



HELLA produces 20 millionth Electronic Control Unit for Electrical Power Steering

- **To support autonomous driving to become a reality, HELLA is focussing on the development of fail operational systems**
- **HELLA is further expanding production capacities globally by 2019**

Lippstadt, January 17, 2018. The ever-stricter regulations for reducing CO2 emissions require fuel-efficient products. Moreover, autonomous driving requires reliable and precise steering systems. Since 2010, the lighting and electronics expert HELLA has been producing electronic control units (ECU) for Electrical Power Steering (EPS) to support and promote these trends. They allow needs-based steering assistance by means of an electronically controlled electric motor. This saves energy. At the production plant in Germany, the 20 millionth unit has recently rolled off the assembly line.

Control systems not only facilitate vehicle maneuvering and improve fuel efficiency, but also form the foundation for implementing various functions of automated driving, such as lane keeping assistance or automated parking. "In addition, for partially or fully autonomous driving, active safety systems are increasingly required to increase road safety", says Frédéric Laure, Vice President Head of Program Management Steering at HELLA. Therefore, HELLA continuously develops its Electronic Control Units and offers them in a Fail Operational version. This means that in the event of a fault in the electronics, the system will not be shut down but the EPS will continue to work. With the Fail Operational function, HELLA has laid an important foundation for the ECU being suitable for level 4 automated driving. The Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) defines this level as being able to operate without driver interaction under certain conditions.

Over the coming years, HELLA will expand its ECU global production capacities. The automotive supplier is currently producing them in Germany and China. By 2019, the company intends to also produce the units in Romania, Mexico, Brazil and India. "This

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will bring us even closer to our customers, allowing us to fulfill their requirements faster”, says Frédéric Laure. Units can thus for example be individualized according to customer requests. With HELLA steering solutions, automotive manufacturers will benefit from a scalable and flexible business model. Starting with a built-to-print service, HELLA also offers further development services. Customers can also choose a ready-mounted product where HELLA takes over the mechanical integration as well as hardware and basic software design.

HELLA is one of the three leading suppliers of EPS systems and Electronic Control Units in Europe. Automotive manufacturers across the world rely on its longstanding expertise. The range of vehicles equipped with HELLA's EPS control unit comprises medium-sized, premium and the sports car segments.

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HELLA GmbH & Co. KGaA, Lippstadt: HELLA is a global, family-owned company, listed on the stock exchange, with around 40,000 employees at over 125 locations in some 35 countries. The HELLA Group develops and manufactures products for lighting technology and electronics for the automotive industry and also has one of the largest retail organizations for automotive parts, accessories, diagnostics, and services within Europe. With nearly 7,000 people working in research and development, HELLA is one of the most important innovation drivers on the market. Furthermore, with sales of 6.6 billion euros in the fiscal year of 2016/2017, the HELLA Group is one of the top 40 automotive parts suppliers in the world and one of the 100 largest German industrial companies.

For additional information please contact:

Dr. Markus Richter
Company spokesman
HELLA GmbH & Co. KGaA
Rixbecker Strasse 75
59552 Lippstadt
Germany
Phone: +49 (0)2941 38-7545
Fax: +49 (0)2941 38-477545
Markus.Richter@hella.com
www.hella.com