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Volkswagen Group strengthens its strategic semiconductor ecosystem through partnership with NXP

- Volkswagen Group and NXP Semiconductors, one of the world's leading automotive semiconductor companies, are expanding their cooperation in automotive semiconductor technology
- NXP has been selected as a strategic technology partner, providing its microcontrollers (MCUs) as a common building block for Group's future zonal software-defined vehicle architecture
- Common MCU technology reduces complexity and supports scalable deployment across brands and vehicle segments

Wolfsburg, 26/10/2026 – Volkswagen Group and NXP Semiconductors today announced ahead of the International Suppliers Fair (IZB) in Wolfsburg that they had agreed on a strategic partnership. NXP's S32K5 family of microcontrollers (MCUs) is intended to serve as an important building block of Volkswagen Group's future software-defined vehicle (SDV) architecture, supporting zonal control across all brands and vehicle segments. The first vehicle featuring the new architecture is planned for 2027.

Modern vehicles must support a growing number of digital functions. Managing these functions through separate electronic control units (ECUs) increases complexity in development and parts management and limits scalability. Zonal architecture addresses this challenge by using powerful microcontrollers to consolidate multiple vehicle functions into fewer ECUs.

Next to high-performance processors that provide the central computing power and make complex decisions for AI-enabled functions such as automated driving and advanced infotainment, the S32K5 MCUs serve as the core processors of the vehicle's zonal controllers. They connect sensors and actuators, collect and process data from specific areas of the vehicle, and manage functions such as lighting, body, comfort, chassis and safety systems. These capabilities provide the foundation for the central computing platform to run AI algorithms and perform advanced functions.

NXP's S32K5 MCUs enable functions that previously required separate chips and ECUs to be consolidated within zonal controllers, reducing hardware complexity. They are intended to serve as a common building block for the future zonal SDV architecture developed by Rivian and

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Volkswagen Group Technologies, LLC (RV Tech), the joint venture between Volkswagen Group and Rivian. The architecture is intended to be used across both companies' vehicles, enabling brand-specific features and experiences.

The partnership is part of Volkswagen Group's broader semiconductor strategy. Through direct, long-term partnerships with leading semiconductor companies, Volkswagen Group combines its automotive expertise with cutting-edge chip technology to strengthen supply resilience and jointly shape key technologies for future vehicle generations. The approach supports the Group Target Picture 2030 and aims to leverage synergies across brands and regions and harmonize key technologies.

Karsten Schnake, Member of the Extended Executive Committee and Member of the Volkswagen Brand Board of Management responsible for Procurement, said: "Semiconductors are strategic technology for the automotive industry. Over the past years, we have systematically expanded our technology ecosystem and built partnerships with leading companies across the value chain. Our partnership with NXP is another step in this journey, showing how Volkswagen Group is taking a more active role in the semiconductor value chain: defining our technology needs early, leveraging our scale across brands and creating greater long-term planning certainty for both sides."

Werner Tietz, Member of the Extended Volkswagen Group Executive Committee responsible for Group Research and Development, said: "Our future zonal architecture, developed by RV Tech and supported by strategic technology partners such as NXP, creates a scalable technology foundation for multiple Group brands and vehicle segments. By harmonizing key technologies across the Group, we reduce complexity, leverage scale and accelerate innovation while enabling advanced digital capabilities. This allows us to bring digital innovations to our customers faster and continuously enhance our vehicles throughout their lifecycle."

Rafael Sotomayor, President and CEO at NXP Semiconductors, said: "Intelligent, software-defined vehicles must operate safely, securely and reliably. Together with Volkswagen Group and RV Tech, NXP is bringing scalable real-time compute, trusted edge intelligence and continuous software innovation together to create a scalable foundation for the next generation of intelligent vehicles."

Lars Reger, Executive Vice President and CTO at NXP Semiconductors, said: "Software-defined differentiation is the new auto benchmark, and NXP is excited that the S32K5 family of MCUs has been adopted into RV Tech's innovative new zonal architecture, one of the most sophisticated approaches to streamlined development and differentiating features in the automotive industry today. As a core processor for the vehicle's zonal controllers, S32K5 is built for safe real-time compute, fast and secure OTA updates and the consolidation of functions that together create a basis for a flexible, continuously updateable vehicle."

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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 111 production facilities in 16 European countries and 10 countries in the Americas, Asia and Africa. With around 663,000 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 2025, the total number of vehicles delivered to customers by the Group globally was 9.0 million (2024: 9.0 million). Group sales revenue in 2025 totaled EUR 321.9 billion (2024: EUR 324.7 billion). The operating result in 2025 amounted to EUR 8.9 billion (2024: EUR 19.1 billion).

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