

From lockdown to antigen testing on the line

- **In this year of combating COVID-19, SEAT has implemented 107 preventive measures, many of them groundbreaking**
- **On the factory floor, the 8,300 production employees undergo rapid antigen tests twice a week**
- **The production of emergency ventilators and the offer to vaccinate the population, proof of the company's social commitment**

Martorell, 13/04/2021. A year ago, COVID-19 emptied the streets of countries around the world. The pandemic forced total lockdown. SEAT S.A. reacted immediately and within a week adapted the assembly line of the new Leon to manufacture emergency respirators to help hospitals. Today, the same production line, working at full capacity, is being used by CARS medical staff to perform antigen tests on the workers. Two pioneering initiatives, ten months apart, in which the company has not stopped moving in the fight against the pandemic.

On the front line. 50 SEAT CARS teams visit the production workshops seven days a week, morning, noon and night. They move their way down the line with a mobile antigen testing unit, just a few metres away from the workers. In this way, the 8,300 operators hardly have to interrupt their work to take the test. They're all tested twice a week. **"These rapid tests on the line enable us, without interrupting production, to make a very early diagnosis, and in the event of a positive result, to cut off the chain of transmission from the very first moment"** says Dr. Patricia Such, Head of Health, Safety and Emergencies and the Volkswagen Group's joint companies in Spain.

SEAT, green zone. This is what epidemiology experts call areas where the risk of fresh outbreaks is minimal. And this is what has been achieved at SEAT, with more than 4,500 antigen tests per day, an initiative that soon will be applied by other Volkswagen Group companies. **"By testing systematically, the possibility of infection inside SEAT is practically non-existent"** says Dr. Such. In fact, with this and another 106 preventive measures, SEAT has achieved a positivity rate much lower than the average in its surroundings. This March it stands at 0.1%.

Pioneers in prevention. This is not the first time that SEAT has taken the initiative. It did so back on 27th April 2020, when it became the first company in Spain to massively carry out PCR tests on its more than 15,000 employees. Since then, it has carried out more than 55,000 tests. **"There is no prevention service in the world that was prepared for this pandemic, but we've been adapting day by day since the beginning with the health of our workers as our number one priority"** adds Dr. Such. To this end, the head of Health, Safety and Emergencies acknowledges that it has been key to have a scientific committee, created in 2017 and of which SEAT ambassador Dr. Bonaventura Clotet, a world-renowned researcher and virologist, is a member, has played a key role. His collaboration has provided the best information for making key decisions for business continuity.



SEAT S.A.

Moving for society. SEAT has not only been a pioneer in the fight against the pandemic within the company. Its response to society was immediate. It arrived in the form of emergency respirators for ICUs all over Spain three weeks after the declaration of the state of emergency. Against the clock, a team of more than 150 people from different areas of SEAT was able to come up with the most ingenious ideas to manufacture them, using parts such as windscreen wiper motors. **“The key to success was teamwork, perseverance and the desire we had to help”** recalls Dr. Such.

Ready to vaccinate. In February, SEAT S.A. reached an agreement with the Government of Catalunya for the company to help public health with the vaccination process of the population in its environment, once the availability of vaccines increases. **“We need to intervene quickly to get everyone vaccinated as soon as possible”** Dr. Such says. Anything to help relieve congestion in the health system. **“We’ll do everything we can. Beating the virus is up to everyone. We can do it and we will do it”** she concludes.

SEAT S.A. is the only company that designs, develops, manufactures and markets cars in Spain. A member of the Volkswagen Group, the multinational has its headquarters in Martorell (Barcelona), sells vehicles under the SEAT and CUPRA brands, while SEAT MÓ covers urban mobility products and solutions.

SEAT S. A. exports more than 80% of its vehicles and is present in 75 countries. The company employs over 15,000 professionals and has three production centres - Barcelona, El Prat de Llobregat and Martorell, where it manufactures the SEAT Ibiza, SEAT Arona, Leon family and the CUPRA Formentor. Additionally, SEAT S.A. produces the Ateca in the Czech Republic, the SEAT Tarraco in Germany and the SEAT Alhambra in Portugal. The company also has the SEAT:CODE software development centre, located in Barcelona.

SEAT S. A. will invest 5 billion euros through to 2025 to develop new models for the two commercial brands, SEAT and CUPRA, and to electrify the range. The company aims to play a relevant role in the electrification of urban electric vehicles, with a special focus on the transformation of the Spanish automotive industry.

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