

PRESS RELEASES

NEW SYSTEMS PROVIDE GREATER PROTECTION FROM THEFT AND THREATS

The Volvo S80 is equipped with a number of systems and features to meet the growing challenge of protecting the car and its owner from theft and personal threats.

Protection for people and property is an integral part of Volvo's total safety concept, which also includes driving safety and crash safety. The Volvo S80 is the most complete result so far of Volvo's developments in this area, especially when it comes to personal protection.

To enable the car owner to approach their car safely and securely in the dark, the Volvo S80 features a new approach light function. Pressing the remote control activates the interior lighting and a number of light sources, including two optional lamps at the bottom edge of the exterior rearview mirrors, which light up the area around the car.

There is also a home safe lighting function. Pulling the full-beam lever once lights up the area around the car and the car owner's path or drive to his/her house for up to 30 seconds after leaving the car.

- New anti-theft glass prevents what are known as smash-and-grab situations. The optional laminated glass in the side windows is very difficult to break or force.
- Remote control with rotating codes to prevent any unauthorised person copying its signal.
- Rotating lock cylinders in the door and ignition lock. If someone attempts to turn the lock by force, using a screwdriver, for example, the cylinder simply rotates.
- Deadlock mode which disengages the inside locking controls, to prevent a thief breaking a window and opening the car from inside.
- An electronic immobiliser, which makes it basically impossible to start the car without the original key.
- A new generation of RTI to enable people to navigate safely without losing touch with the rest of the traffic.

FIRST CAR WITH FULLY-INTEGRATED GSM TELEPHONE

The Volvo S80 is the first car model to be equipped with a fully-integrated GSM telephone. This integrated phone is one of the new features to result from Volvo's systematic development of technology to produce smooth and safe interplay between man and machine.

When this phone was developed, the aim was to minimise the risk of being distracted when making or answering a phone call. All the phone buttons have been built into the left-hand section of the centre console, within easy reach of the driver.

To enhance the level of comfort and safety still further, control buttons for "send" and "stop" have also been built into the steering wheel. Using these buttons, the driver can also operate the phone menu functions, to select pre-programmed numbers, for example.

Information on display

Information from the phone, about the call in progress, for example, is presented on a display on the dashboard.

- A hands-free function has been integrated in the car in discreet and elegant fashion.
- The microphone is concealed in the interior rearview mirror and the incoming sound can be heard via a loudspeaker in the driver's head restraint. This means that several people in the car can hear and take part in the call.
- When a call is in progress, the volume of the sound system is automatically reduced. It is increased again once the call is over.
- For private conversations, there is a handset which is built into the centre armrest and is easily accessible from both the front and rear seats.

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VOLVO S80 - THE MOST COMPLETE VOLVO EVER WITH SIX UNIQUE AND IMPORTANT NEW TECHNICAL FEATURES

With six unique and important features in terms of the driveline, safety, the environment and communication, the Volvo S80 is the new challenger in the segment combining innovative design, leading safety in world terms and a high technology level to the same degree.

"The Volvo S80 is the most complete Volvo ever. The very high safety level combined with a number of other new makes the S80 one of the strongest contenders in the segment," says the president of Volvo Cars, Tuve Johansson.

The Volvo S80 is being introduced with six unique and important features in terms of the driveline, safety, environment and communication.

- For the first time in modern time, a car manufacturer has succeeded in fitting an in-line, six-cylinder engine transversely. The driveline programme also includes the world's shortest manual gearbox.
- The new seat concept WHIPS (Whiplash Protection System) provides considerably improved protection from whiplash injuries in rear-end collisions.
- IC. Inflatable Curtain protects the head and neck in a side impact. IC is the third stage in the development of Volvo's Side Impact Protection System.
- The Volvo S80 is the first car in the world to carry an environmental specification, checked by Lloyd's Register, an independent inspection institute. This environmental specification covers every phase in the life cycle of the car.
- The integrated GSM phone is part of Volvo's systematic development of technology which results in smooth and reliable interplay between man and machine.
- The pioneering, network-based electrical system with Multiplex technology has fewer cables, offers greater reliability and can handle more electrical functions, including updates, than a traditional electrical system.

The Volvo S80 will be produced at the Volvo Torslanda Plant in Sweden.

