Fixed Income Presentation Q3 2023 Mercedes-Benz Group AG $\mathbf{A}^{\mathbf{A}} \mathbf{A}^{\mathbf{A}} \mathbf{A}$ Mercedes-Benz

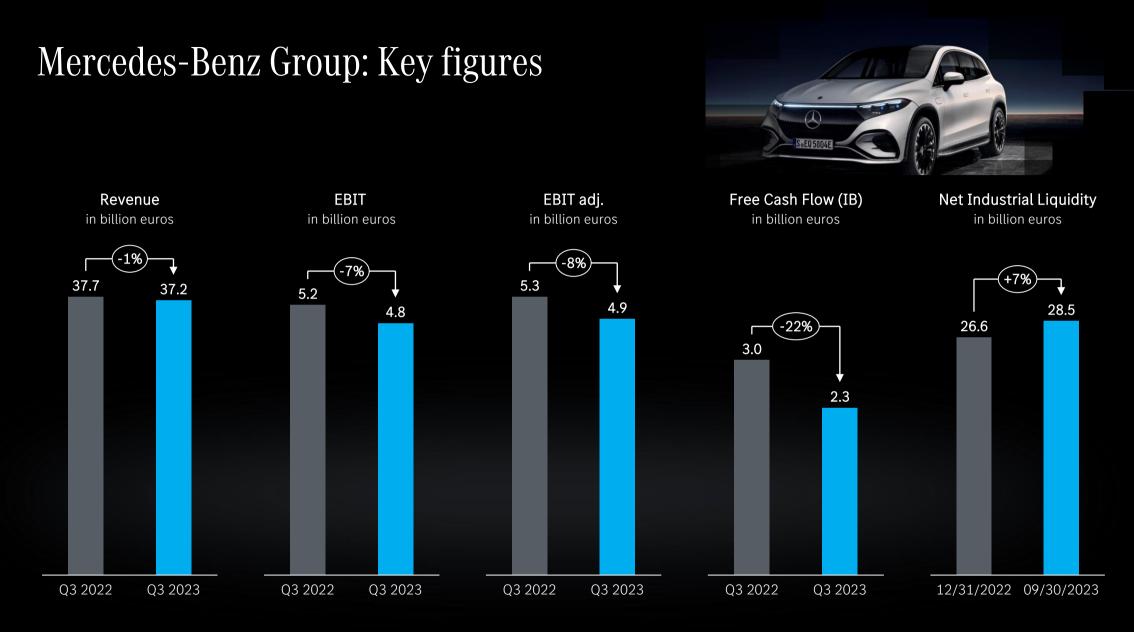


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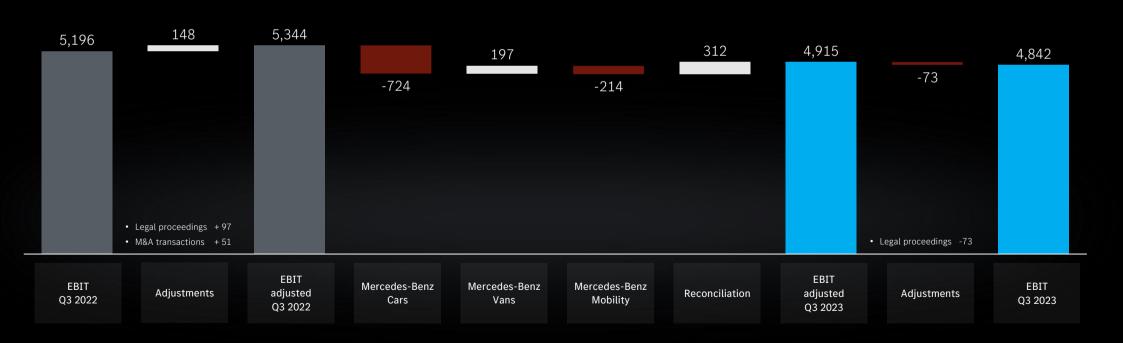
- II. Divisional Review Q3 2023
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Mercedes-Benz Group: Group EBIT

In million euros





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

980 102 2,449 2.347 139 43 2,148 133 -1.096 • Legal proceedings + 121 • M&A Free cash flow Free cash flow Mercedes-Benz Effects from Other reconciling (industrial Mercedes-Benz Income taxes (industrial Adjustments Interest received Cars Pensions item business) Vans paid* business) adjusted

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

Mercedes-Benz

5

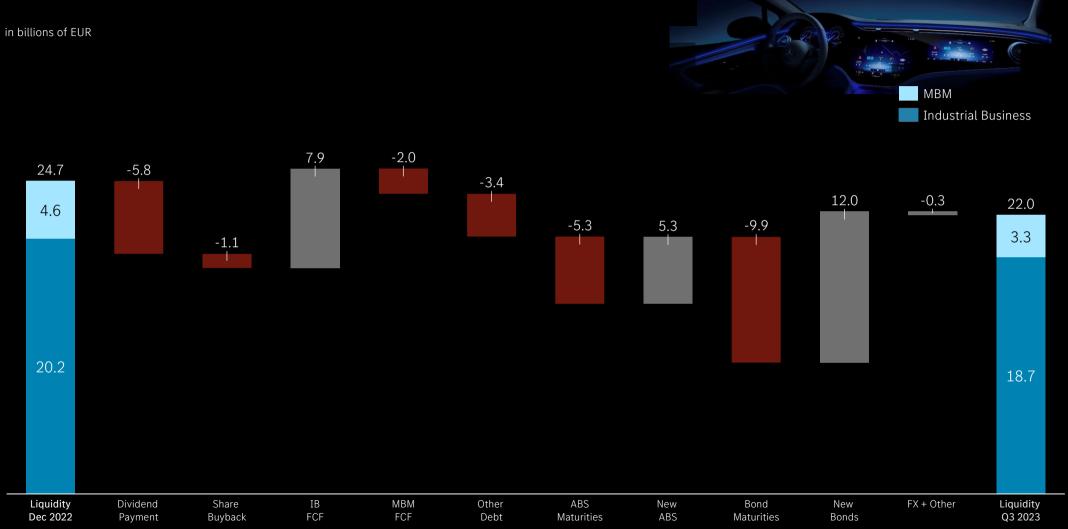


Mercedes-Benz Group: Net Industrial Liquidity

Mercedes-Benz

* Mainly exchange rate effects and dividends from MBM.

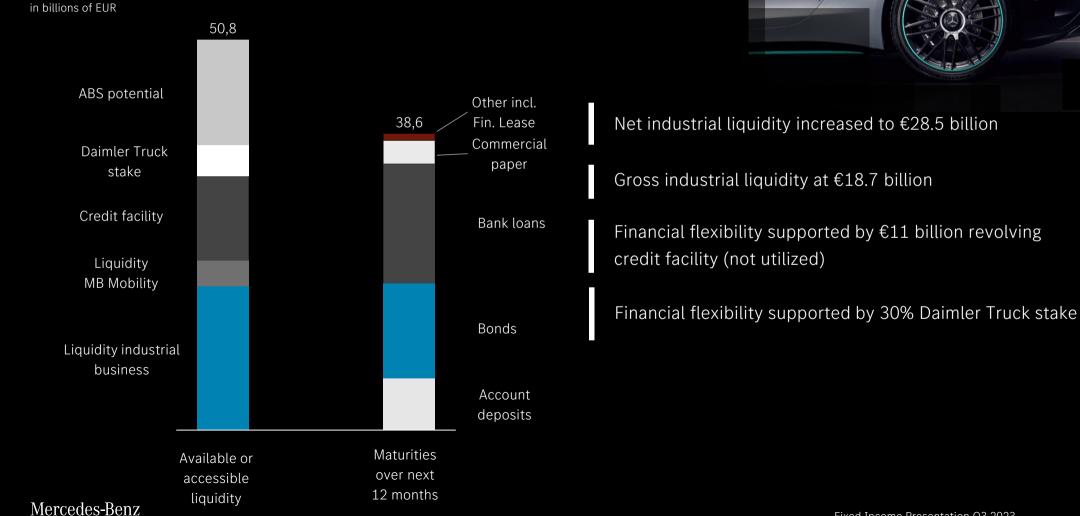
6



Note: Figures may not be additive due to rounding.

