

German automakers committed last week to update over five million diesel cars in the country with new software to reduce harmful emissions, and to finance incentives for drivers to trade in older models, the transport minister said.



Last week's "diesel summit" brought together leading ministers and state governors with bosses from Volkswagen, Porsche, Audi, Mercedes, BMW, Opel and Ford. It came amid worries about possible bans on driving older diesel cars in some cities and wider questions over whether diesel as a technology even has a future.

Transport Minister Alexander Dobrindt said the automakers will put new software in some 5.3 million diesel cars beginning in "the coming months". Dobrindt said the government will invest some €250m more in modernising city public transport fleets such as buses and taxis.