

Verband der Automobilindustrie e.V. Postfach 8 04 62 10004 Berlin

Mr. Tiit Riisalo Minister of Economic Affairs and Information Technology Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications Suur-Ameerika 1 Tallinn 10122 / Estonia

Hildegard Müller

President

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Mobility Innovation Summit of the VDA on the 25th/26th March 2025 in Berlin

July 11, 2024

Dear Mr. Riisalo,

Next year, the German Association of the Automotive Industry is hosting the Mobility Innovation Summit on the 25th/26th of March in the bcc Berlin Congress Center, with an expected 400 guests.

The Mobility Innovation Summit is an evolution of the previously known Technical Congress. For 25 years, the Technical Congress has been the leading networking platform for visionary minds from the automotive Industry, specialists, and managers from the industry with representatives from politics, society, research, and science to jointly develop innovative solutions and pioneering concepts for sustainable and digital mobility.

Throughout the years, numerous members of the federal government have been keynote presenters at our congress; among others, Federal Minister Dr. Volker Wissing, Federal Minister Dr. Robert Habeck and Federal Minister Bettina Stark-Watzinger. Impressions from our last event can be found here: #VDATK24 - Technischer Kongress 20. Februar 2024 | VDA (technischer-kongress.de)

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The automotive industry is in the midst of a transformation. Electrification, digital technologies, data, and software play an increasingly central role in vehicles. This results in opportunities and new business models as well as new challenges, such as the constantly increasing cyber security requirements. In addition, technological options such as open-source software provide new opportunities to join forces.

Dear Minister, I would be delighted if you could give a 20-minute keynote speech at our Summit on Tuesday, March 25th, 2025, at 10:35 a.m. to shed light on these topics from the perspective of Estonia. We asked Federal Minister Dr. Wissing to open the congress with a speech of equal length directly before your designated time slot.

Your country is considered a pioneer in Europe when it comes to digitalization, and Estonia is regarded as exemplary when it comes to cyber security. Together with Latvia, Lithuania, and Germany, you presented proposals for reforms in European digital policy in May of this year, which you also see as a list of demands for the future EU Commission. We would appreciate if you could address this topic at our summit.

My colleague in the management team, Dr. Marcus Bollig (Tel. +49 30 / 897842390 / E-Mail: marcus.bollig@vda.de), will be happy to provide your office with further details. Naturally, I am also available for you at any time.

I would be pleased if you would consider our request favorably and I have informed your colleague, Federal Minister Dr. Wissing, of our request.

With best regards