Saietta and HCLTech co-develop cost-effective Vehicle Control Unit for lightweight electric vehicles in Asia

- Electric drive specialist Saietta is ready to deploy its all-new Vehicle Control Unit (VCU)
- Saietta to manufacture the VCU in India from Q4 2023 through JV with Padmini VNA
- The VCU acts as the 'brain' of the vehicle, ensuring that key operating systems perform efficiently and effectively to deliver a smooth driving experience
- Saietta's unique VCU is highly flexible and modular, ensuring an optimal fit for three- and four-wheel applications
- The VCU has been developed with HCLTech, a leading global technology company, and has now completed final testing and been approved for real-world use
- The VCU will form part of Saietta's complete eDrive solutions portfolio for its initial Indian OEM customer

London, UK, 31 August 2023 – Saietta Group plc, the British electric drivetrain (eDrive) specialist, has completed the development of an all-new Vehicle Control Unit (VCU), that has been co-developed with HCLTech specifically for three- and four-wheeled lightweight electric vehicles (LEVs) in Asia. The addition of the VCU to Saietta's existing portfolio of motor, controller and transmission products enhances the company's ability to provide OEMs with complete eDrive solutions that can be quickly and cost effectively tailored to specific applications.

The VCU will be manufactured in India by Saietta VNA, a joint venture between Saietta Group and Padmini VNA. The first units will be delivered as part of complete eDrive solutions to one of the largest three- and four-wheel LEV manufacturers in India. The eDrive supply arrangement, previously announced on 6th December 2022, will see a minimum of 80,000 complete systems delivered over the first five years of the agreement and deliveries are on track to commence in Q4 2023.

The partnership with HCLTech will enable the end-to-end development of a scalable, modular, safe and secure VCU architecture for LEVs, optimizing their operation and multiple other critical vehicle functions.

Tony Gott, Executive Chairman and Interim Chief Executive Officer, Saietta Group plc, said: "*As with all elements of our leading-edge eDrive solutions, the VCU is designed to be cost-effective for Asia and is highly modular. This allows our engineers to tailor the functionality precisely to a customer's requirements and thereby deliver a competitive edge.*

"Saietta seeks to work with the very best partners who have a proven track record of delivering insightful innovation at the required scale, on time, on cost and on quality and we view HCLTech clearly as such an industry leader. We are honoured to work alongside them and look forward to evolving this relationship and together helping clean up the air in mega-cities globally."

VCUs - the brains of next-generation LEVs in Asia

A VCU is the 'brain' of a vehicle and they are standard components in cars to manage key vehicle systems such as torque control, battery energy management and regenerative braking. The VCU ensures that all of these systems work in harmony in the most effective and safe manner.

Lightweight vehicles in Asia, such as rickshaws powered by internal combustion engines, have a simplistic electrical architecture, negating the need for a VCU. However, while LEVs bring many advantages to Asia, their electrical architecture is more complex, having to control functions such as

how electrical energy is fed into the traction motors, managing the health of on-board batteries and optimising the charging process.

Saietta believes that future legislation and customer demand for a more refined driving experience will mean that VCUs become the norm in LEVs across Asia. The company therefore co-developed a highly modular VCU with HCLTech which can ultimately be set up to optimise the operation of a complete electric powertrain, managing the operation of the motor, controller, transmission, batteries, and the battery charging process as well as multiple other critical vehicle functions.

Saietta's presence in India

The collaboration with HCLTech further strengthens Saietta's presence in India. In March of this year, the British eDrive developer announced a transmission supply contract with AVTEC, one of the largest independent manufacturers of powertrain and precision-engineered products in India.

Saietta VNA will produce the electric motors and inverters in its Indian manufacturing plant and combine these with transmissions from AVTEC manufactured at its plant in India. The resulting 48V-96V eDrive solutions are designed to be lightweight, compact and cost competitive for Indian LEVs.

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About Saietta

Listed on the London Stock Exchange's AIM, Saietta is a multi-national business which designs, engineers and manufactures complete electric drive (eDrive) solutions for use in lightweight vehicles including scooters, motorbikes, rickshaws and urban delivery vehicles.

Saietta's breakthrough electric motor technologies include proprietary AFT (Axial Flux Technology) and RFT (Radial Flux Technology) which can be combined with in-house power electronics, powertrain controls, mechanical axles, and transmissions.

Developing tailored electric powertrain solutions to deliver competitive advantage, Saietta's turnkey engineering services are designed to fast-track electric vehicle development from concept to start of production. For more information, visit https://www.saietta.com/

About HCLTech

HCLTech is a global technology company, home to more than 223,400 people across 60 countries, delivering industry-leading capabilities centered around digital, engineering, cloud and AI, powered by a broad portfolio of technology services and products. We work with clients across all major verticals, providing industry solutions for Financial Services, Manufacturing, Life Sciences and Healthcare, Technology and Services, Telecom and Media, Retail and CPG, and Public Services. Consolidated revenues as of 12 months ending June 2023 totaled $12.8 billion. To learn how we can supercharge progress for you, visit hcltech.com.