Mercedes-Benz Group: Gross Liquidity

Mercedes-Benz Group: Financial flexibility over a 12-month period Q3 2023



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Mercedes-Benz Cars: Key messages



Performance: Strong growth of G and Maybach; GLC and E-Class deliveries impacted by 48V supply constraint

Profitability: Solid results and improved net pricing demonstrate resilience in challenging environment

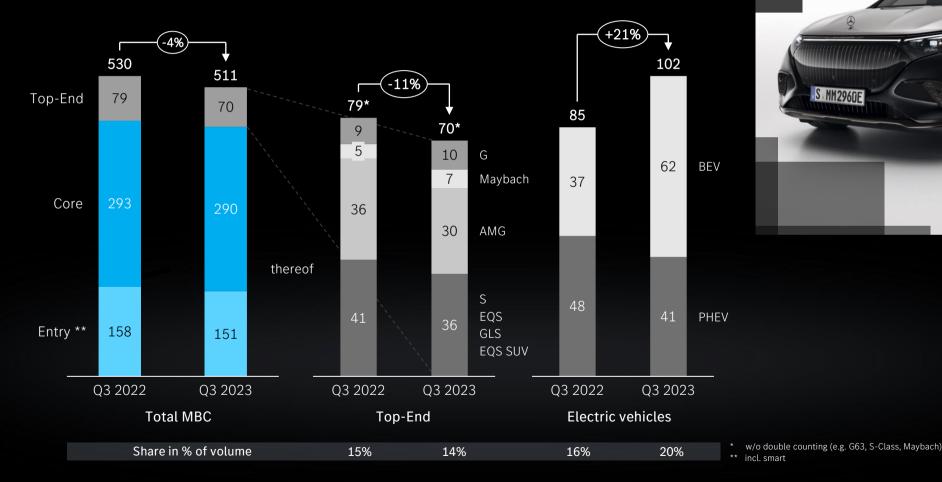
Products: Premiere of Concept CLA, all-new AMG GT Coupé and allnew E-class variants; Start of sale new E-Class

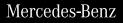
Technology: Concept CLA +750km (466mi) (WLTP) range and segment leading efficiency with around 12kWh/100 km (5.2mi/kWh)

Customer experience: New entertainment and navigation offerings available via OTA

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

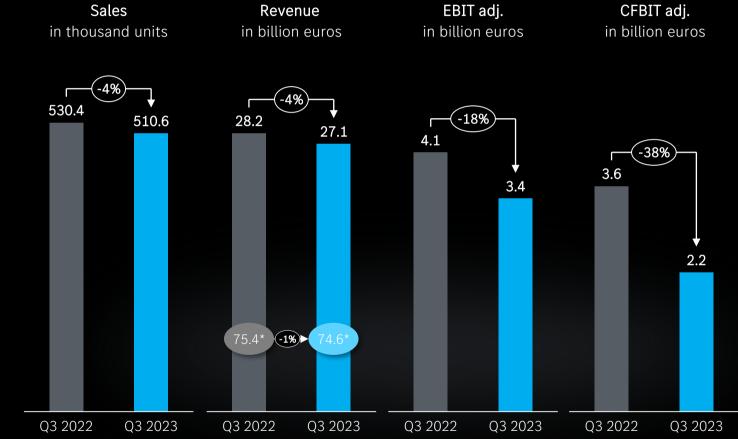
In thousand units





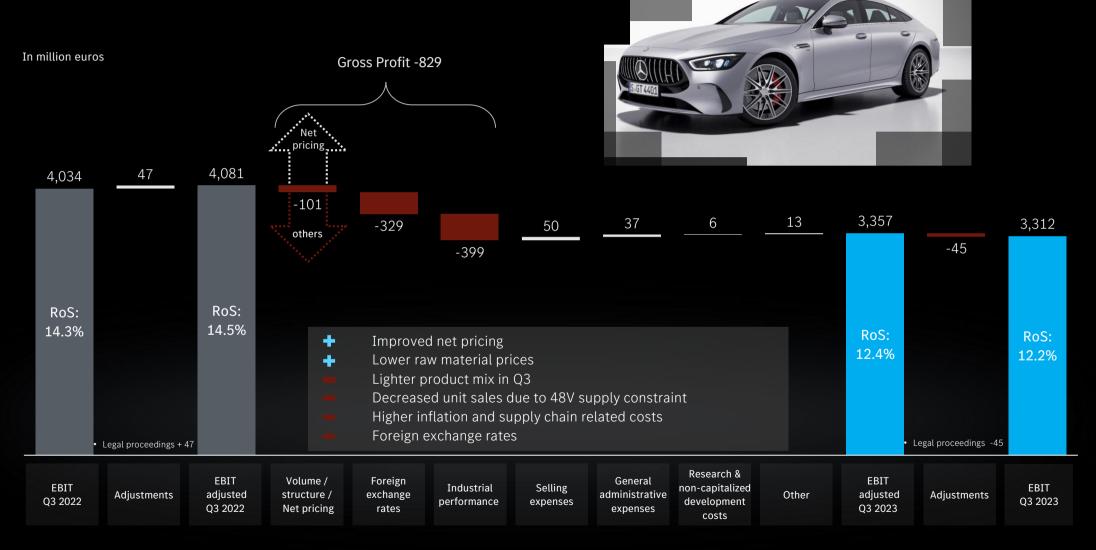
Mercedes-Benz Cars: Financials





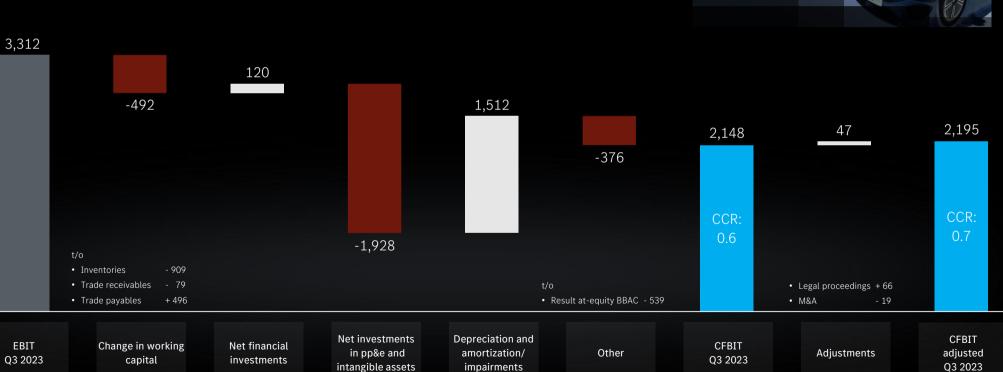
* ASP in thousand euros excl. Smart, BBAC sales and pbp revenues

