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The new KOLEOS: Renault expands top-end line-up with an SUV destined for international markets

Renault is revealing the new KOLEOS at the 2016 Beijing International Automobile Exhibition, the newest addition to its global portfolio.

The new KOLEOS delivers all that is expected of a D-segment SUV:

- Powerful, muscular exterior lines
- Unparalleled four-wheel drive technology
- Real all-terrain ability thanks ground clearance of 213mm

And hallmarks Renault's know how:

- A refined, comfortable interior with seats including technology and design amongst the very best in its category
- Class-leading cabin space, including 289mm of rear knee room
- Equipment shared with other high-end Renault models, like the R-LINK 2 multimedia tablet

The new KOLEOS delivers a blend of robust SUV cues and the refinement and features associated with large saloon cars.

In addition to a package that positions the new KOLEOS as the reference of its class in terms of comfort and refinement, it completes Renault's high-end range that now includes a crossover (Espace), a large saloon car (Talisman) and its estate variant (Talisman Estate), plus an SUV (new KOLEOS).

Conceived and meticulously thought through to meet the demands of exacting customers on every continent, the new KOLEOS is destined for a global audience, with sales beginning in the third quarter of 2016 in Australia, Turkey, the Gulf states and some Latin American countries, followed by China at the end of 2016, then Russia and Europe at the beginning of 2017. For Renault, the new KOLEOS comes at a time when SUVs are enjoying strong growth in many markets, and for many consumers, this will be their first opportunity to experience Renault in their segment of choice.

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Distinct Renault design in the brand's new flagship SUV

"The new KOLEOS completes the styling renaissance of the Renault range that began with the new Clio in 2012. As a designer, the challenge was to imagine an SUV that was not only elegant, but also modern and dynamic. To achieve this, we didn't seek to dilute the traits that are traditionally associated with SUVs. Instead, we accentuated the segment's familiar cues thanks to taut, powerful, horizontal lines, muscular haunches and high ground clearance. As a result, the new KOLEOS exudes an inner strength. It is every inch an SUV and every inch a Renault."

Laurens van den Acker - Renault Senior Vice President, Corporate Design.

The lines, quality and features expected of an SUV

Powerful and athletic

The new KOLEOS is an SUV that packs all the styling cues and capabilities associated with the segment.

In keeping with the Renault design strategy introduced by Laurens van den Acker, the new KOLEOS is covered by design pillar 'EXPLORE,' which stands for robustness and a taste for adventure. It was the pursuit of these qualities that inspired Renault's designers to give the new KOLEOS taut, powerful, muscular lines. New Koleos features classic SUV design cues:

- door protective moulding,
- large-diameter wheels (up to 19 inches)
- aluminium roof bars

Meanwhile, the combination of high ground clearance (213mm) and approach and departure angles of respectively 19 and 26 degrees ensures go-anywhere ability.

A protective interior

An elevated driving position offers excellent visibility. Compared to a traditional sedan, the new KOLEOS' driving position is 150mm higher, a reassuring feature that is highly prized by SUV buyers.

The tall, wide dashboard is intended to give driver and passenger a sense of safety and protection. Hand grips either side of the centre console echo the world of off-road motoring while imbuing the interior with a sporty feel.

The line stretching from the top of the dashboard to the rear of the armrest is one of the highlights of the new KOLEOS' interior configuration. This central line suggests power and the world of all-wheel drive motoring.

The wide centre console ensures there is a comfortable distance between the driver and front passenger. The new KOLEOS' SUV genes are similarly prominent inside the cabin. Redolent of **comfort, quality and strength**, its **elegant, protective interior** is in perfect harmony with the model's exterior lines.

Unparalleled, user-friendly 4x4 technology

The new KOLEOS' **ALL MODE 4x4-i technology** has already proven its capability in millions of Alliance vehicles around the world. This all-wheel drive system is extremely easy to use thanks to a switch on the dashboard to the left of the steering wheel that offers a choice between the **2WD** (front-wheel drive) and **4WD AUTO** modes. The latter automatically splits the torque between the front and rear wheels. At slow speeds in low-grip conditions, a third mode called **4WD LOCK** allows the driver to select permanent all-wheel drive.

