For immediate release

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**Tychy Plant Awarded World Class Manufacturing Gold Medal**

* **FIAT Group plant in Tychy, Poland has achieved World Class Manufacturing (WCM) Gold level**
* **WCM represents one of the highest standards in the world for integrated management of manufacturing plants and processes**
* **The Tychy plant is the latest of 58 FIAT Group plants to receive a WCM award**
* **Current production at the Tychy plant includes FIAT 500, Abarth 500, Chrysler Ypsilon and Ford Ka**

The FIAT Group plant in Tychy, Poland has achieved World Class Manufacturing (WCM) Gold level. WCM represents one of the highest standards in the world for integrated management of manufacturing plants and processes which encompasses all aspects from safety, to the environment, maintenance, logistics and quality.

Over the years major investments have been made in the Tychy plant, which began operating in 1975, and today it is one of the world’s most advanced automotive plants. Current production includes the FIAT 500, Abarth 500, Chrysler Ypsilon and Ford Ka. The plant in Bielsko-Biala, Poland – which produces the 1.3 MultiJet diesel and 0.9 TwinAir gasoline engines – also achieved Gold level last year.

WCM has been adopted by many of the world’s leading manufacturers. The methodology addresses all aspects of the manufacturing process, including safety, quality and maintenance systems, optimization of logistics and workstation ergonomics and organization. Certified auditors conduct periodic evaluations of the results achieved, ranking each plant on a scale of 0 to 100. The qualification process consists of three intermediate levels (Bronze, Silver, Gold) prior to achievement of the final World Class Level.

Since 2006, nearly all FIAT plants have been involved in the World Class Manufacturing program and 58 have received at least one award from the WCM Association, demonstrating that the Group’s industrial activities have been undergoing a process of continuous improvement and achieving increasingly higher levels of competitiveness.

Other recent recipients were the Tofas plant in Bursa, Turkey, which received the award just a few weeks ago, and the FIAT Group plant in Pomigliano d’Arco, Italy, which was awarded WCM Gold in June.

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For more information on the FIAT 500 visit [www.FIAT.ie](http://www.fiat.ie)

For more information on the Chrysler Ypsilon visit [www.chrysler.ie](http://www.chrysler.ie)