Mercedes-Benz Cars: Q3 2023 EBIT & RoS



Mercedes-Benz Cars: EBIT to CFBIT

In million euros



<image>

Mercedes-Benz Vans: Key messages

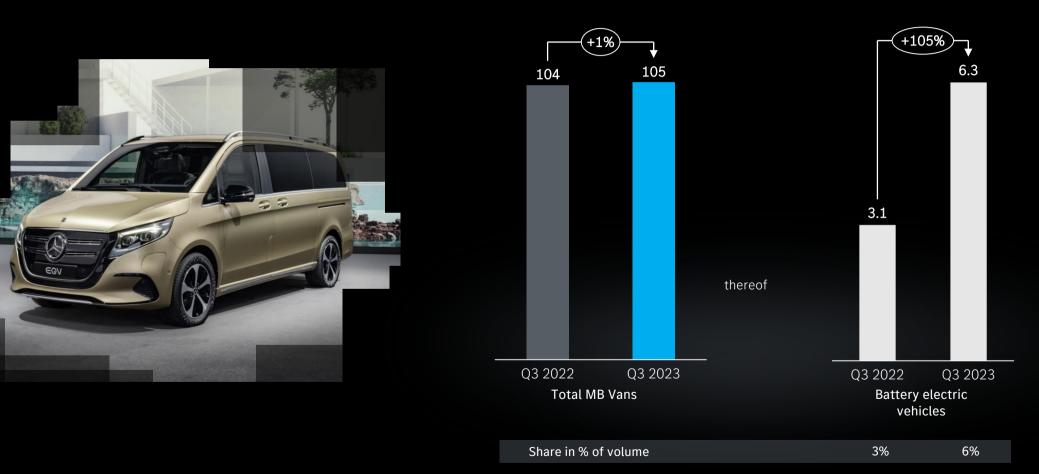


Performance: Stable sales in core regions; eVans more than doubled

Profitability: Strong results with solid net pricing and healthy product mix outweighing supply chain related cost increases

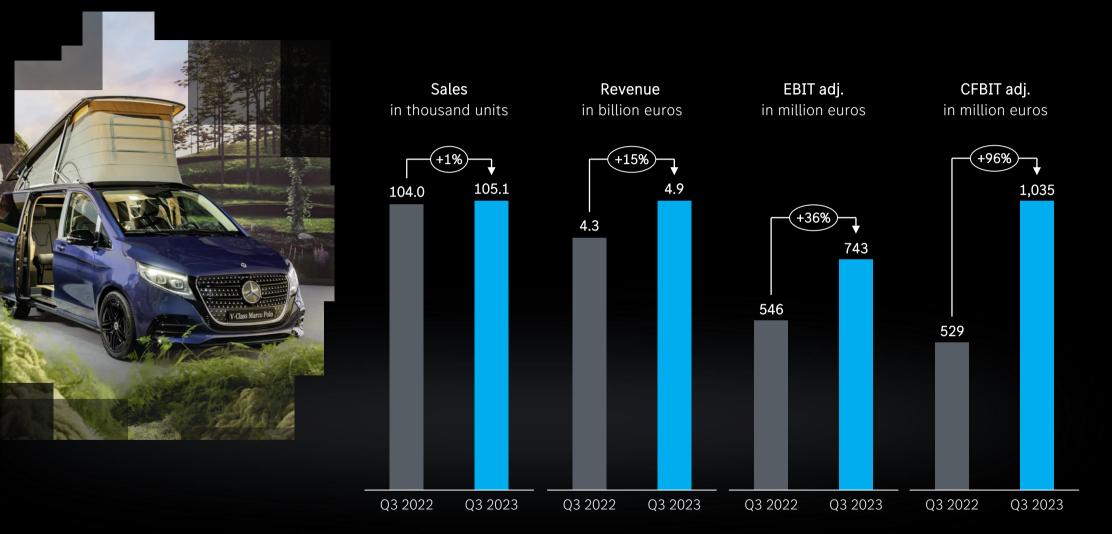
Products: Preview of new EQV, V-Class, V-Class Marco Polo as well as eVito and Vito

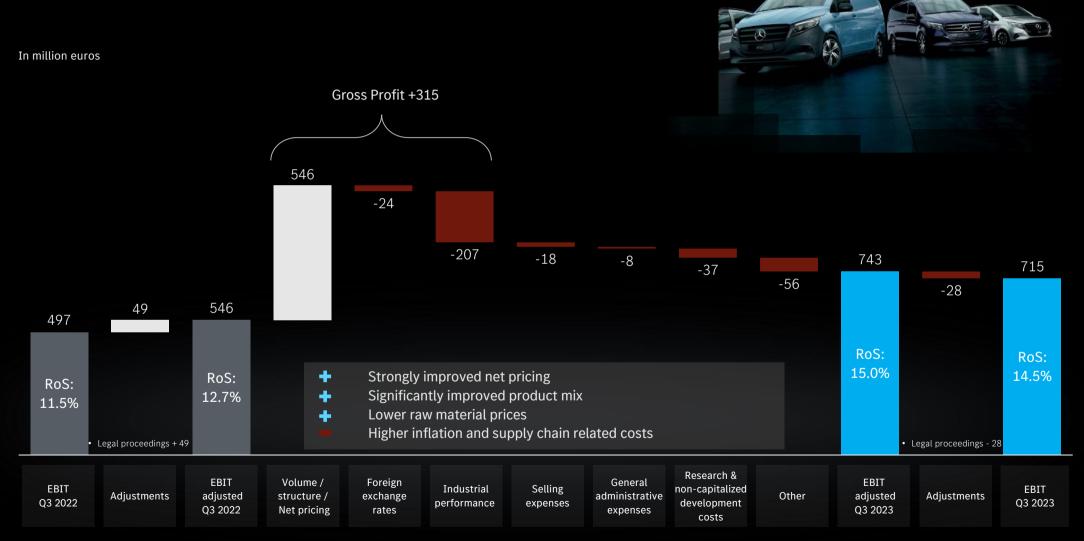
Mercedes-Benz Vans: Electric vehicle unit sales



