

One year after its founding: Joint venture between Volkswagen Group and Rivian shows strong progress

- Development of a state-of-the-art zonal architecture and software for future Volkswagen Group and Rivian models is progressing.
- Winter testing for reference vehicles from the Volkswagen, Audi, and Scout brands is on track to begin in Q1 2026.
- The joint venture is being systematically built – now boasting a powerful international development team of more than 1,500 employees.
- Oliver Blume, CEO of the Volkswagen Group: “The joint venture is rapidly developing the architecture for our future software-defined vehicles. Every step toward achieving our ambitious goals is being executed with determination and clear focus.”
- RJ Scaringe, Founder and CEO of Rivian: “RV Tech has gone from strength to strength over the last 12 months and is raising the bar in automotive technology.”

Wolfsburg, Germany / Palo Alto, California, November 12, 2025 – One year after its founding, the joint venture “Rivian and Volkswagen Group Technologies” (RV Tech) is successfully collaborating with the Volkswagen Group and Rivian. The development of a state-of-the-art zonal architecture for future software-defined vehicles (SDVs) is progressing. Currently, RV Tech is preparing reference vehicles from the Volkswagen, Scout, and Audi brands with the SDV architecture for winter testing in Q1 2026. At the same time, the organization is being consistently developed: RV Tech now boasts a powerful international development team of more than 1,500 employees. With its new location in Berlin, the joint venture is also strengthening cross-site collaboration with the Volkswagen Group brands in Europe.

Founded in November 2024, the joint venture is developing a state-of-the-art zonal electronic architecture and functional software – called Software-Defined Vehicle (SDV) architecture – for the Volkswagen Group and Rivian, targeting the Western Hemisphere. In the SDV-architecture, powerful modular central computers control all vehicle functions. Customers can benefit from highly automated driving features and advanced infotainment solutions that can be continuously updated via over-the-air updates – no service center visits required. This keeps vehicles always up to date and continuously improves the driving experience.

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The Volkswagen Group will deploy this SDV architecture in electric vehicles based on the upcoming SSP platform. The company aims to offer technologically leading products across various segments, price ranges, and international markets. The SSP platform is expected to support a Group-wide vehicle volume of up to 30 million units.

Rivian will use the technologies created from the joint venture for its future products, R2, R3 and R3X and to keep its current vehicle fleet updated with the latest software.

Oliver Blume, CEO of the Volkswagen Group, says: "Our joint venture with Rivian demonstrates how we at Volkswagen Group envision and deliver progress: with speed, precision, and a strong customer focus. The joint venture is rapidly developing the architecture for our future software-defined vehicles. Every step toward achieving our ambitious goals is being executed with determination and clear focus. In close collaboration with our brands, a technological foundation has been created in just twelve months that will enable a new digital driving experience for our customers at accessible prices. Together, this strategic partnership will set new standards for the future of mobility."

RJ Scaringe, Founder and CEO of Rivian, says: "We remain incredibly excited by the work coming out of our joint venture with Volkswagen Group. RV Tech has gone from strength to strength over the last 12 months and is raising the bar in automotive technology. We're incredibly excited about the launch of R2 in the first half of next year, which will showcase the advancements the joint venture has made."

Winter testing with reference vehicles to begin in Q1 2026

At the beginning of 2026, RV Tech plans to send vehicles from the Volkswagen, Scout, and Audi brands into their first winter testing phase to evaluate the developed SDV features under cold conditions. The hardware and electronic architecture specifications for these reference vehicles have been defined since spring 2025. The goal is to validate the performance of the zonal SDV architecture under demanding climatic conditions.

Among the vehicles is the Volkswagen ID.EVERY1. Since summer 2025, work with engineering prototypes has been in full swing at RV Tech's sites in Palo Alto and Irvine. The series model is scheduled to launch in 2027 as the first Group vehicle featuring a version of the SDV architecture, offering leading digital technologies in the fully electric entry-level segment.

In addition, the joint venture is working with Volkswagen Group brands on the next development stages and technical specifications for future models based on the SSP platform, which are expected to hit the market by the end of the decade. This helps to ensure that the brands can optimally align their upcoming models with the SDV architecture and integrate digital vehicle capabilities into series production in a reliable and efficient manner.

RV Tech is being systematically built up

The joint venture now boasts a powerful international development team of more than 1,500 employees. The teams are based in the USA, Canada, Sweden, Serbia, and also at a new location

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in Berlin. The German branch strengthens collaboration with the Group's brands within the same time zone.

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About the Volkswagen Group:

The Volkswagen Group is one of the world's leading car makers, headquartered in Wolfsburg, Germany. It operates globally, with 115 production facilities in 17 European countries and 10 countries in the Americas, Asia and Africa. With around 680,000 employees worldwide. The Group's vehicles are sold in over 150 countries.

With a comprehensive portfolio of strong global brands, leading technologies at scale, innovative ideas to tap into future profit pools and an entrepreneurial leadership team, the Volkswagen Group is committed to shaping the future of mobility through investments in electric and autonomous driving vehicles, digitalization and sustainability. The goal: As a "Global Automotive Tech Driver", to make the best automotive technologies accessible to customers worldwide - from entry-level mobility to the luxury segment.

In 2024, the total number of vehicles delivered to customers by the Group globally was 9.0 million (2023: 9.2 million). Group sales revenue in 2024 totaled EUR 324.7 billion (2023: EUR 322.3 billion). The operating result in 2024 amounted to EUR 19.1 billion (2023: EUR 22.5 billion).

About Rivian (NASDAQ: RIVN):

Rivian is an American automotive manufacturer that develops and builds category-defining electric vehicles as well as software and services that address the entire lifecycle of the vehicle. The company creates innovative and technologically advanced products that are designed to excel at work and play with the goal of accelerating the global transition to zero-emission transportation and energy.

Rivian vehicles are built in the United States and are sold directly to consumer and commercial customers. Whether taking families on new adventures or electrifying fleets at scale, Rivian vehicles all share a common goal — preserving the natural world for generations to come.

Learn more about the company, products, and careers at www.rivian.com.

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