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**EMBARGOED UNTIL 7:30 p.m. EST, January 16**

**Volkswagen AG, BMW AG, Continental AG, Plastic Omnium, and Lithia Motors, Inc. Receive Global Automotive Shareholder Value Awards Presented by PwC and *Automotive News***

**DETROIT, JAN. 16, 2013** ― *Automotive News* announced the winners of the Global Automotive Shareholder Value Awards for one- and three-year performance periods by Global Vehicle Manufacturers, Global Automotive Suppliers and U.S. Automotive Retailers. The annual event was held January 16, in conjunction with the Automotive News World Congress in Detroit, Michigan.

The winners were determined by their total shareholder return relative to the PwC Global Automotive Shareholder Value Index in each of the three categories. Developed specifically for the automotive sector, the indices provide information on relative returns.

This year's winners are represented in the following table, along with the corresponding indices:

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Award Category** | **Performance Period** | **Company** | **H.Q.** | **Return** | **PwC Shareholder Value Index** |
| Global vehicle manufacturers | Three-year | BMW AG | Germany | +125.6% | +40.2% |
| Global vehicle manufacturers | One-year | Volkswagen AG | Germany | +64.5% | +33.7% |
| Global automotive suppliers | Three-year | Plastic Omnium | France | +256.5% | +43.3% |
| Global automotive suppliers | One-year | Continental AG | Germany | 89.7% | +23.6% |
| U.S. automotive retailers | Three-year | Lithia Motors, Inc. | U.S.A. | +377.1% | +123.1% |
| U.S. automotive retailers | One-year | Lithia Motors, Inc. | U.S.A. | +74.0% | +28.7% |

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The PwC Shareholder Value Index determines a company's performance by taking into account both increases and decreases in a share price, dividends, share buy-backs and new share issues. The result is one benchmark that measures shareholder value for stock market-listed automotive companies.

"It is an honor to recognize the 2012 shareholder value winners," said Rick Hanna, global automotive leader, PwC. “The returns generated by this year’s winning companies and the overall shareholder value indices are reflective of the strength of the recovery in industry. The fact that winning vehicle manufacturers and suppliers are European entities demonstrates the truly global nature of the industry. Congratulations to this year’s winning companies.”

Shareholder Value Indices have been reported in *Automotive News* on a quarterly basis since January 2000. The 2012 complete year-end results and Automotive Shareholder Award winners will be announced in the January 16, 2013, and in the January 21 print edition of *Automotive News* at [www.autonews.com](http://www.autonews.com) and can also be found at [www.pwc.com/auto](http://www.pwc.com/auto) from that date.

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