

## PRESS RELEASE

### Profitability in disruptive times: Automotive industry focuses on product costs

FACTON's International Executive Round Table enters its second round as part of CAR MBS in the Traverse City, MI

**Potsdam, Germany, April 2, 2019 – This year the FACTON Executive Round Table will take place on August 6th as part of the “Power Lunch” at the Center for Automotive Research Management Briefing Seminar (CAR MBS) in Traverse City, MI. A panel of top experts will discuss the impact that disruptive technologies and new mobility concepts will have on product costs and profitability in the automotive industry and how best to respond to the transition.**

Software firm FACTON conducted the inaugural “FACTON Executive Round Table” series last year in Europe. The international event brings together top experts from business and research to discuss the future of active product costing and develop collaborative strategies. This year's event will take place on August 6th as part of the “Power Lunch” at the Center for Automotive Research Management Briefing Seminars (CAR MBS) conference in Traverse City, MI. A panel of top experts will discuss the impact that disruptive technologies and new mobility concepts will have on product costs and supply business and how to respond to these changes while keeping the industry competitive. This year's roundtable event includes Alexander M. Swoboda, FACTON CEO, Ruediger Stern, FACTON President, Larry Williams, CEO of Henniges Automotive and other CEOs and senior executives from the automotive industry. Anyone that attends CAR MBS can register to join the “Power Lunch”.

Connected, autonomous, shared and electric mobility are dramatically altering the automotive landscape. Profitability expectations, new manufacturing technologies, the Internet of Things, blockchain and artificial intelligence are causing uncertainty among many OEMs and tier 1 suppliers. Alexander M. Swoboda comments, “These new, disruptive technologies will not only have an impact on production; they will also lead to sweeping changes in virtually every area of business. Therefore, these discussions currently center around ensuring profitability and, consequently, product costs. We believe that the industry must work together to master these challenges, which is why we promote a regular, personal exchange of information and ideas.”

#### **FACTON Executive Round Table “AI for Predictive Costing” – 2018 in review**

The first FACTON Executive Round Table took place as part of the “AI for Predictive Costing” initiative in June 2018 in Potsdam. 20 experts from industry and research discussed the use of artificial intelligence in product costing. Participants talked about challenges and their visions of the future in addition to application possibilities feasible

in the medium term. For more details on the event, please visit:  
<https://www.factor.com/news/ai-for-predictive-costing>

#### **About CAR MBS**

The “Center for Automotive Research Management Briefing Seminars (CAR MBS)” conference takes place annually in Traverse City, Michigan and is organized by the “Center for Automotive Research”. It is a leading forum for the automotive industry in North America. Each year the three-and-a-half-day event welcomes leaders and visionaries from OEMs and suppliers along with representatives from finance, politics and the media to discuss thought-provoking ideas about the future of the global automotive industry. For more information about CAR MBS, please visit: <https://www.cargroup.org/mbs/>

#### **About FACTON GmbH**

The FACTON EPC Suite is the leading Enterprise Product Costing (EPC) solution for the automotive, aerospace, mechanical engineering and electronics industries. Its specific solutions offer robust answers to the requirements of executive management and individual departments within the enterprise. FACTON EPC enables standardized, enterprise-wide costing independent of location and department for maximum product cost transparency throughout every phase of the product life cycle. Businesses accelerate their costing, achieve pinpoint cost accuracy and secure their profitability.

FACTON GmbH was founded in 1998 and has locations in Potsdam, Dresden, Stuttgart and Detroit. Hasso Plattner, founder and chairman of the supervisory board of SAP SE & Co. KG, has supported this innovative company since 2006. The international portfolio of customers includes Airbus, Mahle Behr, Deutz, MANN+HUMMEL, Porsche, Ford Motor Company and other renowned OEMs.

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