

---

# **MERCEDES CAR GROUP**

## ***DIVISION DAY***

**Process efficiencies and cost reductions  
– the MCG-CORE project**

**Rainer Schmückle  
MCG COO**

**Stuttgart  
September 19th, 2006**

## MCG Division Day – Rainer Schmückle

---

- 1. CORE achievement 2005**
  - 2. Current status**
  - 3. Main focus: process efficiencies & cost reductions**
-

# What is MCG-CORE?

**CORE is the most comprehensive and important mobilization program of the last years within MCG.**

## CORE principles

- benchmark driven
- line function driven
- openness and personal responsibility

## Needs

- ... balance brand requirements and competitive cost position
- ... increased flexibility
- ... implement continuous improvement culture

## Milestone

**7% RoS in 2007**

## Destination

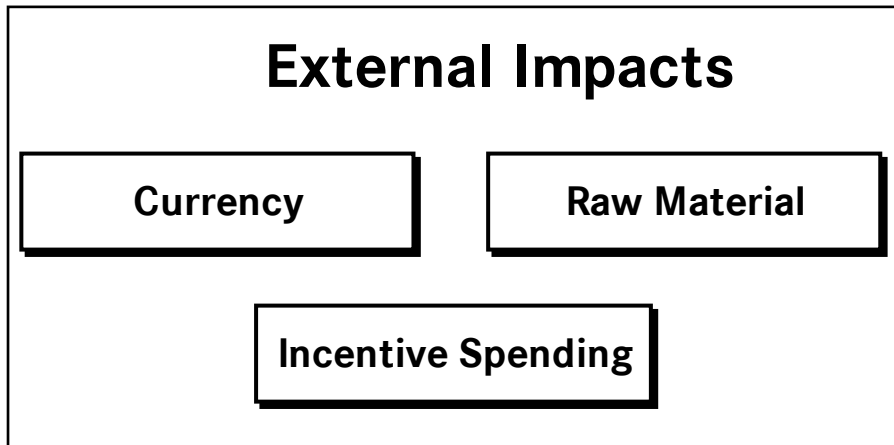
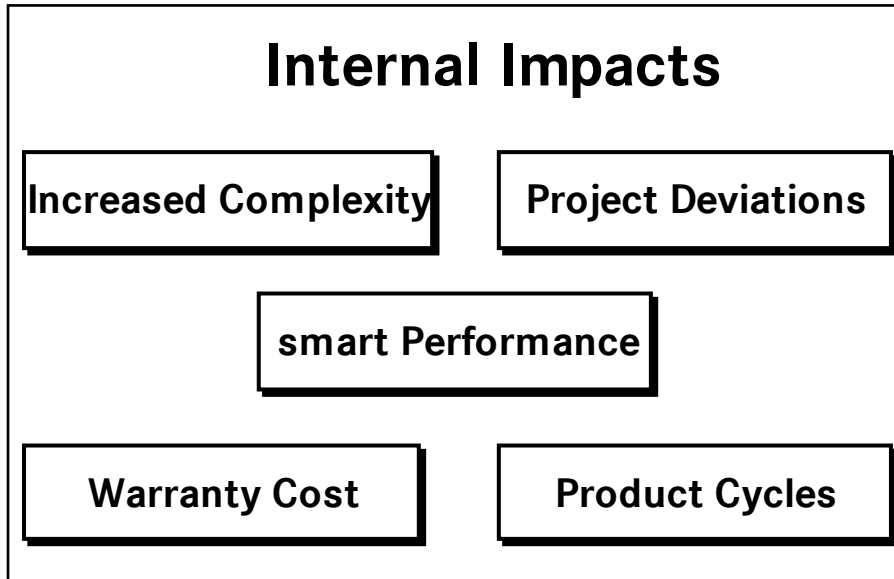
**Business Excellence**

