

## **Bosch starts production of iBooster at its Tochigi plant**

September 20, 2022

C/CGR-JP-2022-13

Electro-mechanical brake booster supporting electrification and automation of vehicles

- ▶ Production of iBooster compact, a smaller variant for compact vehicles, also started at Tochigi plant
- ▶ 60% of iBoosters' globally produced will be delivered to Japanese automakers by 2026
- ▶ Ulrich Schmidt, executive vice president with responsibility for manufacturing at Chassis Systems Control, Robert Bosch GmbH: "Start of production in Japan shows our strong commitment to the Japanese market"
- ▶ Commemorative ceremony held at Tochigi Plant to celebrate start of production

Tokyo — Bosch Corporation, the Japanese subsidiary of Robert Bosch GmbH, a leading global supplier of technology and services, on September 20, 2022, started production of its electro-mechanical brake booster, the iBooster, at its Tochigi plant. At the same time, the company also started production of a smaller variant, the iBooster compact, at the plant to meet the demand from Japanese automakers for compact vehicles.

With the advancement of electrification and automation, there is growing demand for electro-mechanical brake boosters capable of coping with no or less vacuum in hybrid and electric vehicles and that enables excellent energy recuperation and comfortable brake control. Bosch plans to expand global production of the iBooster from the current 8 million units per year to 11 million units in 2026, of which approximately 60% will be delivered to Japanese automakers. With this background, Bosch has decided to manufacture the iBooster at its Tochigi plant in order to respond quickly and flexibly to the demand of Japanese automakers, the largest group of customers for the iBooster. The iBooster is a modern electro-mechanical brake booster, which enables high levels of braking functionality such as vacuum independence, customized pedal feel, enhanced recuperation, improved automatic emergency braking performance and brake redundancy under automated driving. Bosch has invested 3 billion yen in manufacturing facilities for the start of production.

Commenting on the start of iBooster production in Japan, Ulrich Schmidt, executive vice president with responsibility for manufacturing at the Chassis Systems Control Division of Robert Bosch GmbH said, "Bosch attaches great importance to Japanese automakers and the Japanese market, which accounts for approximately 30% of global vehicle production. The start of production of the iBooster, which is in high demand by Japanese automakers, in their home ground shows our strong commitment to the Japanese market."

Since its establishment in 1990, the Tochigi plant has a long track record in the manufacture of brake-related products, including ESP® (electronic stability program) for four-wheeled vehicles and ABS (antilock braking systems) for four- and two-wheeled vehicles. The iBooster will be manufactured using the same state-of-the-art automation technology as in Germany to improve productivity and quality.

#### **Ceremony held to commemorate start of iBooster production**

On the same day, Bosch held a ceremony at its Tochigi plant to commemorate the start of iBooster production. Ulrich Schmidt, Klaus Meder, president and representative director of Bosch Corporation, and Takao Matsumura, senior managing officer and regional president of the Chassis Systems Control Division, each gave a speech. The event was attended by about 80 associates, and included speeches and a Kagamibiraki (sake barrel opening) ceremony to celebrate the start of production of the iBooster.

Commenting on the start of iBooster production, Matsumura said, "We are very proud to be able to manufacture the iBooster in Japan, which will be our next generation flagship product. By establishing a manufacturing base in Japan, we will be able to have closer technical communication with our customers than ever before and develop products more in line with their requirements. All associates will work together to contribute to the development of the Japanese automotive industry."

Bosch introduced its first generation electro-mechanical brake booster ahead of other companies in 2013. Bosch estimates that by the end of 2022, 22 million units of iBooster will have been produced globally and delivered to more than 20 automakers.

#### **【About Tochigi plant】**

Address: 1588-1, Kita-akada, Nasushiobara-shi, Tochigi  
Start operation in: April 1990  
Major products: iBooster, ESP®, ABS for four- and two-wheeled vehicles and sensors  
Number of associates: 517 (as of July 1, 2022)

## Contact persons for press inquiries:

Aiko Furuichi

Mariko Johdoji

phone: +81-3-5485-3393

*Bosch in Japan is currently represented in the country by Bosch Corporation, Bosch Rexroth Corporation and other affiliates. Bosch Corporation is responsible for the development, manufacturing, sales and services of automotive original equipment, automotive aftermarket products and power tools. Bosch Engineering K.K. provides engineering services, such as development and application for automotive systems. ETAS K.K. develops and provides engineering of development support tools of electrical control units. Bosch Rexroth Corporation develops and manufactures hydraulics, FA module components and other systems which contribute to industrial technologies. Bosch Security Systems Ltd. provides security and communication products and solutions to help secure the safety of lives, buildings and properties, and is also a supplier of professional sound systems. In 2021, Bosch Japan achieved sales to third parties of some 295 billion yen and employed approximately 6,350 associates.*

Additional information is available online at

<http://www.bosch.co.jp> Bosch Japan Website (Japanese)

<https://twitter.com/BoschJapan> Bosch Japan Twitter (Japanese)

<https://www.facebook.com/bosch.co.jp> Bosch Japan Facebook (Japanese and English)

<https://www.youtube.com/boschjp> Bosch Japan YouTube (Japanese)

*The Bosch Group is a leading global supplier of technology and services. It employs roughly 402,600 associates worldwide (as of December 31, 2021). According to preliminary figures, the company generated sales of 78.7 billion euros in 2021. Its operations are divided into four business sectors: Mobility Solutions, Industrial Technology, Consumer Goods, and Energy and Building Technology. As a leading IoT provider, Bosch offers innovative solutions for smart homes, Industry 4.0, and connected mobility. Bosch is pursuing a vision of mobility that is sustainable, safe, and exciting. It uses its expertise in sensor technology, software, and services, as well as its own IoT cloud, to offer its customers connected, cross-domain solutions from a single source. The Bosch Group's strategic objective is to facilitate connected living with products and solutions that either contain artificial intelligence (AI) or have been developed or manufactured with its help. Bosch improves quality of life worldwide with products and services that are innovative and spark enthusiasm. In short, Bosch creates technology that is "Invented for life." The Bosch Group comprises Robert Bosch GmbH and its roughly 440 subsidiary and regional companies in some 60 countries. Including sales and service partners, Bosch's global manufacturing, engineering, and sales network covers nearly every country in the world. With its more than 400 locations worldwide, the Bosch Group has been carbon neutral since the first quarter of 2020. The basis for the company's future growth is its innovative strength. At 128 locations across the globe, Bosch employs some 76,100 associates in research and development, of which nearly 38,000 are software engineers.*

Additional information is available online at [www.bosch.com](http://www.bosch.com), [www.iot.bosch.com](http://www.iot.bosch.com), [www.bosch-press.com](http://www.bosch-press.com), [www.twitter.com/BoschPresse](https://twitter.com/BoschPresse).

Note: one Euro = 129.8855 JPY (Calculated using the average rate in 2021)