In thousand units

Mercedes-Benz Vans: Financials



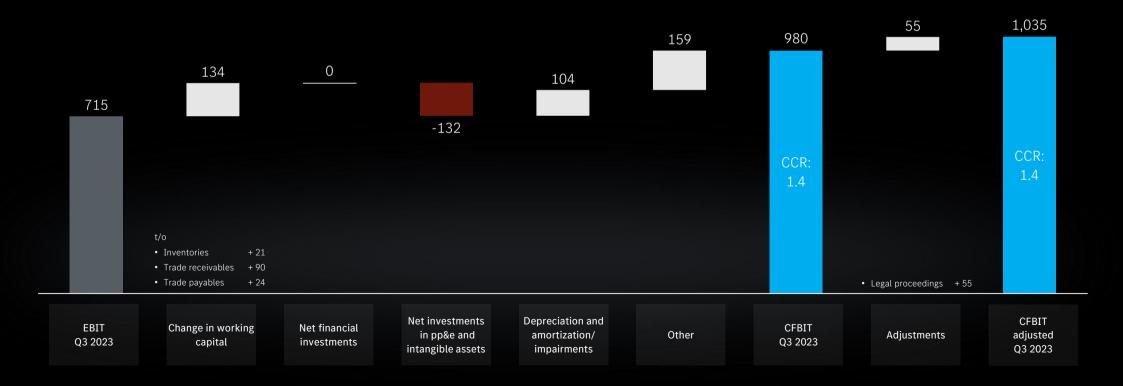


Mercedes-Benz Vans: Q3 2023 EBIT & RoS

Mercedes-Benz Vans: EBIT to CFBIT

In million euros





Mercedes-Benz Mobility: Key messages

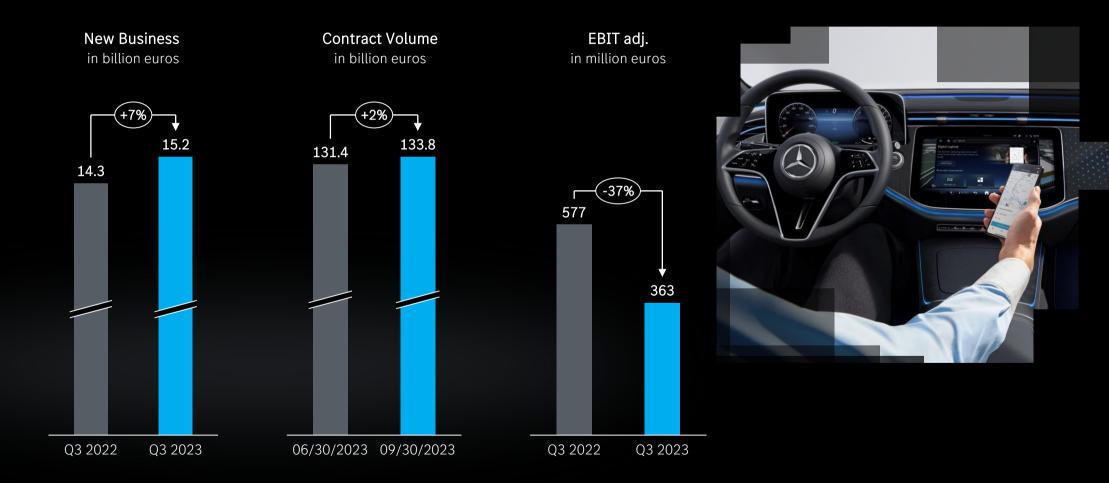
Business: Competitive market environment and continued support of BEV ramp-up with positive IRA effect on penetration rate in US

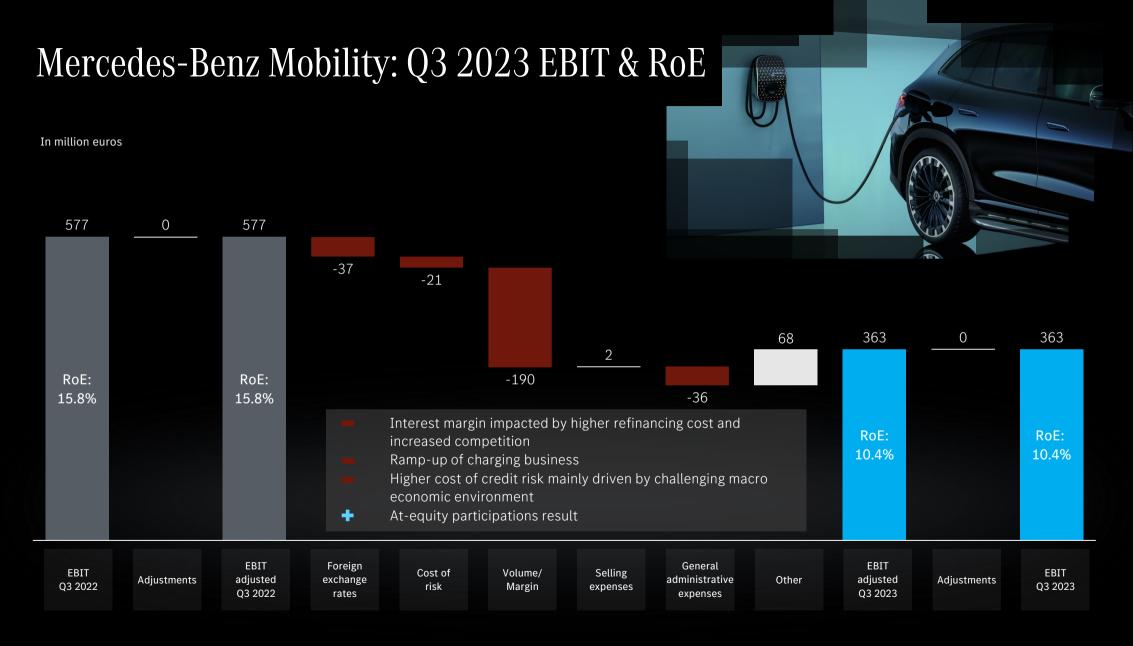
Performance: Interest margin impacted by higher interest rates and elevated cost of credit risk driven by macroeconomic environment

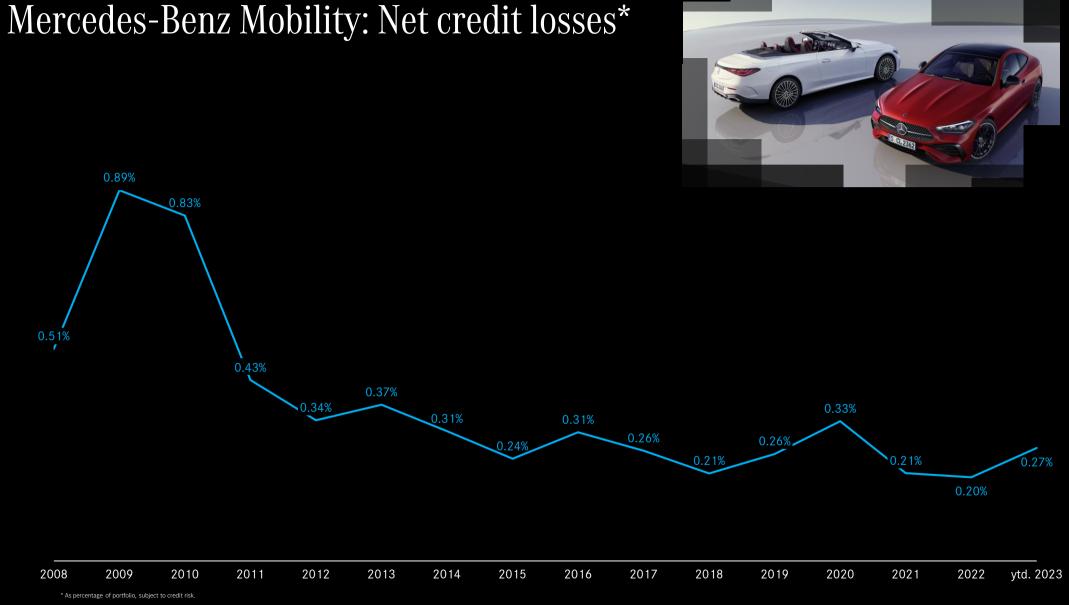
Strategy: Ramp-up of charging business in progress, first site live in China



Mercedes-Benz Mobility: Financials







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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 in the rest of the year. Above all, the still above-average inflation in many places and the persistently restrictive monetary policy of key central banks are likely to continue to weigh on growth. Global gross domestic product is correspondingly expected to increase by only around 2.5% in 2023 as a whole. Geopolitical imponderables remain another major factor of uncertainty. In contrast, energy prices should be at a significantly lower level on average in 2023 than in the previous year, despite the rec<u>ent volatility.</u>

Unit Sales	Mercedes-Benz Cars	At prior-year level	
	Mercedes-Benz Vans	Significantly above	
Return on Sales (adjusted*)	Mercedes-Benz Cars	12 to 14 %	
	Mercedes-Benz Vans	13 to 15 %	
	Mercedes-Benz Mobility (RoE)	12 to 14 %	
Cash Conversion Rate** (adjusted)	Mercedes-Benz Cars	0.8 to 1.0	
	Mercedes-Benz Vans	0.7 to 0.9	
Investment in pp&e	Mercedes-Benz Cars	Significantly above	
	Mercedes-Benz Vans	Significantly above	
R&D expenditure	Mercedes-Benz Cars	Significantly above	
	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 in the rest of the year. Above all, the still above-average inflation in many places and the persistently restrictive monetary policy of key central banks are likely to continue to weigh on growth. Global gross domestic product is correspondingly expected to increase by only around 2.5% in 2023 as a whole. Geopolitical imponderables remain another major factor of uncertainty. In contrast, energy prices should be at a significantly lower level on average in 2023 than in the previous year, despite the rec<u>ent volatility.</u>

Revenue	At prior-year level
EBIT	At prior-year level
Free Cash Flow (Industrial Business)	Slightly above
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.