The new KOLEOS' 4x4 transmission also guarantees **enhanced safety and stability** by neutralising understeer and oversteer, and by optimising grip in difficult conditions. To adapt to the varying requirements of its different markets, a two-wheel drive version of the new KOLEOS will also be available.

The new KOLEOS proudly sports Renault's new styling hallmarks

Inspired by the Talisman

The styling similarities with the Talisman – Renault's new large family saloon that was recently awarded the Most Beautiful Car of the Year accolade at the 2016 Festival Automobile International in Paris, France – are immediately apparent, and with good reason. **The exteriors of these two vehicles were designed in parallel** by teams led by the same designer: Alexis Martot.

As a result, the new KOLEOS is instantly recognisable as a top-of-the-range Renault, thanks notably to its front-end design that incorporates a prominent Renault logo set at the centre of a broad chrome grille.

The taut bonnet lines contribute to the car's powerful design, an impression that is heightened by the presence of several chrome embellishments, including strips that run from the head lights along the full length of the wings to visually lengthen the front end and exude an impression of dynamism and elegance. **Unique in the segment, this feature sets the new KOLEOS apart from other SUVs.**

The 2,710mm wheelbase – for a total vehicle length of 4,670mm – counts amongst the longest in the class and allows the new KOLEOS to boast **record-breaking interior space** to position itself as a D-segment SUV.

At the rear, Renault's trademark style is again prominently on display. The wide, horizontal tail lights amplify the impression of width (1,840mm) and draw the eye to the Renault diamond logo on the tailgate. Chrome inserts set into the lower part of the rear bumper take the shape of twin exhaust tail pipes, a detail that is complementary with the KOLEOS' overall exterior design.

A Full LED lighting signature recalling that of Renault's latest models

The cohesion of the model's overall design extends to the front and rear lights.

- KOLEOS' lighting signature recalls that of Renault's most recent models
- Full LED Pure Vision head lights (depending on version) that are 20 percent more powerful than a halogen beam for enhanced night-time vision
- Daytime Running Lights (DRL) provides a unique, piercing gaze
- Permanently-lit tail lights feature Edge Light technology, which generates a clear, bright 3D effect

Alexis Martot, the man in charge of the KOLEOS' exterior design

Alexis Martot is an aficionado of classic cars from the 1960s and '70s.

His first car was a first-generation Twingo, in which he covered more than 300,000km. Even so, he began his career with a premium manufacturer and contributed to the design of several concept cars and road cars.

Since joining Renault's Design Department in 2012, he has played a key role in the renewal of the brand's high-end models as the man in charge of the exterior design of both the Talisman and now the new KOLEOS.

Inspired by lessons learned earlier in his career, Alexis Martot was eager to endow the new KOLEOS with perfect proportions and timeless styling befitting of the vehicle's status-enhancing positioning, while at the same time remaining true to Renault's Latin genes. To underline the new KOLEOS' SUV credentials, Alexis gave it a "propulsive character" thanks to a long rear overhang and short front overhang.

Finally, he paid particularly careful attention to details like the chrome trims at the front, along the lower part of the rear bumper and along the sides. The painstaking execution of the air intake incorporated into the front door is a subtle reference to Alexis' passion for classic sports cars.

For his next project, Alexis Martot is already hard at work on the renewal of a Renault bestseller...

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High-end appointments for the new KOLEOS' refined, spacious, passenger-friendly interior

The new KOLEOS features record interior space and a comprehensive list of equipment also found on Renault's latest high-end models. The carefully-appointed interior features colours and materials selected for the quality they exude, in a bid to become the category's benchmark in terms of comfort and refinement.

Class-leading interior space for supreme comfort

Front seats amongst the segment's most comfortable

The front seats of the new KOLEOS **draw their inspiration from those of the Talisman**:

- a welcoming, enveloping design
- dimensions that figure amongst the very best in class
- variable density foam for added comfort

Depending on the version, the new KOLEOS' front seats benefit from:

- Six-way power adjustment
- Power lumbar adjustment
- Heated cushions and heated seat backs, with a choice of two temperatures
- Integrated ventilation to lower the temperature in hot weather

The rear of the seat comprises a flexible yet resistant semi-rigid shell that frees up extra room for rear passengers in addition to contributing to a more airy interior design.

