**HIS HIGHNESS SHEIKH AHMED BIN SAEED AL MAKTOUM LAYS FOUNDATION STONE FOR W MOTORS PRODUCTION FACILITY AT DUBAI SILICON OASIS**

* **$USD 100 MILLION TOTAL INVESTMENT IN THE FACILITY**
* **CONSTRUCTION OF MIDDLE EAST’S FIRST STATE-OF-THE-ART AUTOMOTIVE FACILTY**

**GETS UNDERWAY**

* **PRODUCTION OF ALL W MOTORS VEHICLES WILL MOVE TO DUBAI-BASED FACILITY INCLUDING LIMITED SERIES FENYR SUPERSPORT**
* **FIRST PHASE OF 120,000 SQFT PROJECT SET TO BE COMPLETED BY 2020**

**Dubai, UAE; 13th January 2020 – His Highness Sheikh Ahmed bin Saeed Al Maktoum, Chairman of Dubai Silicon Oasis Authority (DSOA), today laid the foundation stone for the W Motors Automotive Facility in Dubai Silicon Oasis, UAE, the first manufacturing facility of its kind in the Middle East with an investment of $USD 100 Million.**

The groundbreaking event was also attended by Dr. Mohammed Al Zarooni, Vice Chairman & CEO of DSOA, Ralph R. Debbas’, W Motors Founder & CEO.

His Highness Sheikh Ahmed bin Saeed Al Maktoum said, “As Dubai continues to consolidate its position as an international testing ground for state-of-the-art technology, it is attracting foreign direct investments, international tech companies, promising start-ups, and innovative entrepreneurs from around the globe.”

He added, “As the comprehensive geo-economic map of the emirate is being developed by the Dubai Free Zones Council, in line with the “Fifty-Year Charter” launched earlier this year by His Highness Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, which will accelerate the drive for further economic diversification and give it more momentum, free zones like Dubai Silicon Oasis continue to be the hub of choice for cutting-edge companies looking for advanced business ecosystems that provide full traction for launches and growth locally, regionally, and globally.”

The state-of-the-art Automotive Facility sees W Motors Founder & CEO Ralph R. Debbas’ vision of driving the region’s automotive industry become a reality. Spread over an immense 120,000 sqft., the first phase of the project is set to be completed by 2020. Production of all W Motors vehicles will move to this location including the limited series Fenyr SuperSport, upcoming new vehicles, electric and autonomous models, as well as all vehicles under the company’s Special Projects Division.

Phase One will be divided into three blocks: the **Manufacturing Division** will comprise a mechanical workshop, an assembly area, a “Concept & Prototype” manufacturing zone, and will feature the latest machines equipped with advanced smart technologies for production of carbon fibre, aluminum and other parts.

The main **Headquarters** building will include the Design, Engineering, Research & Development and Training Centres along with an autonomous and technology development department. Futhermore, the **W Motors Gallery**, which will showcase all models, will become a unique experiential space for visitors from all over the world.

Phase Two of the project will be the **W Motors Automotive Academy,** developed in partnership with leading regional and international educational institutions. It will offer Automotive Design, Engineering, Transportation and AI-themed courses, in addition to certified programs catering to students and interns from all over the world.

Dr Mohammed Al Zarooni, Vice Chairman and CEO of DSOA, said, “Dubai Silicon Oasis offers businesses a unique ecosystem that allows them to leverage their strengths and benefit from Dubai’s role as a springboard for businesses seeking growth in the GCC which holds opportunities worth more than $USD 1.5 trillion across all economic sectors.”

He added, “We look forward to welcoming W Motors to Dubai Silion Oasis as a new and highly-anticipated addition to the automotive industry in Dubai and the UAE, especially considering that such an industry requires a long supply chain of products and services, which in turn can create an exciting set of trickle-down opportunities in autonomous driving technologies and related products and services.”

Speaking of the huge milestone for the company, Debbas said, “Today is a momentous day for W Motors, and takes us a big step closer to vastly developing the automotive industry within the region – and specifically aligning with Dubai’s vision of becoming a global leader in innovation. We have worked closely with the Dubai Silicon Oasis Authority to bring our Production Facilty to life; now the countdown to opening our doors is on!”

W Motors recently announced that it has become the first private company to deposit its shares in Nasdaq Dubai's Central Securities Depository (CSD). Joining the CSD enhances W Motors' links to investors and can be a step on the route towards a variety of financing solutions.

The Automotive Facility will allow for W Motors to share its expertise and know-how on a much wider scale, and contribute to the Dubai economy through creation of jobs and offering opportunities to young talent.

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**About W Motors**

Founded in 2012, W Motors is the first manufacturer of high-performance luxury sports cars in the Middle East. Based in Dubai, the company is fully integrated with activities ranging from Automotive Design, Research & Development to Engineering and Manufacturing, as well as Automotive Consultancy within its Special Projects Division.

Led by Founder and CEO Ralph R. Debbas, W Motors creates some of the most exclusive and technologically advanced vehicles on the market today in partnership with leading automotive engineering and manufacturing companies around the world.

In 2019, W Motors became the first private company to deposit its shares in Nasdaq Dubai’s CSD (Central Securities Depository) and established a holding company, W Motors Automotive Group Holding Limited, in the Dubai International Financial Centre (DIFC).

The first hypercar created by W Motors was the iconic Lykan HyperSport, which catapulted the company to international stardom when it took centre stage as hero car in Universal Studios' Furious 7. Its latest hypercar to be launched is the Fenyr SuperSport, a limited edition with a production run of 110 models including 10 “Launch Editions”. The company also created the world’s most advanced security vehicle, the Ghiath Beast Patrol for Dubai Police.

W Motors will soon launch its state-of-the-art automotive facility in Dubai, UAE, which will accommodate the production of all current and future models including electric and autonomous vehicles, in line with Dubai’s vision of becoming the “world’s smartest city”.