## CORE PROJECT SETUP & RESPONSIBILITIES

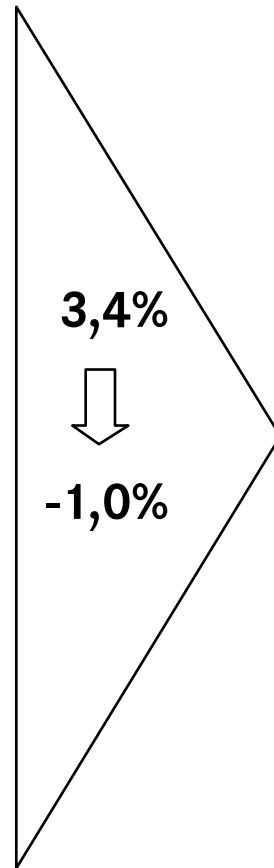
	R&D	Sourcing	Production	Marketing/ After-Sales	Administration
<b>Schmückle</b>					
<b>Dr. Weber</b>	Projects / Modules / Architecture				
<b>Koch</b>	Fixed Costs, Net Assets				
<b>Schmückle</b>	Efficiency Production				
<b>Schmückle</b>	Material Costs				
<b>Dr. Maier</b>	Revenue Offensive				
<b>Schmückle</b>	Quality / Warranty				
<b>Walker</b>	smart				

Continued Execution under the leadership of Executive Team MCG

### Accumulation of Negative Impacts



### 2004 to 2005 RoS Development



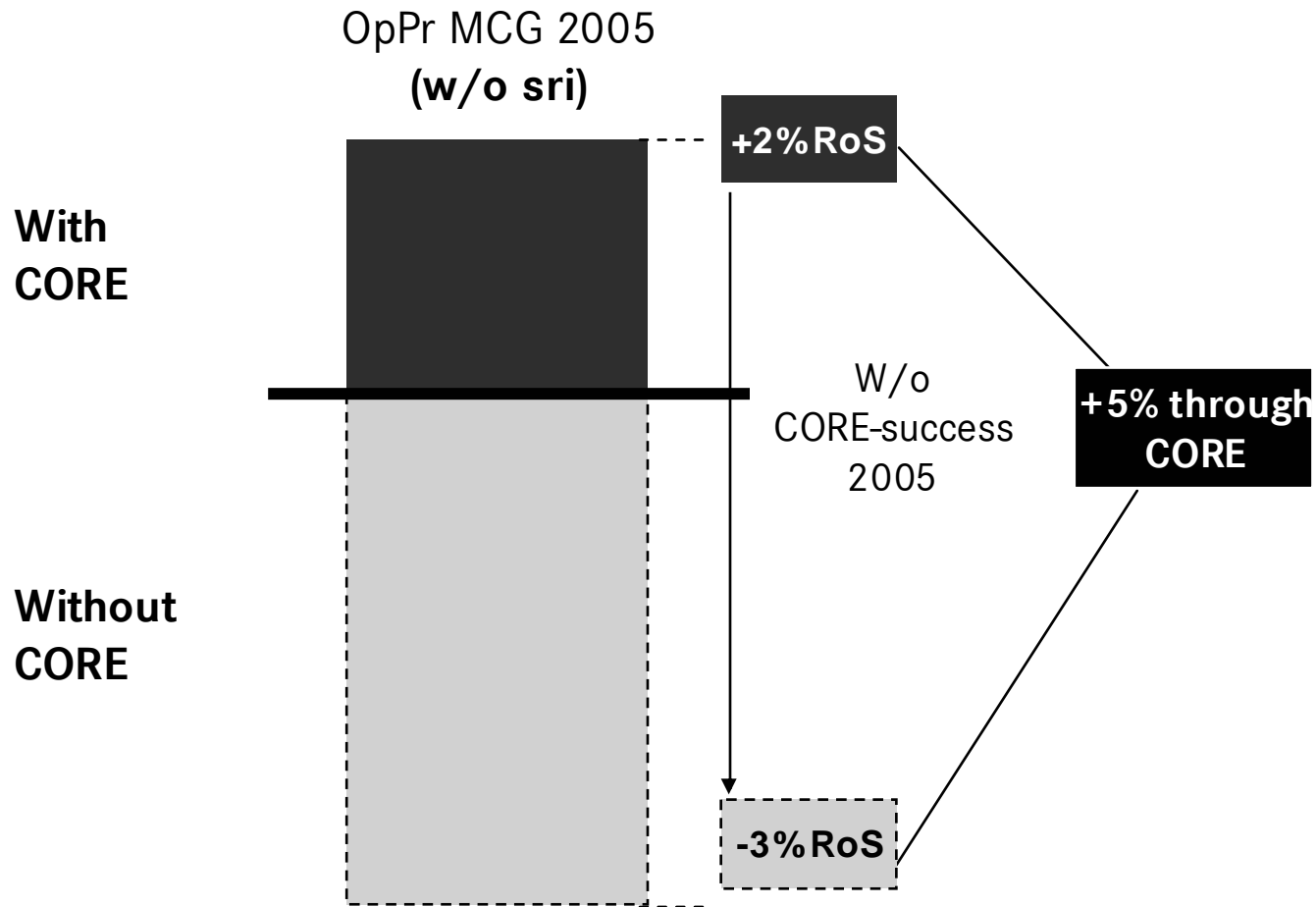
Quick Wins in 2005 /  
Structural Changes 2006f.