Class-leading space for rear passengers

With **knee room of 289mm**, the new KOLEOS not only outclasses its rivals but also provides rear passengers with generous head room, shoulder room and elbow room. The second row seats can be heated, with a choice of two temperatures.

Configurable boot

In addition to its benchmark cabin space, the new KOLEOS boasts a large modular boot and numerous handy stowage solutions.

- A 542dm³ VDA boot (equivalent to 624 litres), plus a clever removable floor positioned at the same height as the boot, which forms a flat floor
- "Easy Break" system: handles located inside the boot enable the 60/40-split rear bench seat to be folded in an instant, freeing up a total carrying capacity of 1,690dm³ VDA
- 35 litres of additional stowage, including an 11-litre glove box and a five-litre cubby in the centre console

The new KOLEOS pampers driver and passengers

A carefully-appointed interior

The new KOLEOS' interior subtly blends **robust SUV cues** with the impression of **quality expected of a large family saloon** thanks to the use of **attractive, scratch-resistant** materials such as satin-finish chrome for the steering wheel, gear lever and air vent inserts. The centre console is covered by a protective film that is hardy and pleasing to the touch. The cushion-backed materials selected for the dashboard and door panels also contribute to the cabin's restful ambience, while leather upholstery and leather-trimmed armrests feature contrasting top stitching.

Travelling comfort is further enhanced by personalisable LED cabin lighting, with a palette of hues ranging from green, to blue, yellow red or violet, depending on the mood of the driver and passengers.

Last but not least, the new KOLEOS' cabin is particularly bright thanks to a large, opening glass sun roof (0.80m²) that extends over the rear seats.

R-LINK 2, a connected, personalisable experience

A key feature of the new KOLEOS' interior and also key to travelling comfort is R-LINK 2. The system serves as a connected control centre to coordinate functions like infotainment, navigation, hands-free telephony, radio and driver aids. Key features are:

- Two screen formats available: a 7-inch landscape or an 8.7-inch portrait
- Same tactile functions as personal tablet (two-finger zoom, page scrolling, drag and drop, etc.)
- Realistic navigation display with 3D representation of buildings
- Connectivity and charging options include Bluetooth® for hands-free use of a telephone and audio streaming, a USB port, a 3.5mm jack socket, a 12V power supply and, depending on version, an SD card slot
- Voice recognition for navigation instructions and telephone use, plus the ability to read e-mails aloud
- Four customisable homepages with widgets for swift access to the most frequently employed functions
- Wide range of applications designed specifically for automotive use available from the R-LINK Store

Driving data (speed, RPM, fuel consumption, etc.) is displayed on a personalisable seven-inch colour screen situated behind the steering wheel, in the driver's line of sight.

Getting on-board

Ingress is facilitated by the wide aperture of the doors, which open to angles of 70 and 77 degrees at the front and rear respectively, figures that position the new KOLEOS amongst the best SUVs in its class. The design of the doors protects the sills from becoming soiled and minimises the width of the sills to make climbing on-board even easier.

The power tailgate permits hands-free opening by simply waving a foot beneath the bumper.

Locally relevant innovation

The new KOLEOS has been conceived to be marketed on every continent, which means its equipment specification is adapted to suit the different climates and parts of the world where it will be driven. For use in cold climates, for example, it can be specified with a **heated steering wheel** and **windscreen** for fast, easy defrosting. A remote starting function allows occupants to be welcomed by a warm interior in those markets where this feature is authorised.

Again depending on individual markets and regions, the new KOLEOS is available with a **cabin-air filter** that cuts pollen, dust and unpleasant odours by around 60 percent.

A comprehensive suite of driver aids (ADAS) for even safer motoring

Depending on market, the new KOLEOS comes with a **large array of driver aids** (ADAS), all of which can be controlled via the R-LINK 2 tablet:

- **To reassure:** Active Emergency Braking System
- **To alert:** Lane Departure Warning, Safe Distance Warning, Traffic Sign Recognition with excess speed warning, Blind Spot Warning, Tiredness Detection
- **To assist:** rear view camera, Automatic High/Low Beam head lights, front, rear and side parking sensors and Easy Park Assist

A premium BOSE audio experience

The BOSE audio system tailor-engineered for the new KOLEOS includes 12 high-performance loudspeakers that delivers a rich, clear, balanced surround sound quality.

