Ford Romania to Hire 976 More People to Support the Production of the Ford EcoSport Small Sports Utility Vehicle

- Ford Romania to hire 976 basic and skilled operators to support the production of the Ford EcoSport small SUV
- Current workforce at Craiova – for both vehicle and engine production – is 2,715 people
- Ford has invested more than €1.2 billion in its Romanian manufacturing operations since 2008

- Transformation of Craiova Vehicle Assembly Operations for EcoSport production started last winter, and includes the installation of 220 new robots to further improve efficiency and quality
- Craiova-built EcoSport to be sold across Europe, excluding Russia, with production starting later this fall

Craiova, April 6, 2017 – Ford Romania confirmed today that it has started the process of recruiting 976 people to support production of the new EcoSport small sports utility vehicle which is due to start later this fall.

Ford Romania is looking to hire basic and skilled operators to augment the current workforce of 2,715 employed in the vehicle and engine assembly operations.

“It is great to be announcing today that we are adding almost 1,000 new jobs at our state-of-the-art manufacturing facility in Craiova, bringing the total number of people employed here to more than 3,650,” said John Oldham, President of Ford Romania. “The new jobs go hand-in-hand with the transformation of our plant that we started last winter to support the production of the Ford EcoSport.”

The recruiting process for the 976 new jobs will be through Manpower’s Craiova office, where a dedicated team is coordinated by Ford Romania’s HR team.

“The selection process for the new people starts in April and will last until the end of July,” said Marina Babar#, Ford Romania HR Director. “By August, we will be welcoming our new people to Ford and teaching them their roles in preparation for the launch of the EcoSport.”

Craiova Vehicle Assembly Operations is an important part of Ford’s manufacturing footprint in Europe, with as much as €200 million being invested to build the Ford EcoSport. The vehicle is currently sourced from Ford’s operations in India.

Significant upgrades have taken place in three key areas of Craiova’s vehicle operations, with 220 new robots to further improve efficiency and quality having already been installed in the Paint, Trim and Chassis, and Body shops.

Since acquiring the Craiova facility in 2008, Ford has invested more than €1.2 billion in its Romanian manufacturing operations. The Ford B-MAX multi-activity vehicle is currently built in Craiova, plus Ford’s 1.0-litre EcoBoost engine – the only engine to win the International Engine of the Year award three years in succession.

Ford also continues to seek opportunities to build further products in Craiova so that it can fully utilize the facility’s capacity and asset utilization, while productive discussions with the Romanian Government are ongoing in regards to infrastructure and logistics improvements, in order to maintain the global competitiveness of the Ford Craiova manufacturing operations.

The Craiova-built EcoSport will be sold across Europe, excluding Russia, while Ford’s Chennai plant will continue to build the EcoSport for domestic Indian sales and for other export markets around the world.
In 2016, Ford’s SUV sales in Europe grew by more than 30 percent, while sales of the EcoSport increased by more than 40 percent and continue to grow in 2017.