Profitable growth: Sophistication, desire & status are key

2024 WILL BE PACKED WITH TEV PREMIERES.

Mercedes-Benz

ABACK

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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

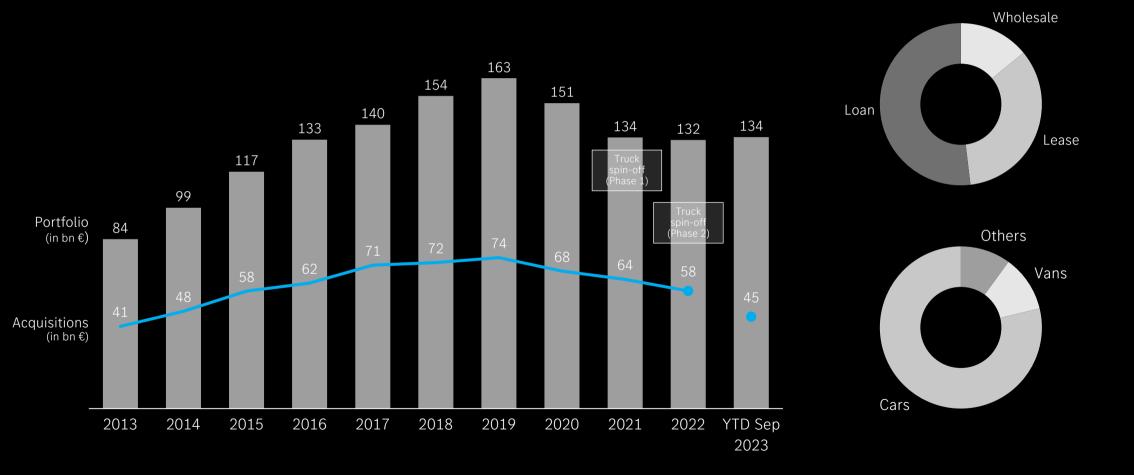
Liquidity matched funding

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

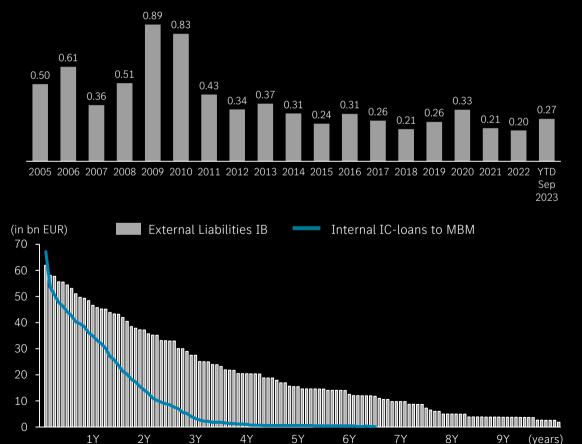
Net credit losses increased, mainly driven by the US retail segment.

Risks lean toward the upside with a tense macroeconomic outlook and rising interest rates impacting customer liquidity.

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

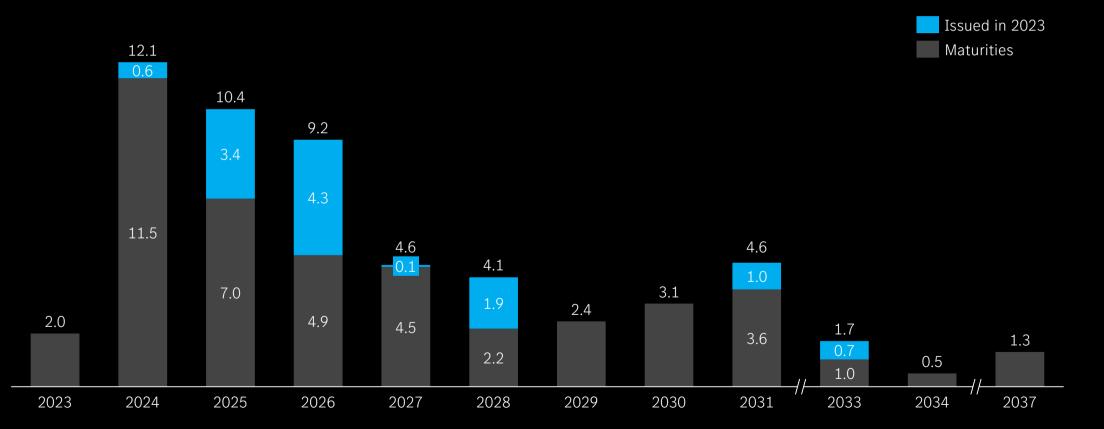
External liabilities of Mercedes-Benz Group have a longer duration due to capital market refinancing than internal allocation to MBM via IC-loans.

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



Well balanced bond maturity profile

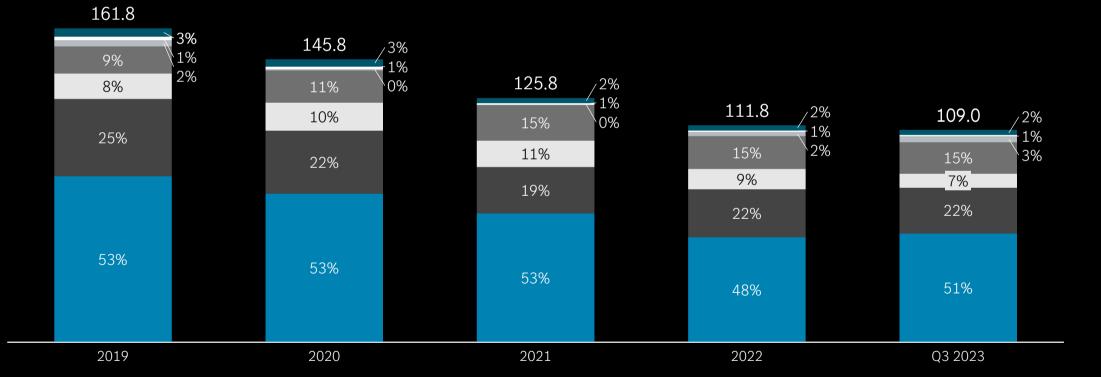
in billions of EUR as of 30th September 2023



