

## **Faurecia Unveils \$64 Million Digital Factory that Showcases the Future of Manufacturing**

*Columbus, Indiana-based emissions control technologies plant represents company's digital transformation.*

**Auburn Hills, Mich., Oct. 4, 2016** – Faurecia, a leading automotive supplier, today unveils a \$64 million state-of-the-art, data-driven manufacturing facility in Columbus, Indiana. Columbus South, a 400,000 square-foot facility, will employ 450 people and produce a new, high-tech emissions control product for the commercial vehicle industry.

“This facility represents our entry into Industry 4.0, a revolutionary concept incorporating connectivity, automation, data processing and hardware to advance the manufacturing industry,” said Mike Galarno, plant manager of Columbus South. “We are proud to be the first plant to incorporate many of these leading technologies under one roof to create efficient systems and an innovative working experience for employees.”

With this facility, Faurecia is driving forward the company's digital transformation by ushering in technologies that are at the forefront of modern-day manufacturing.

“Manufacturing is sometimes stereotyped as dirty and requiring few skills,” said Dave DeGraaf, president of Faurecia Emissions Control Technologies North America. “Columbus South contributes to the shifting landscape of the industry to one that is modern, clean and technologically advanced, and aimed at attracting a new generation of employees with different and advanced skillsets.”

The Columbus South facility's digital environment will feature a variety of new technologies, systems and processes that reflect the improvements of Industry 4.0, including:

- Quality through laser scanning and early detection of variation
- Self-learning autonomous intelligent vehicles (AIVs) to transport component parts to the assembly line
- Continuous data collection, which enables employees to predict and prevent equipment failures
- A completely paperless environment keeping employees connected and informed with real time information
- An open-concept design and digital screens, laptops and smartphones to encourage collaboration

In addition to these advancements, Columbus South will also have a combination of collaborative robots, or “cobots,” automated robotic vehicles and visual communication techniques designed to foster real-time collaboration and communication. Collectively, Columbus South is expected to analyze terabytes of data daily, requiring a full-time, on-site mathematician to continually mine data, cull insights and forecast an issue before it occurs.

“Columbus South isn't only about the product and the processes,” DeGraaf said. “People have been an important part of the equation. Ultimately, these advanced technologies, like the AIVs and cobots, will enable employees to work more efficiently, experience less physical stress and improve work-life balance.”

The new plant will be an addition to Faurecia's existing presence in Columbus. It will join Faurecia's Gladstone Plant and Columbus Tech Center, increasing the number of employees in the region over 2,000.

### **About Faurecia**

Faurecia is one of the world's largest automotive equipment suppliers with global leadership positions in three activities: Automotive Seating, Interior Systems and Emissions Control Technologies. Its strong technology offer provides automakers with solutions for the cockpit of the future and sustainable mobility. In 2015, the Group posted total sales of \$23 billion and employed 103,000 people in 34 countries at 330 sites and 30 R&D centers. Faurecia is listed on the NYSE Euronext Paris stock exchange and trades in the U.S. over-the-counter (OTC) market. For more information, visit [www.faurecia.com](http://www.faurecia.com).

In North America, Faurecia had sales of \$6.4 billion in 2015. It employs more than 20,000 people at 48 locations in Canada, Mexico and the United States.



## Press Release

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