

## PRESS RELEASE

Pfronstetten-Aichelau, March 3, 2022

### Schumacher times two: Uniqueness in a double pack

Ralf and David Schumacher are new Space Drive brand ambassadors

*With Ralf and David Schumacher, the six-time Formula 1 winner and his son are now involved in the Schaeffler Paravan from-track-to-road development program for the innovative Space Drive driving and steering system. Together, they want to support Schaeffler Paravan engineers in bringing this revolutionary drive-by-wire technology to production readiness in the automotive industry.*



"We are very pleased that we were able to win Ralf and his son David Schumacher together - as a one-off in a competence double pack, so to speak - and inspire them for the Space Drive project. Ralf is a very experienced racing driver and well-known TV motorsport expert and his son David is a rising star in the motorsport sky. For the Space Drive series development we can benefit from the expertise of both. I am very excited about their feedback, whether on the race track or on the road," says Roland Arnold, CEO of Schaeffler Paravan Technologie GmbH & Co.KG.

The innovative Space Drive driving and steering system originated in the field of mobility for the disabled a good 20 years ago and has already helped more than 10,000 people achieve new mobility. In the meantime, the road-legal drive-by-wire system has been further developed into a key technology for autonomous driving, innovative vehicle concepts and a valuable data provider, with a view to completely new safety features.

Since 2019, Space Drive has been successfully tested in motorsports and continuously developed. In the GTC Race and in the DTM, Space Drive technology is part of the regulations and is also in use at the Nürburgring 24h Race, in the ADAC GT Masters and at rallies. Successful racing drivers such as Bernd Schneider, Markus Winkelhock, the reigning DTM champion of 2021 Maximilian Götz in numerous GTC Race events, DTM Space Drive driver Maximilian Buhk or rally driver Armin Schwarz

have raised the steer-by-wire technology Space Drive to a new level together with the Schaeffler Paravan development team, which is an important basis for autonomous driving at Level 5.

Ralf and David Schumacher are convinced of the Space Drive technology and have already extensively tested the technology in various production vehicles: I am delighted to be able to help advance such a sensible technology with enormous future potential with Space Drive. I am firmly convinced that motorsport must once again become a recognizable driver of innovation. What is tested in the stress of racing and under the strain of the racetrack can certainly fulfil its purpose later in series production." Ralf Schumacher continues, "Space Drive, whether as a crucial component for autonomous driving or in mobility for the disabled, helps give many people with handicaps the opportunity to participate in working as well as social life without outside assistance."

David Schumacher will compete for Mercedes-AMG Team Winward in the DTM in 2022. The young German talent will pilot a Mercedes-AMG GT3 for the German-Texan team in the renowned racing series. The 20-year-old earned his first spurs in formula racing. Last season, David contested the FIA Formula 3 Championship for the Italian Trident team and claimed one victory and two podium places in this toughest of all junior series.

"For me, my first DTM year is about getting to know the series and its challenges. My Winward team and I see the 2022 season as an apprenticeship year for me. In addition to the DTM, I'll be involved in the Space Drive development program together with my father at Schaeffler Paravan and will certainly be racing with the innovative steering system. I am of course very much looking forward to this new task of father and son - unique in motorsport, as far as I know," says David Schumacher about the tasks ahead of him.

"David Schumacher is a young and very talented driver whose commitment we are very happy to support, in the DTM and for our technology development," says Roland Arnold.

The 2022 DTM will be contested at eight events with 16 rounds in Germany, Portugal, Italy, Austria and Belgium. The season kicks off on April 30 at the Algarve Circuit in Portimão. Pro7 will broadcast all DTM races live and also provide extensive pre- and post-event coverage.

Contact person:

Anke Leuschke, Press Officer, Schaeffler Paravan Technologie GmbH & Co.KG.  
Phone: +49 7388 99 95 81, e-mail: [anke.leuschke@paravan.de](mailto:anke.leuschke@paravan.de)

**About Schaeffler Paravan Technologie GmbH & Co.KG**

Schaeffler Paravan Technologie GmbH & Co. KG is a company specializing in the development of fail-operational drive-by-wire systems - "Space Drive" - and chassis system solutions. It is headquartered in Herzogenaurach with an operating facility in Pfrontstetten-Aichelau. Schaeffler Paravan Technologie is a joint venture (90 percent Schaeffler and ten percent Roland Arnold) and was founded in October 2018. The Space Drive system developed by Paravan founder, Roland Arnold was completely transferred to the joint venture and will be industrialized there. For future autonomous driving vehicles, Schaeffler Paravan is also developing a "rolling chassis" with intelligent corner modules - with integrated Schaeffler wheel hub motors, brakes, space drive steering (90 degrees) and suspension in one system. [www.schaeffler-paravan.de](http://www.schaeffler-paravan.de)