



Volkswagen Strikes Deal to Prevent Germany Plant Closures

Description

Volkswagen (VW) has made a deal with the IG Metall trade union. This deal will stop plant closures in Germany and avoid job losses for now. However, they have agreed to cut over 35,000 jobs in a careful way by 2030. This will help save about €15 billion (£12.4 billion).

VW thought about closing up to three factories because they wanted to save money. They also asked workers to accept a 10% pay cut. The union wanted a 7% pay raise instead.

The deal includes some changes to production. Union leaders are happy about the agreement. They said no factories will close and no one will lose their job because of work reasons. Workers will also keep their wage agreement for a long time.

The job cuts might happen through things like early retirement. A planned 5% pay raise will be stopped in 2025 and 2026 to support the company.

The number of apprenticeships in Germany will go down from 1,400 to 600 from 2026. VW is looking at moving some production to Mexico. German Chancellor Olaf Scholz welcomed the deal, calling it a good solution.

Vocabulary List:

1. **Closure** /'kloʊʒər/ (noun): The act of shutting down a business or operation permanently.
2. **Negotiation** /nɪˌɡoʊ.ʃi'ei.jən/ (noun): The process of discussing something in order to reach an agreement.
3. **Apprenticeship** /ə'prentɪsʃɪp/ (noun): A system of training a new generation of practitioners in a trade or profession.
4. **Retirement** /rɪ'taɪərmənt/ (noun): The action of leaving one's job and ceasing to work.
5. **Production** /prə'dʌkʃən/ (noun): The process of creating goods and services.
6. **Agreement** /ə'gri:mənt/ (noun): A negotiated and typically legally binding arrangement between parties.

Comprehension Questions

Multiple Choice



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1. What is the purpose of the deal between Volkswagen and IG Metall trade union?
Option: To close down plants in Germany
Option: To avoid job losses
Option: To increase worker pay by 10%
Option: To move production to Mexico

 2. How many jobs are VW planning to cut by 2030 as per the agreement?
Option: 10,000
Option: 20,000
Option: 35,000
Option: 50,000

 3. What was the percentage of the pay cut that VW asked workers to accept?
Option: 5%
Option: 7%
Option: 10%
Option: 15%

 4. What will happen with the planned 5% pay raise in 2025 and 2026 as per the agreement?
Option: It will be increased
Option: It will be reduced
Option: It will be stopped
Option: It will be paid in full

 5. How many apprenticeships are expected in Germany from 2026 onwards?
Option: 200
Option: 600
Option: 800
Option: 1,400

 6. Which country is VW considering moving some production to?
Option: Germany
Option: USA
Option: China
Option: Mexico

True-False



7. The deal between VW and the union will lead to plant closures in Germany.
8. Workers at VW have agreed to a 7% pay raise as requested by the company.
9. According to the agreement, no one will lose their job due to work reasons.
10. The number of apprenticeships in Germany will increase from 1,400 by 2026.
11. The German Chancellor is against the deal between VW and the union.
12. The agreement includes a provision to stop the pay raise in 2025 and 2026.

Gap-Fill

13. VW is planning to cut over _____ jobs by 2030.
14. The number of apprenticeships in Germany will decrease from 1,400 to _____ by 2026.
15. The planned 5% pay raise will be stopped in _____ to support the company.
16. The deal between VW and the IG Metall trade union will prevent plant closures in _____.
17. Union leaders are happy about the agreement as no factories will close and no one will lose their job due to _____ reasons.
18. German Chancellor Olaf Scholz welcomed the deal, calling it a _____ solution.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. To avoid job losses 2. 35,000 3. 10% 4. It will be stopped 5. 600 6. Mexico

True-False: 7. False 8. False 9. True 10. False 11. False 12. True

Gap-Fill: 13. 35,000 14. 600 15. 2025 and 2026 16. Germany 17. work 18. good



Vocabulary quizzes

Multiple Choice (Select the Correct answer for each question.)

1. What process involves examining and evaluating products or services to ensure they meet specified requirements?
Option: Recall
Option: Unsafe
Option: Inspection
Option: Negotiation
2. Which term refers to the system by which goods and services are produced distributed and consumed?
Option: Average
Option: Durable
Option: Investors
Option: Economic
3. What is the middle value in a list of numbers when they are ordered from smallest to largest?
Option: Contracts
Option: Supply
Option: Economist
Option: Median
4. What term describes a situation where all sides have equal importance or influence?
Option: Increased
Option: Balanced
Option: Dropped
Option: Shares
5. Where do buyers and sellers come together to trade products or services?
Option: Value
Option: Market
Option: Sales
Option: Earnings
6. Which process involves manufacturing goods or providing services for sale?
Option: Closure
Option: Negotiation
Option: Apprenticeship
Option: Production



7. What term describes the act of leaving one's job or ceasing to work typically upon reaching a certain age?
- Option: Inspection
 - Option: Unsafe
 - Option: Retirement
 - Option: Negotiation
8. What is a mutual understanding or arrangement between parties regarding a particular course of action?
- Option: Closure
 - Option: Increased
 - Option: Agreement
 - Option: Dropped
9. What are units of ownership interest in a corporation or financial asset?
- Option: Balance
 - Option: Shares
 - Option: Market
 - Option: Value
10. What is the worth of something in terms of the amount of other things for which it can be exchanged or in terms of some medium of exchange?
- Option: Economic
 - Option: Value
 - Option: Confidence
 - Option: Performance

Gap-Fill (Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

11. Inspecting _____ ensures they meet quality standards.
12. An _____ is calculated by adding numbers together and dividing by the count of numbers.
13. The company announced the _____ of several unprofitable branches.
14. _____ play a crucial role in providing capital for new ventures.
15. _____ is a key skill in reaching mutually beneficial agreements.
16. An _____ provides hands-on training and mentorship for a specific trade.



17. The demand for the product _____ significantly over the past year.
18. The law of _____ states that as prices rise the quantity supplied increases.
19. Company _____ show its profitability over a specific period.
20. The company _____ its prices to attract more customers.

Matching Sentences (Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

21. Consumers should avoid purchasing products to ensure their safety.
22. The chef prepared a delicious meal using freshly made .
23. Investors prefer stable markets to invest with .
24. High-quality materials ensure the product is and long-lasting.
25. The factory's sudden left many employees without jobs.
26. Successful business deals often require skilled between parties.
27. After decades of hard work she finally decided to enjoy her well-deserved .
28. Efficient processes are essential for meeting market demand.
29. Both parties signed the legally binding after lengthy discussions.
30. The income in the region gives a better understanding of living standards.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Inspection 2. Economic 3. Median 4. Balanced 5. Market 6. Production 7. Retirement 8. Agreement 9. Shares 10. Value

Gap-Fill: 11. Products 12. Average 13. Closure 14. Investors 15. Negotiation 16. Apprenticeship 17. Increased 18. Supply 19. Earnings 20. Dropped

Matching sentence: 1. Unsafe 2. Sausage 3. Confidence 4. Durable 5. Closure 6. Negotiation 7. Retirement 8. Production 9. Agreement 10. Median

CATEGORY

1. Business - LEVEL1



Date Created

2024/12/22

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