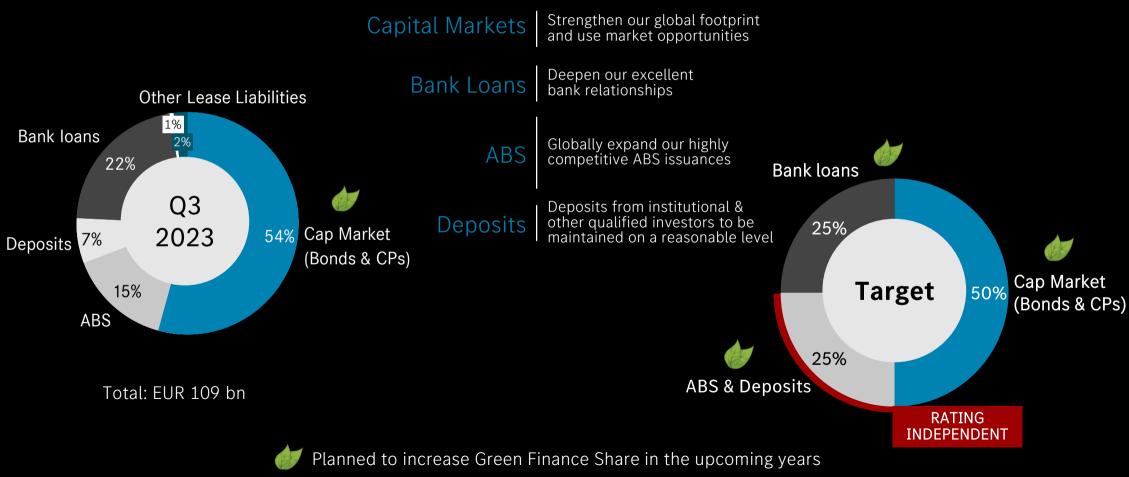
Financing liabilities show a diversified funding mix

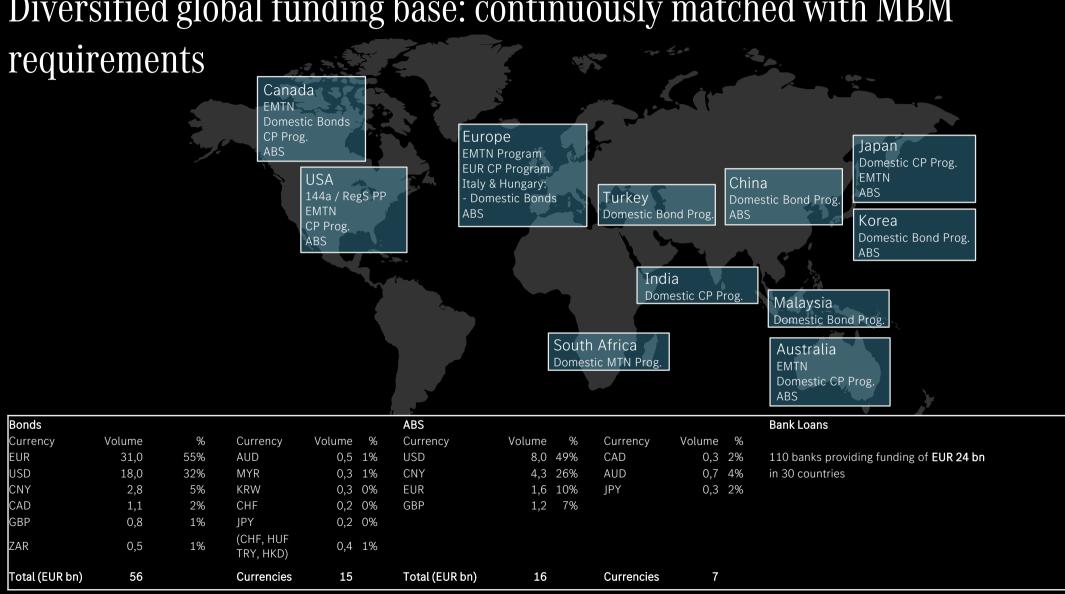
in billions of EUR





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



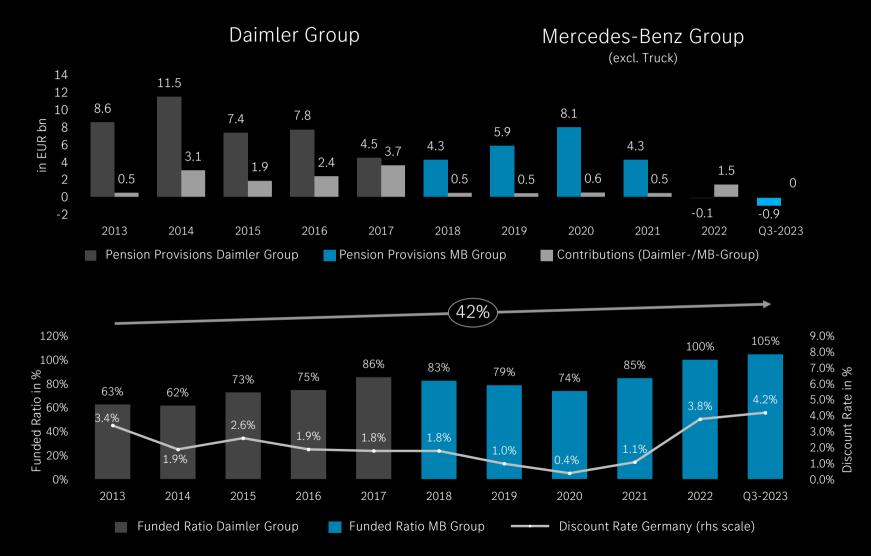


Diversified global funding base: continuously matched with MBM

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

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

Funded Ratio of pension obligations remains above 100%



Pension contributions support the solid capital structure: no more pension provisions since 12/2022

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

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



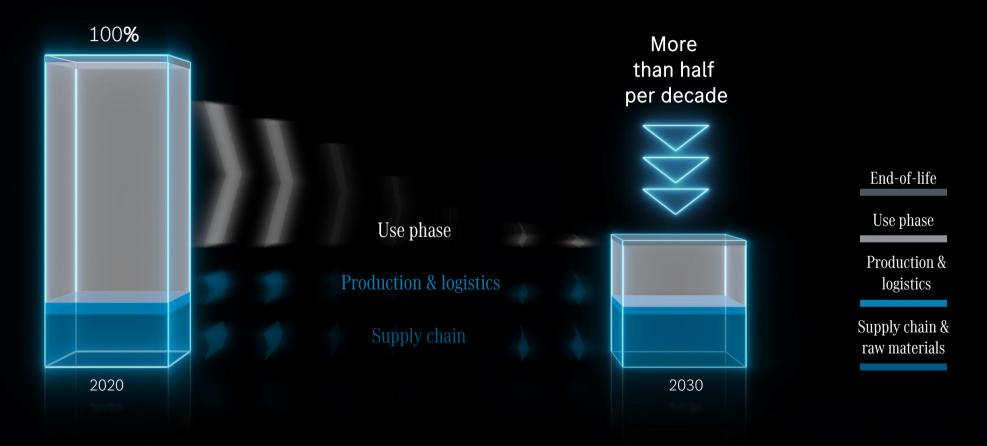
Ambition 2039 – our commitment to net carbon-neutrality along the entire value chain in the new vehicle fleet until 2039



 $49.7\ tCO_2\ in\ 2020\$ - $\ 47.8\ tCO_2\ in\ 2022\$ - more than half per decade

We aim to at least halve CO₂-emissions per passenger car in this decade*

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



At the end of the decade, our focus will be on BEV only

2020

2021

2022

2023

EQV

EOB

EOA

EQS SUV

EQS SUV

Mercedes-Maybach

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 of passenger cars up to 50% by mid-decade. By the end of the decade, Mercedes-Benz Cars will be ready to go allelectric where market conditions allow.