# Main levers of CORE – around 13.000 measures in 2005

DAIMLERCHRYSLER

<u>Work module</u>	<u>Main levers</u>	<u># measures</u>
<b>WM 1 - Projects</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of new vehicle / powertrain projects, model years and freshenings</li> <li>• Reduction of product complexity and development costs (internal and supplier)</li> <li>• Optimization of plant/structure and sales projects</li> </ul>	~ 250
<b>WM2 – Fixed Costs , Net Assets</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fixed costs optimization &amp; net asset reduction</li> <li>• General Quick wins (Expenses for travel, consulting, training, company cars, ...)</li> <li>• Optimization of processes and overhead costs (e.g. HR, QM , F&amp;C, Strategy, MDS, ...)</li> </ul>	~ 1.150
<b>WM3 – Efficiency Production</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plant productivity worldwide (reinforced CIP, reduction of non-tact related activities, shift model optimization)</li> <li>• Personnel cost (avoidance of extern. recruitment and overtime, flexibility increase, ...)</li> </ul>	~ 1.450
<b>WM4 – Material Costs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Technical efficiency (standardization, specs, substitution, ...)</li> <li>• Commercial efficiency (global sourcing, make or buy, ...)</li> <li>• Freights / duties (processes, standardization, centralization, ...)</li> </ul>	~ 9.650
<b>WM5 – Revenue Offensive</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Volume, mix</li> <li>• Prices, discounts</li> <li>• Patents, LA2/LA3</li> </ul>	~ 300
<b>WM6 – Quality / Warranty</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduction of fault rate</li> <li>• Reduction of fault elimination times</li> <li>• Reduction of W&amp;G costs</li> </ul>	~ 10
<b>WM7 – smart</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• smart turnaround: general restructuring, reduction of fix cost budgets on research &amp; development, production &amp; purchasing, marketing &amp; sales, overhead &amp; IT</li> </ul>	~ 400

Without the program MCG-CORE, ROS of MCG would have been significantly worse in 2005 (w/o sri).



---

## MCG Division Day – Rainer Schmücke

- 
1. **CORE achievement 2005**
  2. **Current status**
  3. **Main focus: process efficiencies & cost reductions**
-



