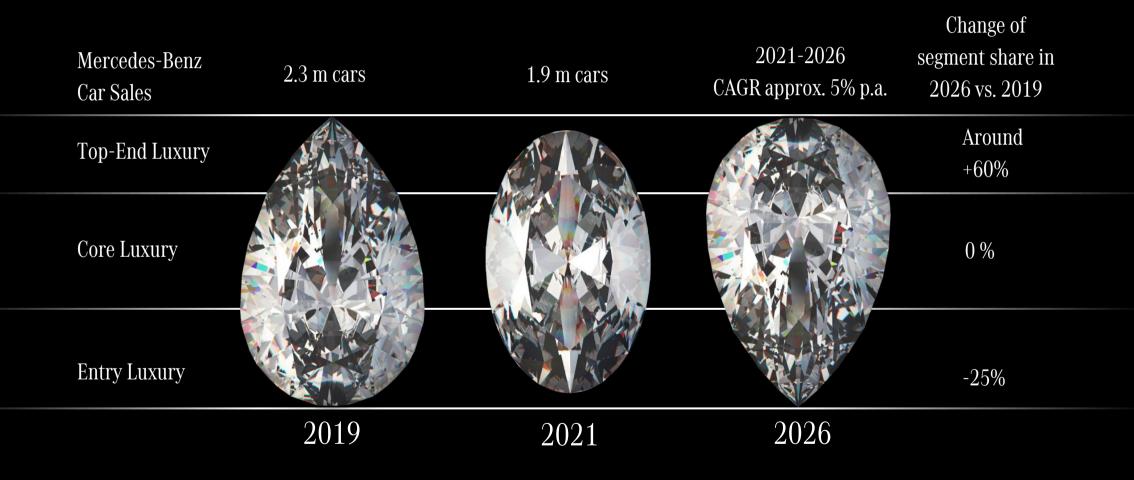
The power of pricing is part of our strategy

Key Levers

- Superior brand drives pricing power
- Strong products enable ambitious initial price setting versus competition
- Sustainable price escalation
- Tight **discounts**: from sales push to lifecycle management
- Direct sales model allows grip on pricing

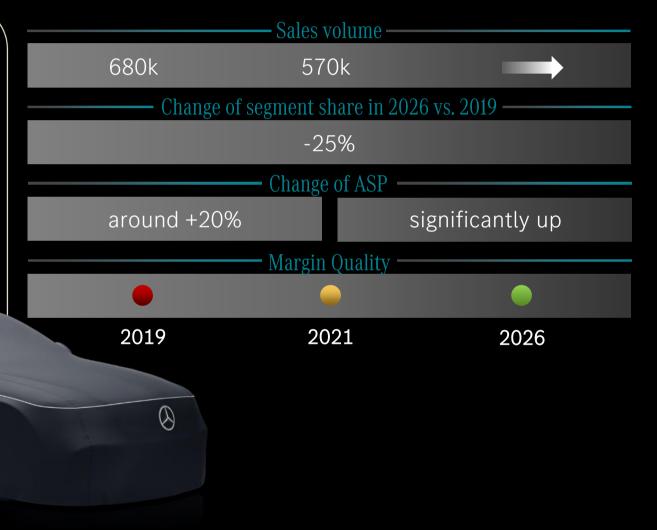
Clear objective to continually raise our net pricing yoy
 Ambition to compensate raw material cost increases via pricing
 We will continue to control pricing and supply even if competitors pursue a volume strategy

Reshaped model portfolio will drive profitable sales growth



Entry Luxury – Focus & Elevate

- Elevate to Entry Luxury
- Product range refocused on fewer and more upscale portfolio positions:
 4 bodystyles instead of 7
- The new entrance point of the portfolio
 is being redefined with the next
 generation of vehicles
- Margin threshold supports Group margin ambition