We will use our unique brand position to grow economic value

- enhance product mix and pricing
- focus on most profitable models and regions
- drive loyalty and grow recurring revenues
- increase revenue per unit

Mercedes-Benz



EQE SUV

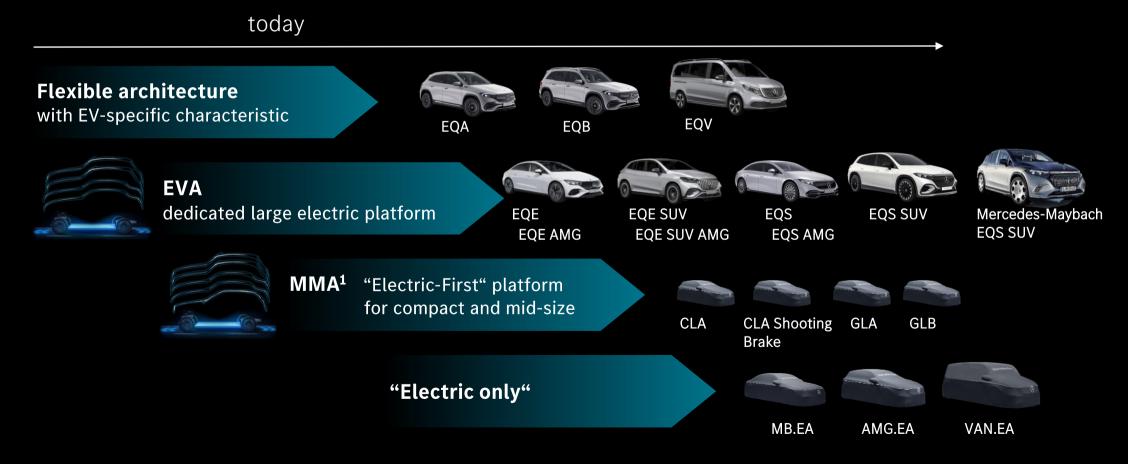
EQS

EQE

EOT

Strategic target of our platform logic: all signs on "electric "

THREE STEPS TO ELECTRIFY OUR PORTFOLIO



Elevating sustainability with the Concept CLA Class and the Mercedes-Benz Modular Architecture

Next-generation Mercedes-Benz Electric Drive Unit (MB.EDU) with up to

93% efficiency

from battery to wheels in long-distance driving

Consumption of $\sim 12 \text{ kWh}/100 \text{ km}$ (~5.2 mi/kWh)



 $15\ min$ charging delivers up to 400 km (248 mi) range

Range of more than $750~\mathrm{km}^{\star}$ (466 mi)

800~V system enables 250~kW DC charging

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





AMG.EA



VAN.EA

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

* where market conditions allow

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

2019

Our target: Capacity of more than 200 Gigawatt hours by 2023

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

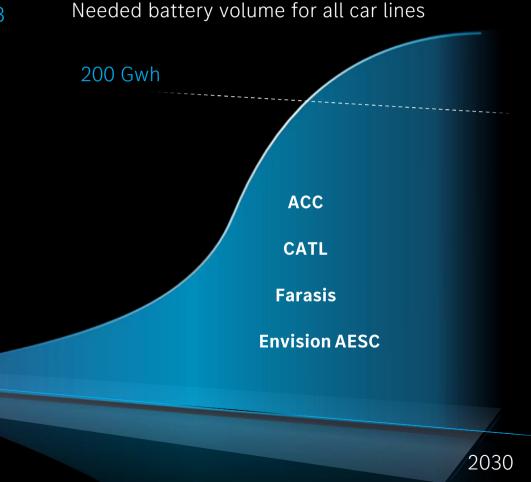
<u>CATL</u>

New plant in Debrecen, Hungary

ACC building 3 plants in Europe

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





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



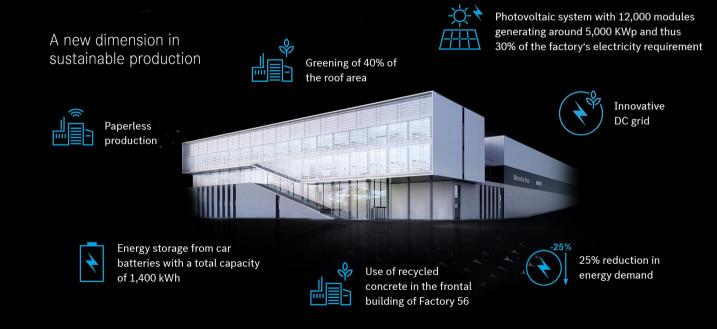
Mercedes-Benz global production network

Our Factory 56 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

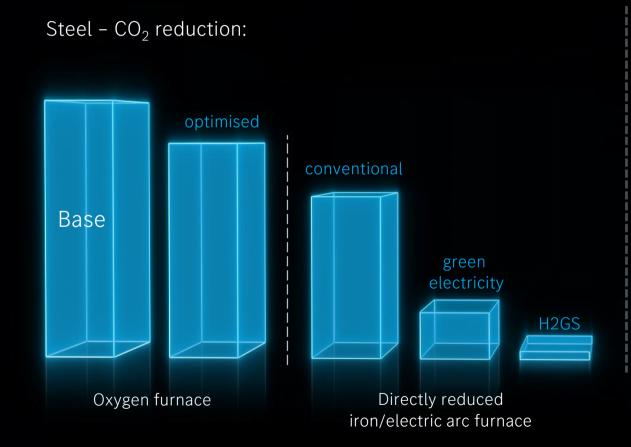
Our use of water will be cut by 35% by 2030 thanks to multi-reuse of water in production

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



~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

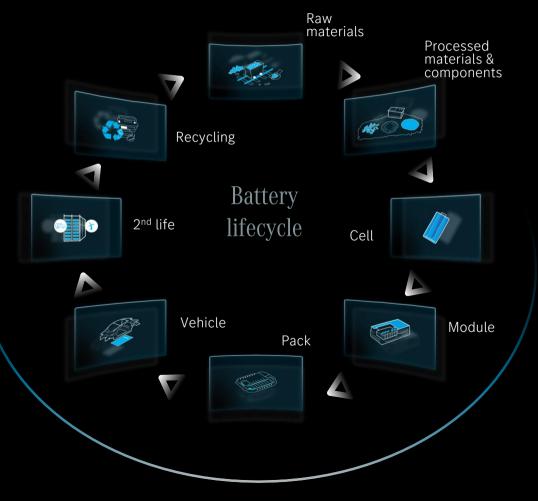
We are establishing a green and net carbon-neutral supply chain

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

First closed battery loop at industrial scale set-up in China with leading partners



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

Own net carbon-neutral recycling plant in Kuppenheim, southern Germany start operations in 2024 with the first phase shredding batteries - soon

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

3,000

positions filled with software engineers worldwide Individual target plans for our entities, plants and functions Realignment of our global production network towards electric vehicles and digitalisation

Re-skill

developing future-oriented qualifications

Re-shape

streamlining our organisation

in a responsible way

Re-charge

defining the Mercedes-Benz way as an employer Turn >2 bn

investment in Turn2Learn qualification initiative worldwide 2022-2030 77,000

employees in Germany qualified in e-mobility since 2020 ~ 120.000

participations in training courses related to digitization

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 provide transparency and support direct communication with our shareholders

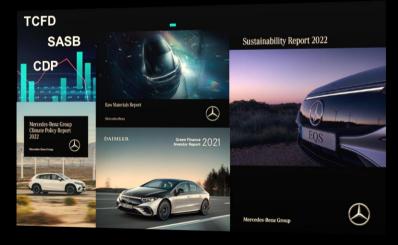


COMMUNICATION

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



A LIST 2022 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

Luxury and sustainability belong together Therefore, we follow an ambitious decarbonization strategy

