



The Bosch Smart Home Partner Program welcomes a new member: the Mercedes-Benz S-Class

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The smart home will soon also be controllable from a car

Stuttgart – Since the beginning of the year, Bosch Smart Home has been offering an open interface for selected partners, thus promoting the continuous expansion of its partner network. Following the recent addition of Apple HomeKit, Mercedes-Benz has also joined as a new partner with its MBUX infotainment system. The integration of the Bosch Smart Home System into the carmaker's new infotainment system will offer its users even more options for controlling their smart homes from their cars.

From now on, home is only a voice command away when you're on the road

Time is short and many things often need to be taken care of quickly in the morning before going to work or before leaving on a road trip. But moments after driving off, our thoughts often turn homeward again: "Did I switch off the light in the hallway? Did I turn down the heating in the bathroom? Did I close the windows and lock the doors?" In the future, drivers of the new S-Class will receive friendly answers to these questions via MBUX, which notifies them of the current status of their Bosch Smart Home devices even while driving and enables drivers to easily control those devices while on the road. Starting in December, this will initially be possible for the following Bosch Smart Home products: Smart Plug, Room Thermostat, Radiator Thermostat, Shutter Control, Door/Window Contact, Light Control and Motion Detector.

The driver's attention always remains completely focused on the road and the traffic because the status request and control commands work simply and contact-free via the MBUX voice assistant. All the driver needs to do is to ask: "Hey Mercedes, is everything okay at home?" The system automatically responds by sending a status update directly to the car: "The shutters in the bedroom are still open and the light in the bathroom is still on." The driver can then send specific commands to the smart home: "Hey Mercedes, please lower the shutters in the bedroom all the way down" or "Hey Mercedes, switch off the light in the bathroom".

This car-to-home integration is achieved thanks to the open partner interface that Bosch Smart Home has been offering since the beginning of the year. The interface enables partners such as Mercedes-Benz to integrate Bosch Smart Home devices into their own solutions via a Cloud API.

“We are very pleased to welcome Mercedes-Benz as another strong partner for our smart home. This collaboration not only creates a meaningful connection between the topics of home and mobility, but also unites our corporate philosophies – ‘Technology for living’ and ‘The best or nothing’ – under a common goal: to bring new lightness and ease to the connected lives of our users, who will benefit greatly from this”, says Christian Thess, Managing Director of Bosch Smart Home, about the new partnership.

Nils Schanz, Head of User Interaction Voice Control, Mercedes-Benz, has positive words to say about this joint step as well: “We are delighted to be able to extend our partnership with Bosch in the Smart Home area and are enthusiastic to deliver superior voice-enabled interactions through our MBUX Voice Assistant. Our integration of Bosch’s Smart Home solutions, with its broad range of supported devices, has made it possible for MBUX to strengthen its position as a leader in automotive Voice AI.”

Release date and availability

The smart home function will initially be available exclusively in the new Mercedes-Benz S-Class starting in December 2020. Gradual expansion to include the manufacturer’s other model series is planned.

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The Robert Bosch Smart Home GmbH was founded as a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Robert Bosch GmbH. Based in Stuttgart-Vaihingen, the company offers intelligent solutions for retail customers who desire a networked home from a single source. Bosch Smart Home simplifies the life at home by unobtrusively controlling routine activities in the background. It offers greater comfort, convenience, security and energy efficiency.

More information is available at www.bosch-smarthome.com.

The Bosch Group is a leading international technology and service company with approximately 402,000 associates worldwide (as of 31 December 2017). It generated sales totalling 78.1 billion euros in fiscal 2017. Its activities are divided into four business segments:

Mobility Solutions, Industrial Technology, Consumer Goods, and Energy and Building Technology. As a leading provider in the Internet of Things (IoT), Bosch offers innovative solutions for Smart Home, Smart City, Connected Mobility, and Industry 4.0. With its expertise in sensors, software and services, as well as its own IoT cloud, the company is able to offer its customers networked and cross-domain solutions from a single source. The strategic goal of the Bosch Group is to provide solutions for connected living. With innovative and inspiring products and services, Bosch improves the quality of people's lives around the world. Bosch offers "technology for life". The Bosch Group comprises the Robert Bosch GmbH and its approximately 440 subsidiaries and regional companies in 60 countries. Including trade and service partners, Bosch's worldwide manufacturing, development and sales network covers almost every country around the globe. The company's innovative strength is the basis for its future growth. Bosch employs around 64,500 associates worldwide in research and development at 125 locations.

The company was founded in Stuttgart in 1886 by Robert Bosch (1861-1942) as the "Workshop for Precision Mechanics and Electrical Engineering". The corporate structure of the Robert Bosch GmbH ensures the entrepreneurial independence of the Bosch Group. It enables the company to plan for the long term and to invest in significant advanced outlays for the future. The non-profit Robert Bosch Stiftung GmbH holds 92% of the capital shares of the Robert Bosch GmbH. The majority of voting rights are held by the Robert Bosch Industrietreuhand KG, which exercises the entrepreneurial shareholder function. The remaining shares are held by the Bosch family and the Robert Bosch GmbH.

More information is available at www.bosch.com, www.iot.bosch.com, www.bosch-presse.de, www.twitter.com/BoschPresse.

About Mercedes-Benz AG

Mercedes-Benz AG directs the global business of Mercedes-Benz Cars and Mercedes-Benz Vans with over 173,000 employees worldwide. Ola Källenius is Chairman of the Board of Management of the Mercedes-Benz AG. The company focuses on the development, production and sales of cars and vans as well as on services. Furthermore, the company aspires to be a leader in the fields of networking, autonomous driving and alternative powertrains with its trailblazing innovations. The product portfolio comprises the Mercedes-Benz brand with the sub-brands Mercedes-AMG, Mercedes-Maybach and Mercedes me – as well as the smart brand, and the EQ product and technology brand for electric mobility. Mercedes-Benz AG is one of the world's largest producers of premium cars. In 2019, the company sold more than 2.4 million cars and over 438,000 vans. In its two business divisions, Mercedes-Benz AG is continually expanding its worldwide production network with over 40 production sites on four continents, while aligning itself to meet the requirements of electric mobility. At the same time, the company is developing its global battery production network on three continents. Sustainable actions play a decisive role in both business divisions. For the company, sustainability means permanently creating value for all stakeholders: customers, employees, investors, business partners, and society as a whole. The basis for this is Daimler's sustainable corporate strategy: the company assumes responsibility for the economic, ecological and social effects of its business activity, and takes full account of the entire value chain.