Core Luxury - Grow & Refine

- Core Luxury going electric on an accelerated timescale, leveraging EVA (EQE, EQE-SUV) and then MB.EA architectures
- Very attractive C-Class in the market
 GLC launched end of 2022
 Brand new E-Class in 2023
- Protect healthy margins on the way to
 BEV



S.EQ 3011E

Top-End Luxury – Expand & Enhance

- Starting point: Over 300k top-end luxury units with ASP of > € 100k and top-end profitability
- Sustainable segment growth
- Desirable products fueling growth: EQS, EQS-SUV, EQS-SUV Maybach, SL, GT, AMG.EA
- Ultra exclusive collectibles and luxury customer experience



Changing our economic equation

Enhance ROIC: control the denominator while raising the numerator (operating and cash margins)

Drive growth through high utilisation, ,reverse auction' of available capacity to build the most profitable models

75% of capital allocation focused on top-end and core segment where the returns are most promising

Intelligent and careful capital allocation to build EV capabilities and supply chain



Our financial ambitions for Mercedes-Benz Cars in 2025: structurally higher profitability and lower margin volatility

Market Environment* Market level, competitive actions, commodity and raw material markets			
Mix & Pricing	Higher mix and strong pricing power		
Fixed costs	> -20% vs. 2019	> -20% vs. 2019	> -20% vs. 2019
CAPEX and R&D (CF impact)	> -20% vs. 2019	> -20% vs. 2019	> -20% vs. 2019
RoS adjusted	approx. 8%/10%	approx. 12%	approx. 14%
Cash conversion		0.7 - 0.9x	our ambition

* Market Environment compromises of the above listed external factors. There might also be situations, which are impossible for us to forecast and not covered within the weather chart e.g. "black swans" like Covid-19 in 2020. Major tectonic shifts on raw material side or on the geo-political side might be further potential examples. By the nature of these events providing a margin forecast for such extreme scenarios is not possible.

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The fundamental building principles of our proprietary operating system

