

Press Release

DEKRA provides Tests and Approval Services for new eCall Functionality

eCall allows Car to call Emergency Services

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From 2018 onwards, eCall has the potential to become a lifesaver for car drivers: following serious accidents, the system automatically calls emergency services. The international expert organization DEKRA has recently been appointed by Kraftfahrtbundesamt (KBA) as a Technical Service to fully test this innovative technology.

The recognition is part of DEKRA's strategy to further expand the service portfolio for connected driving. DEKRA has been actively involved in the development and implementation of the European eCall accident emergency system from the start. These new services are part of DEKRA's connected driving initiative and international test network for connected and automated driving.

For manufacturers of eCall modules, component vendors and car manufacturers DEKRA can now provide all testing services to obtain type approvals in accordance with directive EU 2017/79. This directive defines the technical prerequisites and procedures for eCall built-in systems, units, and components. DEKRA now also tests and certifies in accordance with Global Certification Forum (GCF) regulations, based on the 3GPP standard.

From April 2018, the European eCall system will be mandatory in all new passenger car models and light commercial vehicles models in the EU. eCall recognizes airbag deployment and impact sensor information. Upon activation, the system communicates location data and sensor information to emergency services and establishes a voice call between the vehicle passengers and the emergency services.

It is expected that eCall could accelerate rescue services response times in urban areas by 40 percent and in rural areas by 50 percent. The goal is a faster first response for those injured and a reduction of the number of traffic fatalities due to accidents.

About DEKRA

DEKRA has been active in the field of safety for more than 90 years. Founded in 1925 in Berlin as Deutscher Kraftfahrzeug-Überwachungs-Verein e.V., it is today one of the world's leading expert organizations. DEKRA SE is a subsidiary of DEKRA e.V. and

Date Stuttgart, 21 November 2017 / No. 117
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manages the Group's operating business. In 2016, DEKRA generated sales totaling approximately 2.9 billion Euros. The company currently employs more than 39,000 people in more than 50 countries on all five continents. With qualified and independent expert services, they work for safety on the road, at work and at home. These services range from vehicle inspection and expert appraisals to claims services, industrial and building inspections, safety consultancy, testing and certification of products and systems, as well as training courses and temporary work. The vision for the company's 100th birthday in 2025 is that DEKRA will be the global partner for a safe world.