

# VOLKSWAGEN

AKTIENGESELLSCHAFT

GROUP EU REPRESENTATION/VGS

VOLKSWAGEN GROUP EU REPRESENTATION/VGS - RUE ARCHIMEDE 25 - 1000 BRUSSELS

European Commission  
Mr  
Tomasz Husak  
Head of Cabinet of Commissioner Bieńkowska  
200, Rue de la Loi, Office BERL  
1049 Brussels  
BELGIUM

January 2017

Shift. The Volkswagen Sustainability Magazine

Dear Mr Husak,

in the media, Dieselgate has been receiving a great deal of coverage for well over a year now. Volkswagen has conceded that mistakes were made and has suffered the consequences. It has also announced its intention to be a different, better company. We know that there is still some scepticism amongst the general public, and that the sense of disappointment runs deep. As a result, we must continue to work hard to convince as many people as possible that Volkswagen is serious about resolving the issue, about implementing technical solutions for our customers quickly, and about ensuring that our statements and declarations are backed up with action.

This is why you are receiving a copy of Shift, our new sustainability magazine.\* You may be surprised by some of the content of this magazine, ranging from incisive essays to intriguing debates and enlightening interviews. You will notice that we are open and self-critical when it comes to the criticism of the procedures which have come to be known as Dieselgate.

Volkswagen has now reached settlements with the U.S. government. The resolution comprises four settlements, including a plea agreement with the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ). The plea agreement is accompanied by a published Statement of Facts that lays out the findings and facts established as to the origins and evolution of the misconduct in the diesel matter.

Many issues have already been tackled, and changes have been made – you can find out more about these in Shift – while other measures are still at the concept or preparation stage. There can be no doubt that Volkswagen is on the right track and has set itself some ambitious targets. However, it is also evident that we must continue to work on a comprehensive resolution to ensure that the changes to our corporate culture are implemented systematically and credibly.

For the time being, we ask that you view our new sustainability magazine as a serious offer of dialogue.

Kind regards,



Christof-S. Klitz  
Head of Group EU Representation  
Volkswagen Group

\* The *Shift* editorial deadline was September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016.