WE ARE THE ARCHIEGIS

SPECIFY

DESIGN

DEVELOP

PROCURE/ PARTNER

INTEGRATE

UPGRADE

The fundamental building principles of our proprietary operating system

Google

1. Purpose-built and open to partners

2. Personalized services through one unique Mercedes Me ID

3. Privacy-by-design from the very beginning

4. Full overt-the-air updatability and decoupled software and hardware releases

All central to our own Mercedes-Benz Operating System MB.OS

PROPRIETARY OPERATING SYSTEM

FOUR DOMAINS: INFOTAINMENT, AUTOMATED DRIVING, BODY & COMFORT, DRIVING & CHARGING

SERVICE-ORIENTED CHIP-TO-CLOUD ARCHITECTURE

Delighting our customers with an extraordinary experience

The most desirable

HARDWARE CANVAS



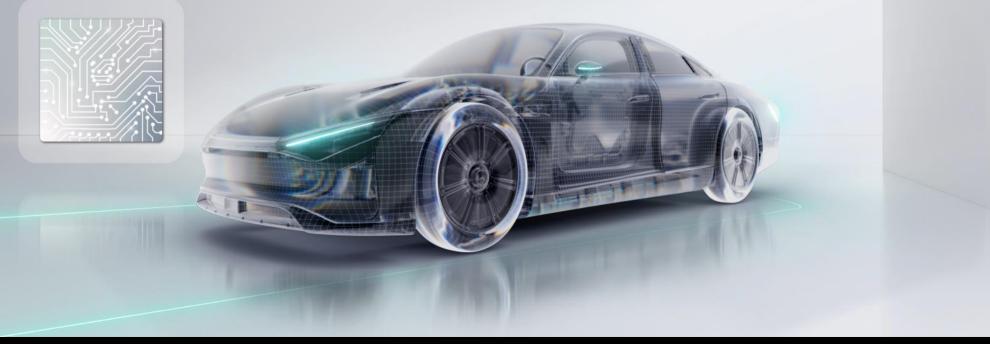


... for the most desirable

SOFTWARE CONTENT

We are building it intelligent, automated and exceptionally safe

Equipping each Mercedes with a SUPERCOMPUTER AND A COMPREHENSIVE SENSOR SET



It's about the operating system of our entire business

Weintelligent

AUTOMATION CONFORTANCE BOOTUNES CHARGINE

MB.O

Product Creation

Operations

commerce

We're connecting the elements to build an INTEGRATED NETWORK

Devices

Beneficial partnership with NVIDIA for MB.DRIVE

SHARED

NVIDIA: AD base software Software updates SoC integration

Mercedes-Benz: Vehicles integration Application development Variable costs



JOINT BENEFIT

Common use of data, IP rights and codes

Faster development times

Optimized product costs

Shared proceeds

Advancing next-generation Level 2 automated driving Leveraging machine learning

Best-in-class LiDAR

New dimension of processing power

AI-powered and data-driven

System designed for urban use cases

Point-to-point assisted driving based on navigation

Substantially increased availability and ODD

Starting with MMA for entry segment



LUMINAL

Camera Radar Lidar Accelerating next-generation Level 3 automated driving with 2x computing power Giving customers back even more time



We are bundling the best functionalities into one MB.CONNECT package

MB.CONNECT

The MB.CONNECT package will bundle a wide range of services into one

High flexibility: Available for a fixed-term three-year contract with vehicle purchase or via subscription

From 2025 onwards, 80% customer retention expected (for vehicles in the one-to-six-year age)

A strong digital customer base as a springboard for future growth

Mercedes me is live in 50 markets

>10 million connected cars worldwide

TODAY

2025

Mercedes me is planned to be live in 65 markets

...and targeting expansion to more than 16 million connected cars

MB.CHARGE – we offer fixed prices and priority access to our charging network

MB.CHARGE

Transparent, fixed-price charging rates

Priority access for customers to the Mercedes-Benz HPC network

> 80% customer retention expected from 2025 onwards (for vehicles in the one-to-six-year age)

MB.DRIVE - our expanded and new offerings for assisted and automated driving



Starting with MMA we aim to equip all new models with hardware for enhanced assisted driving

Ability to upgrade to a higher degree of assistance foreseen across whole lifecycle

Conditionally automated driving functionalities can be ordered from the factory

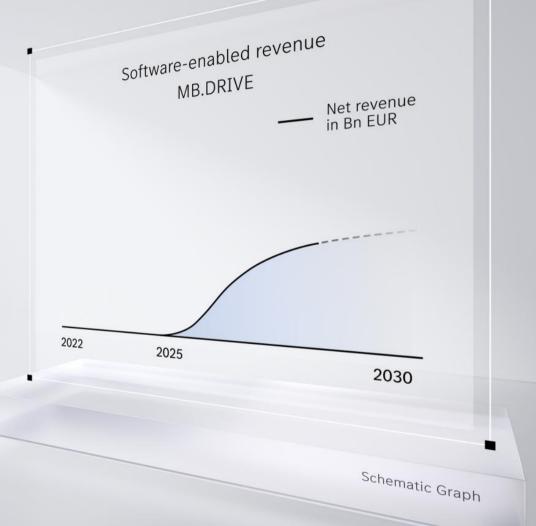
MB.DRIVE unlocks new revenue and EBIT pools



