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Skoda Superb Combi: King of the estate cars

Von Frank Wald

Since its first appearance in 2001, Skoda's flagship Superb has competed with its VW Passat brother, coming closer to it in terms of practicality and comfort with each generation and stealing more than a few customers with its better price-performance ratio. The new generation was now even created with the internal rival, with the Czechs taking over development and production being transferred to the Slovakian VW plant in Bratislava. However, because the Passat is now only available as a Variant, Skoda is now also launching the Combi before the saloon.

But also, of course, because the estate is the best-selling variant in Europe. Of the current, most successful third model generation of the Superb, with a total of 866,000 units produced, it accounted for around 54 percent. Most of these were in Skoda's largest single market, Germany, where the estate accounts for more than 90 percent of deliveries. But even at Skoda, they know that the days of their bestsellers with combustion engines are numbered and that their "segment is not growing", says model series manager František Drábek. That's why they were looking for synergies - and apparently found them at VW, which is pushing ahead with its electromobility strategy despite acceptance and sales problems and is also currently launching its last combustion engine generations on the market. Because competitors such as the Opel Insignia Sports Tourer and Ford Mondeo Turnier have disappeared at the same time, Drábek is "firmly convinced that this segment will continue to flourish".

It would only be desirable. Because Skoda's combustion engine flagship has never been more practical, more comfortable and yes, also more elegant than in the latest generation. (aum)



Images for article



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