



## **Bosch demonstrates innovative strength despite economic crisis**

15 February 2010

### **Number of patents filed remains high**

- Bosch invested 3.8 billion Euros in research and development last year
- Average of 15 patent applications filed every working day

Last year, Bosch researchers and engineers maintained the same high level of patent applications as in 2008. The number of first-filed patent applications remained stable at more than 3,800. This adds up to an average of 15 developments submitted to the patent offices for first filing every working day. This means that Bosch remains one of the leading companies in research and development.

In total, the number of patents, patent registrations, and utility models held by the Bosch Group amounts to around 82,000. Commenting on this figure, Dr. Siegfried Dais, whose responsibilities as deputy chairman of the board of management also include research and development, said: "This figure underscores the great innovative strength of Bosch, even in difficult times such as these." Last year, Bosch invested some 3.8 billion Euros in research and development. Worldwide, a total of 33,000 associates are working on topics that will shape the future of the company.

### **Ends**

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*The Bosch Group is a leading global supplier of technology and services. According to preliminary figures, some 270,000 associates generated sales of roughly 38 billion euros in*

*the areas of automotive and industrial technology, consumer goods, and building technology in fiscal 2009. The Bosch Group comprises Robert Bosch GmbH and its more than 300 subsidiaries and regional companies in over 60 countries. If its sales and service partners are included, then Bosch is represented in roughly 150 countries. This worldwide development, manufacturing, and sales network is the foundation for further growth. Each year, Bosch spends more than 3.5 billion euros for research and development, and applies for over 3,000 patents worldwide. With all its products and services, Bosch enhances the quality of life by providing solutions which are both innovative and beneficial.*

*The company was set up in Stuttgart in 1886 by Robert Bosch (1861-1942) as “Workshop for Precision Mechanics and Electrical Engineering.” The special ownership structure of Robert Bosch GmbH guarantees the entrepreneurial freedom of the Bosch Group, making it possible for the company to plan over the long term and to undertake significant up-front investments in the safeguarding of its future. Ninety-two percent of the share capital of Robert Bosch GmbH is held by Robert Bosch Stiftung GmbH, a charitable foundation. The majority of voting rights are held by Robert Bosch Industrietreuhand KG, an industrial trust. The entrepreneurial ownership functions are carried out by the trust. The remaining shares are held by the Bosch family and by Robert Bosch GmbH.*

*Additional information can be accessed at [www.bosch.com](http://www.bosch.com).*