

Press release

Northampton/UK and Stuttgart/Germany, March 24, 2021

MAHLE Powertrain sets its sights on e-mobility

- MAHLE's development service provider established as strong partner for companies in the automotive industry and other sectors
- Further growth planned: construction of five new testing and development facilities with investments totaling EUR 12 million
- State-of-the art test and development centers in the UK, the USA, Germany, China, and Brazil develop solutions for global customers

MAHLE Powertrain (MPT) is expanding its portfolio with a specific focus on e-mobility. Over recent years, the development service provider headquartered in Northampton/UK has established itself as a strong partner for companies in the automotive and commercial vehicle industries and other sectors—and it is aiming for further growth in 2021. A total of EUR 12 million is to be invested in the construction of five new testing and development facilities. The MAHLE subsidiary already operates state-of-the-art equipment at locations in the UK, the USA, Germany, China, and Brazil, where it develops innovative solutions for its global customers.

“Our portfolio includes electrification, the development of fuel cells, and solutions to support the use of hydrogen and alternative fuels in smart electrified combustion engines. We want to grow further in this area in particular,” Simon Reader, MAHLE Powertrain's Director of Engineering, explained at a press conference. “We're in an excellent position to help our customers develop their sustainable mobility solutions.”

MPT's main activities lie in the design, simulation, and development of batteries, fuel cells, electric motors, and powertrains, transmissions, software, vehicle electronics, and control systems. That is why the MAHLE subsidiary also aims to increase its focus on the further training and retraining of its employees in these fields in particular.

New battery development center

With the construction of a test center for traction batteries in Northampton in 2021, the company will fulfil the next step of its electric powertrain strategy. The new facility will have a dedicated area for the construction of battery modules and three climatic chambers for testing complete battery packs. It will be available from this autumn for battery development and validation as well as for measuring and optimizing charging and discharging processes. MPT's first development unit designed to test batteries under various climatic conditions went into operation in 2019.

New test rig for electric drives

In Stuttgart/Germany, MPT operates a new test rig for electric drives. This equipment is being used to develop and test e-axles and e-drive units for a wide range of electric and hybrid vehicles.

New RDE test chamber

In addition, MAHLE Powertrain will open a second test chamber at its Real Driving Emissions (RDE) Centre in Northampton/UK this year. The chamber will be ideally suited for the development and validation of electric vehicles under a wide range of climatic conditions and will be equipped with a four-wheel-drive chassis dyno and a battery emulator. It will also have all the safety features needed for testing hydrogen-powered vehicles.

Further new test facilities in Germany and the United States will focus on the development of e-bike drives and the targeted ongoing optimization of clean internal combustion engines.



E-drives are tested under real-life conditions in Fellbach near Stuttgart.



The strong demand for RDE testing prompted MPT to invest in a second chamber.



MPT is building an additional battery center in the UK for the development of traction batteries.

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About MAHLE

MAHLE is a leading international development partner and supplier to the automotive industry. The technology group is committed to playing an active role in transforming the mobility of the future by further optimizing the combustion engine, driving forward the use of alternative fuels, and laying the foundation for the worldwide introduction of e-mobility and other alternative drives, such as fuel cells. The Group's product portfolio addresses all the crucial aspects of the powertrain and air conditioning technology.

In 2019, MAHLE generated sales of approximately EUR 12.0 billion and is represented in over 30 countries with more than 77,000 employees in 160 production locations and 16 major research and development centers (last revised: 2019-12-31).