

## DAIMLER AG

Originally Daimler-Benz AG that started in 1926, itself a merger of Karl Benz's Benz & Cie (founded in 1883) and Gottlieb Daimler and Wilhelm Maybach's Daimler Motoren Gesellschaft (1890). It became DaimlerChrysler AG in 1998 and after the merger breakdown, Daimler AG from 2007. It now owns brands including Mercedes-Benz, Smart, Freightliner, Mitsubishi Fuso,

Western Star, Thomas Built, Setra and MV Agusta. It has co-operations with companies including Tesla to develop electric vehicles, including the Smart EV and Mercedes-Benz B-Class EV. Nokia sold its digital map business HERE, which has direct implications in autonomous vehicles, to a consortium of Daimler AG, Volkswagen and BMW in 2014. Daimler AG (not related to

UK-origin Daimler that is now owned by Tata) also owns 89.29 per cent of Mitsubishi Fuso Truck and Bus, 50.1 per cent of a Canadian fuel-cell vehicle developer (the remaining shareholders include Ford and Nissan), 25 per cent of Italian motorcycle maker MV Agusta, 5 per cent of Aston Martin, 12 per cent of Beijing Motor Group (BAIC) and 11 per cent of Russian truck-maker Kamaz. Has an

agreement with Renault-Nissan for engine sharing including providing diesel engines, built in Tennessee, for the Infiniti Q50 and a platform share (Mercedes A-Class) for the forthcoming Infiniti QX30. The proposed Mercedes ute is based on the Nissan NP300 and is to be built by Nissan. Provides engines for Aston Martin and is building an engine plant in Detroit to supply manufacturers of mid-size trucks.

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### RENAULT-NISSAN

Daimler has a reciprocal agreement with Renault and Nissan in the fields of engines and platforms. Renault makes diesel engines for Daimler's Mercedes-Benz and Nissan while Daimler makes petrol engines for Renault and Nissan. Daimler and Renault-Nissan are building a joint-venture factory in Mexico to make the Infiniti QX30 SUV (2017) and Mercedes CLA, A-Class and B-Class (2018) that all sit on Mercedes' MFA2 platform. Nissan will also make the Mercedes GLT ute and Renault Alaskan - both based on the Navara ute - from its factory in Spain. The Mercedes Citan van is a Renault Kangoo.

### ASTON MARTIN

Daimler has a 5 per cent share in Aston Martin and will supply drivetrains, infotainment systems and safety equipment. Aston has stated that in-car electronics from Mercedes will be its most desired contribution to the relationship. Daimler will supply V8 engines and Aston is making a bi-turbo V12 engine as an alternative. The 2019 Aston Martin DBX SUV is expected to be made in the Mercedes factory in the US state of Alabama, though rumours have it being made in a grassfields plant in Macedonia.



### SMART

Daimler owns Smart and has tied it into the Daimler alliance with Renault-Nissan. The Renault Twingo is built on the same Daimler-designed platform as the Smart ForFour. The electric versions of the Smart ForTwo and ForFour will be powered by electric motors supplied by Renault and also fitted to the Renault Zoe EV. The three-cylinder petrol engine is a new design made by Daimler.



**OTHER ALLIANCES: FORD, BAIC**