Features available as factory and store sales

Low single-digit Bn EUR revenue by mid of the decade

Mid single-digit Bn EUR revenue by end of the decade



Total software-enabled revenue development

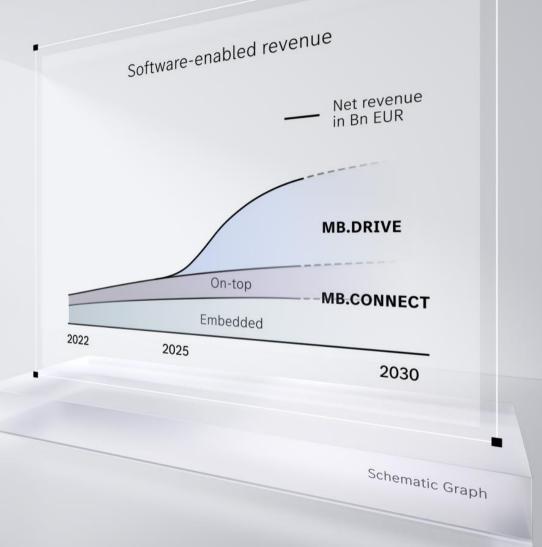


Low-to-mid single-digit Bn EUR revenue by mid of the decade

High single-digit Bn EUR revenue by end of the decade

1 Bn EUR EBIT on track by mid of the decade

All figures part of existing weather chart



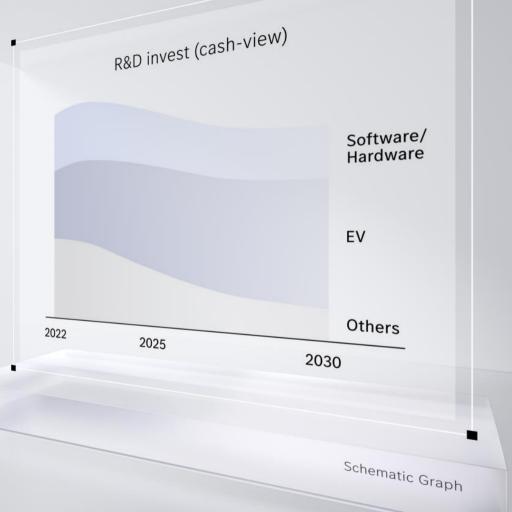
MB.OS software and corresponding hardware investment are part of existing financial target landscape

Increased share of R&D invest in EV and MB.OS software & hardware

Run-rate of 1-2 Bn EUR p.a. for MB.OS software & hardware

25% of R&D invest by mid of decade for MB.OS software and hardware

Midterm invest reduction targets remain



We are the architects

OUR PROMISE:	The world's most desirable cars
OUR OPPORTUNITY:	Outstanding products & improved enterprise productivity
OUR CONVICTION:	Software a core competence
OUR REALISM:	Technology partnerships essential
OUR VISION:	Future proofing our valuable real estate
OUR FOCUS:	Delivering MB.OS for the launch of MMA

Disclaimer

This document contains forward-looking statements that reflect our current views about future events. The words "anticipate", "assume", "believe", "estimate", "expect", "intend", "may", "can", "could", "plan", "project", "should" and similar expressions are used to identify forward-looking statements. These statements are subject to many risks and uncertainties, including an adverse development of global economic conditions, in particular a decline of demand in our most important markets; a deterioration of our refinancing possibilities on the credit and financial markets; events of force majeure including natural disasters, pandemics, acts of terrorism, political unrest, armed conflicts, industrial accidents and their effects on our sales, purchasing, production or financial services activities; changes in currency exchange rates, customs and foreign trade provisions; a shift in consumer preferences towards smaller, lower-margin vehicles; a possible lack of acceptance of our products or services which limits our ability to achieve prices and adequately utilize our production capacities; price increases for fuel, raw materials or energy; disruption of production due to shortages of materials or energy, labour strikes or supplier insolvencies; a decline in resale prices of used vehicles; the effective implementation of cost-reduction and efficiency-optimization measures; the business outlook for companies in which we hold a significant equity interest; the successful implementation of strategic cooperations and joint ventures; changes in laws, regulations and government policies, particularly those relating to vehicle emissions, fuel economy and safety; the resolution of pending governmental investigations or of investigations requested by governments and the outcome of pending or threatened future legal proceedings; and other risks and uncertainties, some of which are described under the heading "Risk and Opportunity" Report" in the current Annual Report or in this Interim Report. If any of these risks and uncertainties materializes or if the assumptions underlying any of our forward-looking statements prove to be incorrect, the actual results may be materially different from those we express or imply by such statements. We do not intend or assume any obligation to update these forward-looking statements since they are based solely on the circumstances at the date of publication.