2022

Net carbon-neutral vehicle production in our own plants

2030

Mercedes-Benz Cars is ready to go all electric wherever market conditions allow

>70% renewable energies

40% rezyclates in cars with regard to the entire fleet

2039

Net carbon-neutral new car fleet along entire value chain



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



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

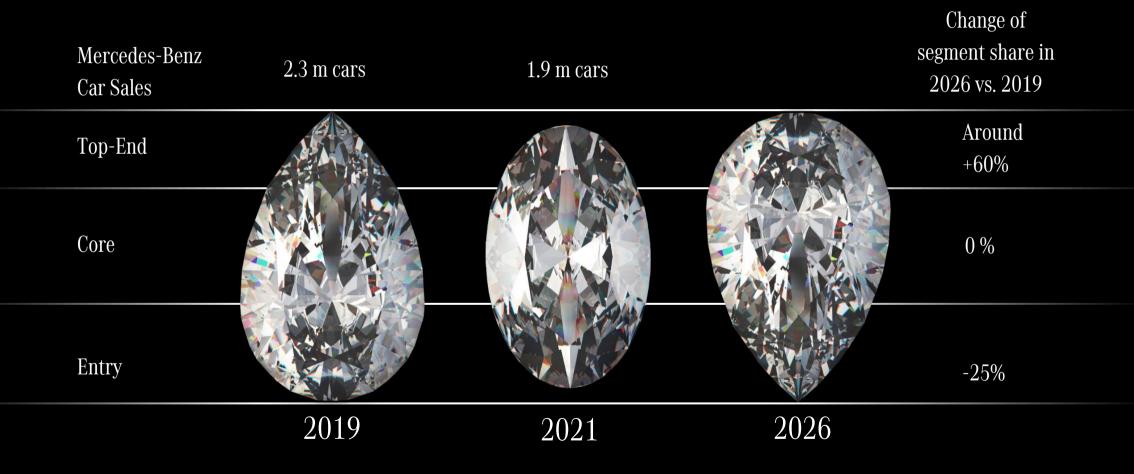
The power of pricing is part of our strategy

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

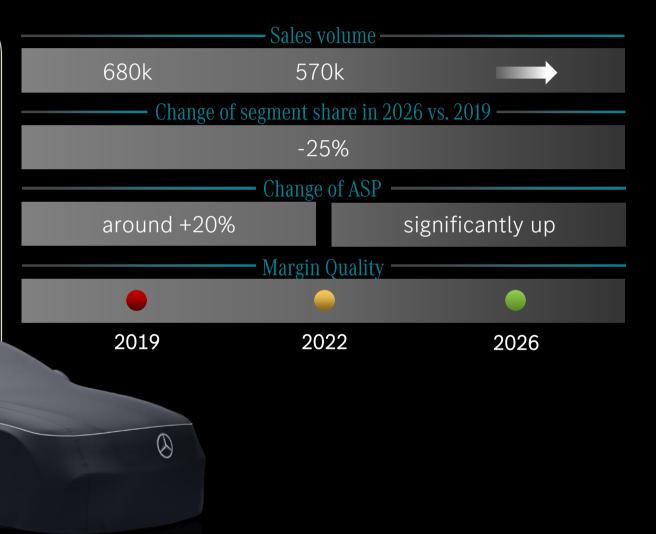
Clear objective to continually raise our net pricing yoy
 Ambition to compensate raw material cost increases via pricing
 We will continue to control pricing and supply even if competitors pursue a volume strategy

Reshaped model portfolio will drive profitable sales growth



Entry Segment – Focus & Elevate

- Elevate to Entry Luxury
- Product range refocused on fewer and more upscale portfolio positions:
 MMA platform with CLA, CLA Shooting Brake, GLA and GLB
- The new entrance point of the portfolio
 is being redefined with the next
 generation of vehicles
- Margin threshold supports Group margin ambition



Core Segment - Grow & Refine

- Core Luxury going electric on an accelerated timescale, leveraging EVA (EQE, EQE-SUV) and then MB.EA architectures
- Brand-new GLC Coupé, CLE Coupé and E-Class Saloon & Estate launched in 2023
- Protect healthy margins on the way to BEV



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Top-End Segment – 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 over-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

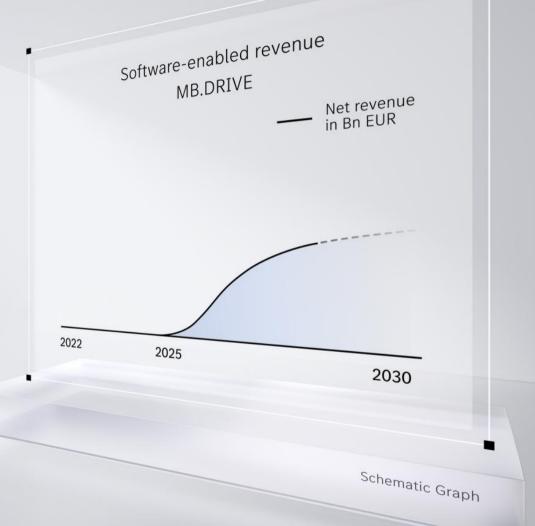
MB.DRIVE unlocks new revenue and EBIT pools



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

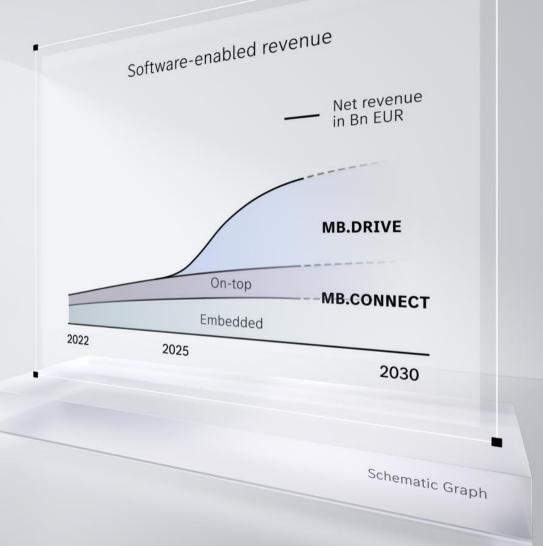


Low-to-mid single-digit Bn EUR revenue by mid of the decade

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



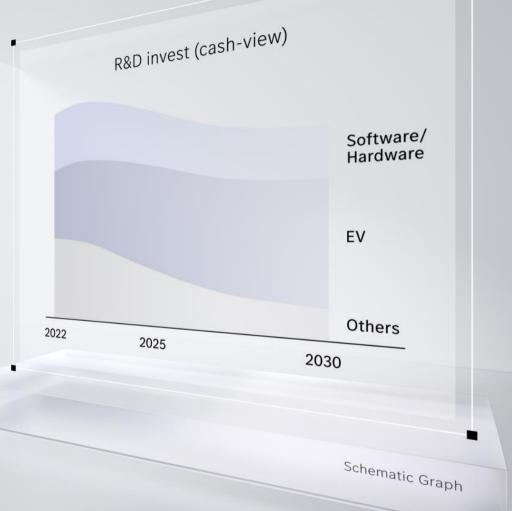
MB.OS software and corresponding hardware investment are part of existing financial target landscape

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 limited demand for battery electric 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 costreduction 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 (or changes in their interpretation), particularly those relating to vehicle emissions, fuel economy and safety or to ESG reporting (environmental, social or governance topics); 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.