An SUV with global appeal

The new KOLEOS will be available in more than 80 countries across all the continents, drawing on the expertise of the Renault-Nissan Alliance in the SUV segment. In 2015, Groupe Renault sold more than 2.8 million vehicles in 2015 in more than 125 countries, 43 percent of which were outside Europe. Demonstrating Renault's geographic and product diversification, the new KOLEOS will contribute to the Group's development by extending its product range and boosting its international footprint.

A global strategy leveraging the strengths of the Alliance

On sale on every continent and assembled at two plants

The new KOLEOS will go on sale in the third quarter of 2016 in Australia, Turkey, the Gulf States and some markets in Africa and Latin America. The car will hit showrooms in China in the last quarter of 2016. When it reaches dealerships in Europe and Russia in early 2017, the new KOLEOS will be one of the most geographically distributed Renault models.

The new KOLEOS will be assembled at two plants – Busan in South Korea for all markets except China, plus Wuhan for the Chinese market. Both facilities meet Renault's stringent manufacturing quality standards and currently produce vehicles built on the CMF-C/D architecture for brands belonging to Groupe Renault and its partner, Nissan.

Tried-and-tested vehicle architecture and powertrains tailored to meet market requirements

The new KOLEOS is built on the Alliance CMF-C/D architecture that is shared by several vehicles, including the Renault Espace, Talisman and Kadjar, and Nissan's X-Trail/Rogue and Qashqai. The common architecture attests to the Alliance's experience in saloon cars, crossovers and SUVs.

Vehicle parts and components that are not visible to the customer are common, while the design and identity of each brand remain distinct. The resulting savings were reinvested in the new KOLEOS to offer enhanced customer features.

The car's powertrains have also been developed within the Alliance. Depending on the market, the new KOLEOS will be available with a choice of two petrol and two diesel engines with power outputs ranging from 130 to 175hp (96 to 127kW), mated to either a six-speed manual gearbox or X-Tronic automatic transmission.

A car that demonstrates Renault's geographic and product diversification

An SUV to meet global demand

Renault's first D-segment SUV, the new KOLEOS is an alternative to conventional saloon cars. The SUV market is growing fast in all parts of the world. Nearly one in every five cars sold globally in 2015 was a crossover or an SUV. The proportion of SUVs sold is even higher in key markets for Renault such as China, where SUVs accounted for 30 percent of total sales in 2015, an increase of 53 percent compared with 2014.

SUV buyers have different socio-demographic profiles from region to region, but they express highly similar expectations in terms of styling, comfort and cabin space. The new KOLEOS is a car that has been designed specifically to meet this demand.

Renault adds to its high-end range in Europe

Renault's high-end range in Europe now includes a crossover (the Espace), a large saloon car (the Talisman) and its estate variant (the Talisman Estate), plus an SUV (the new KOLEOS). In less than 18 months, Renault has completely renewed the top end of its range, offering cars that combine attractive styling, quality, advanced features and low operating costs – all key criteria when it comes to meeting the needs of the market's retail, business and fleet customers.

The KOLEOS name – a familiar part of the Renault portfolio

The KOLEOS crossover was added to the Renault range in 2008 and has since been sold to the tune of more than 300,000 units around the world. More than 70% of these sales were outside Europe. In some markets such as China, where 135,000 units of the car have been sold since 2009, the KOLEOS name enjoys real awareness. Renault is building on this brand equity for the name of its new SUV.

The KOLEOS name first appeared at the 2000 Geneva Motor Show in the form of a high-end concept car, which was an avant-garde blend between a saloon car, an MPV and a 4x4. Sixteen years on, models such as Captur and Kadjar have joined Renault's global portfolio and the new KOLEOS shares the same [K] sound to ensure consistency with these models.

Spearheading international growth

The new KOLEOS will be Renault's top-of-the-range model in many of its markets outside of Europe. The goal is to gain recognition on every continent as a brand that is passionate about designing high-quality cars with appealing styling. Thanks to the new KOLEOS, Renault will build its image in these markets as a French brand with global appeal.

A strong presence in the SUV and crossover segment is essential for Renault's international growth, especially in emerging markets. Renault has demonstrated its ability to build universally appealing vehicles that still exhibits French style.

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