

## **THE BOSCH GROUP DEMONSTRATES ITS STRENGTH IN INNOVATION WITH INCREASE IN PATENTS OVER PREVIOUS YEARS**

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**STUTT GART, Germany** – Last year, researchers and developers from the Bosch Group registered more patents than ever before. The number of first-filed patents rose by seven percent to a total of 3,281 – equaling an average of 14 developments submitted to the patent offices for first filing every working day. The number of patents granted and inventions registered to the company in 2007 also rose by eight percent to 6,560. The only Bosch developments that are filed are those that the company feels are sufficiently significant.

In total, the number of patents, patent registrations, and utility models held by the Bosch Group amounts to around 77,000. "These figures are impressive evidence of the innovative strength of the Bosch Group," said Dr. Siegfried Dais, whose responsibilities as deputy chairman of the board of management include research and development.

In the past year, Bosch increased its expenditure on research and development by nine percent to 3.6 billion euros. In other words, investment in this field accounted for just under eight percent of the company's sales of roughly \$63 billion. Approximately 30,000 associates work in research and development worldwide.

### **About the Bosch Group**

*The Bosch Group is a leading global supplier of technology and services. In the areas of automotive and industrial technology, consumer goods, and building technology, some 272,000 associates generated sales of 46 billion euros (over \$63 billion) in fiscal 2007. The Bosch Group comprises Robert Bosch GmbH and its roughly 300 subsidiary and regional companies in over 50 countries. This worldwide development, manufacturing, and sales network is the foundation for further growth. Bosch spends more than three billion euros each year for research and development, and in 2007 applied for just under 3,300 patents worldwide. The company was set up in Stuttgart in 1886 by Robert Bosch (1861-1942) as "Workshop for Precision Mechanics and Electrical Engineering."*

*In North America, the Bosch Group manufactures and markets automotive original equipment and aftermarket products, industrial automation and mobile products, power tools and accessories, security technology, thermo-technology, packaging equipment and household appliances. Bosch employs approximately 25,000 associates in more than 80 locations throughout the U.S., Canada and Mexico, with reported sales of \$9.5 billion in fiscal 2007. For more information on the company, visit [www.boschusa.com](http://www.boschusa.com).*

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