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VOLVO S80 FIRST WITH TRANSVERSE SIX-CYLINDER

Volvo is the first car manufacturer in modern time to succeed in fitting an in-line, six-cylinder engine transversely in the engine bay. The Volvo S80 will be available with two transverse, six-cylinder engines, with a twin turbo, the T6, with performance on a par with that of a V8, as the most powerful alternative.

The engine programme in the Volvo S80 is based on two different concepts - six cylinders for total comfort and five cylinders for fuel economy and smooth driving. Both concepts are transverse, in-line engines, in true Volvo spirit.

Reduced weight, less friction between the moving parts of the engine, an improved cylinder head, continuously variable valve timing and a sophisticated engine management system have helped to enhance performance and improve driving characteristics and fuel economy.

In 1998, the Volvo S80 will be introduced with a number of engines:

- Volvo S80 T6. A new 2.8-litre engine, which offers extremely high performance (272 bhp, 380 Nm) and a speedy response, as a result of the double turbochargers. Its performance is on a par with that of a four-litre V8 engine, but this engine offers the kind of smooth, pleasant operation which is typical of an in-line, six-cylinder. Fuel consumption: 10.9 litres/100 km in mixed driving conditions.
- Volvo S80 2.9. A six-cylinder, 2.9-litre, normally-aspirated engine (204 bhp, 280 Nm) which combines power and smooth, vibration-free operation with top-class engine efficiency. Fuel consumption: 9.7 litres/100 km.

At the end of 1998, the Volvo S80 engine programme will be supplemented by:

- Volvo S80 2.4 (170 bhp), a five-cylinder, 2.4-litre engine (170 bhp, 230 Nm), a new and more efficient generation of the established engine concept in the Volvo S70/V70. Fuel consumption: 9.2 litres/100 km.
- Volvo S80 2.4 (140 bhp), a fuel-efficient, five-cylinder engine developing (140 bhp, 230 Nm) with fuel consumption of around 8.6 litres/100 km in mixed driving conditions.
- Volvo S80 TDI. a five-cylinder, 2.5-litre turbodiesel (140 bhp, 290 Nm) with direct injection and performance on a par with that of a petrol engine. Fuel consumption: 6.5 litres/100 km.
- A development of bi-fuel technology, without any reduction in load capacity, space or comfort.

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VOLVO S80 2.9 - WORLD'S FIRST CAR WITH ENVIRONMENTAL SPECIFICATION

With the new Volvo S80 2.9, Volvo Cars is presenting a new and unique way of presenting the environmental specifications of cars. "By drawing up environmental specifications in this way, we are hoping to show our customers that we really take environmental issues seriously, that they can rely on us," says Anders Kamberg, head of environmental issues at Volvo Cars.

The environmental specification for the Volvo S80 2,9 for the European market covers every phase in the life of the car: production, operation and recycling. All the data which is used as the basis for the specification is checked by Lloyd's Register, an independent inspection institute. This, too, makes the specification totally unique. Specifications for other Volvo S80 models and markets are in the process of being drawn up.

It is a systematic environmental programme that has made the development of this environmental specification possible.

"We are working to ensure that every company unit that is involved in the development, production, transport, marketing and maintenance of Volvo cars obtains official environmental accreditation and works systematically and in an organised manner to reduce the environmental impact," says Anders Karrberg.

The complete chain comprises 17 company units, including suppliers and dealers.

"There are company units with environmental accreditation at every stage of the Volvo S80's life cycle. We are the first car manufacturers in the world to achieve this and it is an important sub-target in our overall environmental programme," Anders Karrberg concludes.

- All the textile material in the car also has certification in accordance with the international OKO-TEX standard, which means that the S80 has been assessed as being free from substances which are a health hazard or allergenic.
- Good aerodynamics (Cd 0.28), low roll resistance and a new engine generation with well-developed combustion help significantly to reduce fuel consumption compared with the corresponding engine alternatives in current models.
- 1999 will see the introduction of a new, extremely fuel-efficient, five-cylinder engine with an output of 140 bhp and fuel consumption of just 8.6 litres per 100 km in mixed driving conditions.
- The Volvo S80 will also be produced in a Bi-Fuel version - in other words, a version which can be driven on both gas and petrol.