



## Press Information

Release Immediate

27<sup>th</sup> May 2021

No. 2492

### **VOLVO TRUCKS ADDS UNIQUE SOUNDS TO ITS ELECTRIC RANGE**

**To improve safety, Volvo Trucks has developed an acoustic alert system with unique sounds for its electric truck models. The alert – designed to be pleasant and unobtrusive, both for the driver and others close by – will increase safety by making pedestrians, cyclists and other road users aware of approaching trucks, which would otherwise be nearly silent.**

Starting on 1 July 2021, all electric vehicles in the UK will be required to emit a certain sound level when travelling at speeds below 12 mph. The sound level required depends on the speed and gets higher as it increases. At 12 mph it should be at least 56 decibels. If the vehicle is too quiet, an external acoustic vehicle alerting system (AVAS) must be added.

To meet the new requirements, and at the same time maintain the benefits of lower noise levels that come with electric vehicles, Volvo Trucks has developed a unique set of premium sounds for its electric models.

“We truly welcome this new legislation. From when we were children, we have learnt to rely not only on what we see, but also what we hear in traffic – sometimes so much so that people don’t even look before crossing a street! With our new alert system, we want to help ensure that pedestrians and cyclists notice when they are close to our electric trucks,” explains Anna Wrige Berling, Traffic and Product Safety Director at Volvo Trucks.

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*Volvo Trucks provides complete transport solutions for professional and demanding customers, offering a full range of medium to heavy duty trucks. Customer support is secured via a global network of dealers with 2,300 service points in more than 130 countries. Volvo trucks are assembled in 13 countries across the globe. In 2020 approximately 94,000 Volvo trucks were delivered worldwide. Volvo Trucks is part of Volvo Group, one of the world’s leading manufacturers of trucks, buses, construction equipment and marine and industrial engines. The Group also provides complete solutions for financing and service. Volvo Trucks’ work is based on the core values of quality, safety and environmental care.*



### **Developed by acoustics experts**

The range of sounds are the result of thorough research and testing by the Volvo Group's own acoustics experts and will ensure the electric models are still much quieter than conventional trucks.

"We are particularly proud to have developed high quality, premium sounds that are noticeable enough to warn people close to the truck, and yet still pleasant for the driver and other road users," says Wrigge Berling. "The sounds are designed to not penetrate through walls. Our electric trucks will still allow for quiet night-time deliveries and contribute to better working conditions for the drivers and a quieter, cleaner environment."

### **Four different sounds**

The Volvo developed acoustic alert system for electric vehicles is made up of four different sounds, informing people close by about what the truck is doing: moving forward, idling, reversing, etc. The sounds will vary in intensity, based on truck speed and will shift in frequency during acceleration and deceleration.

### **Ramping up electric transport**

With the recently announced start of sales of three new heavy-duty electric truck models – the Volvo FH, FM and FMX – alongside the existing Volvo FE and FL electric models, Volvo Trucks now has an impressive line-up of two medium and three heavy-duty electric trucks for the European market. Plus, in North America, the VNR Electric is being offered. This is currently the most complete commercial electric truck range in the industry.

"Electric trucks will be increasingly more common in traffic, and by adding the acoustic alert sound system to our electric vehicles, we are proud to be able to combine our exciting journey towards zero emissions with our longstanding zero accidents ambition," adds Wrigge Berling.

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### **Caption for photograph:**

*The sounds are designed to not penetrate through walls, to allow for quiet night-time deliveries and contribute to better working conditions.*



[LINK](#) – listen to the sounds included in this film.

[LINK](#) to high-resolution images

[LINK](#) to related press release: " Volvo Trucks ready to electrify a large part of goods transports"

[LINK](#) to more information about electromobility on the web page

[LINK](#) to film about the new electric heavy-duty trucks

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