



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Soil and groundwater protection

Škoda Auto employs environmental damage prevention policies in all its operations and takes effective measures aimed at eliminating the environmental impacts of its industrial production before its merger with the VW Group in 1991.

Underground contamination sources and historical environmental impacts were reviewed in the early nineteen-nineties. The results of that review became a base for measures that the Company needed to take to protect and improve the quality of soil and groundwater:

- The Company has conducted a programme of remedial and preventive measures to address such sources of contamination. In particular, the programme included the measures listed below:
 - terminating environmentally-unfriendly manufacturing operations and related processes (e.g. hardening shops using cyanides, galvanisation operations, press shops at subsidiary plants, dumping sites in Bakov n. Jiz. and Malý Uhřínov, degreasing by means of chlorinated hydrocarbons, etc.);
 - eliminating leaks of harmful substances to civil structures and to the underground (e.g. measures taken in press shops, chemical warehouses, mechanical machining operations, etc.).
- Underground protection measures (prevention) are part of new development as well as reconstruction projects. No building or facility can be commissioned without such measures in place.



A plastic foil to prevent leaks of harmful substances to the underground is part of the floor structure used in manufacturing halls



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- Historical environmental impacts are being eliminated in line with long-term plans. Over 80% of environmental impacts requiring remedial measures were eliminated by the end of 2006 (CZK 515 million). The Company completed remedial measures at the Kvasiny and Vrchlabí plants and in Česana (technological development) and re-cultivated the existing dumping sites and a watercourse at Zalužany. The items that still need to be addressed include environmental impacts at the Mladá Boleslav plant and the Kosmonosy maintenance centre that do not pose a direct threat to groundwater and can only be eliminated in connection with demolitions and structural adaptations.
- The quality of groundwater at the Mladá Boleslav and Vrchlabí plants is monitored once every six months.
- The Škoda Auto fire brigade has special quick-action mobile technology in case of environmental accidents.

Re-cultivation of the Malý Uhřínov dumping site



Removing sludge from the lagoon



Filling the lagoon with inert material



Re-cultivated sludge lagoon

Mladá Boleslav
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