**Some of the headwinds are prevailing throughout 2006 and 2007.**

Exchange rate risk

Raw material – steel cost increase

Raw material – aluminum cost increase

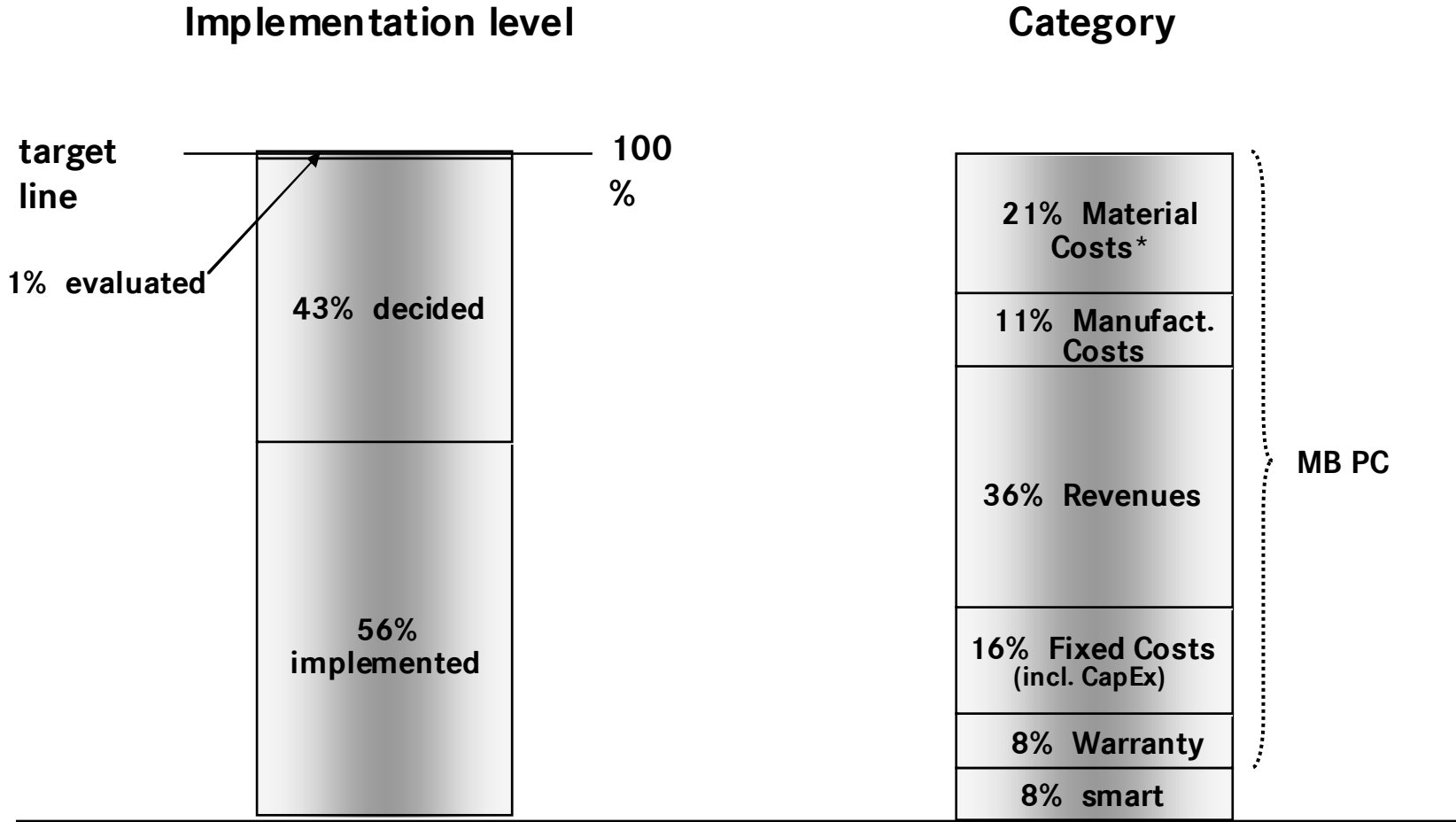
Raw material – plastics cost increase

Energy cost increase

Launch cost of C-Class in 2007

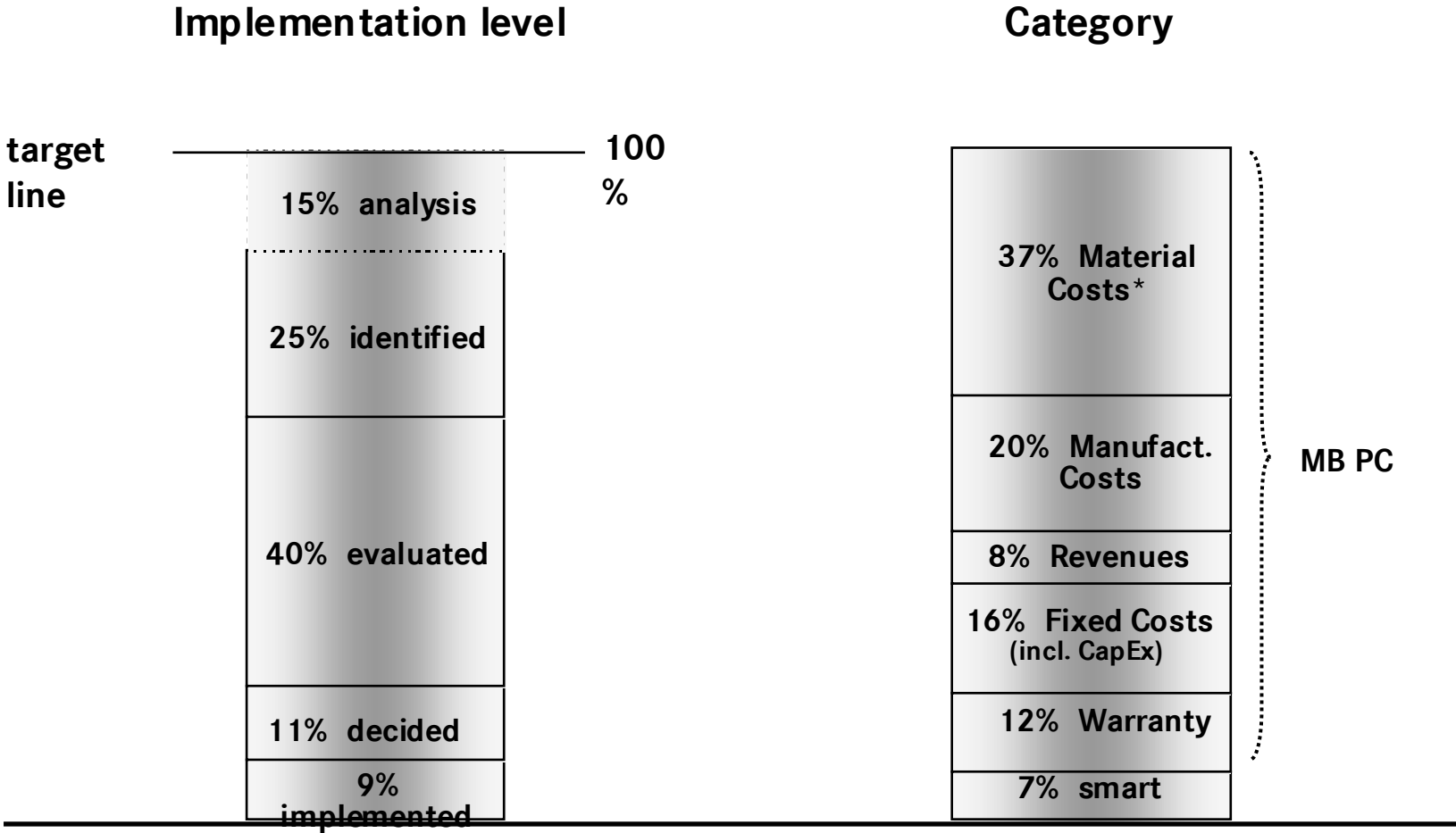
**⇒ CORE stretch level adjusted to deal with external challenges**

# Status CORE 2006



\* net of content increases

# Status CORE 2007 (Incremental target)



\* net of content increases

---

## MCG Division Day – Rainer Schmückle

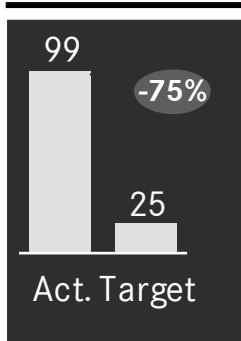
- 
1. **CORE achievement 2005**
  2. **Current status**
  3. **Main focus: process efficiencies & cost reductions**
-

# Main Focus of CORE work modules (WM)

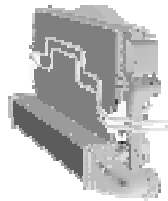


## WM1: Module strategy & architecture

Variant reduction



EXAMPLE

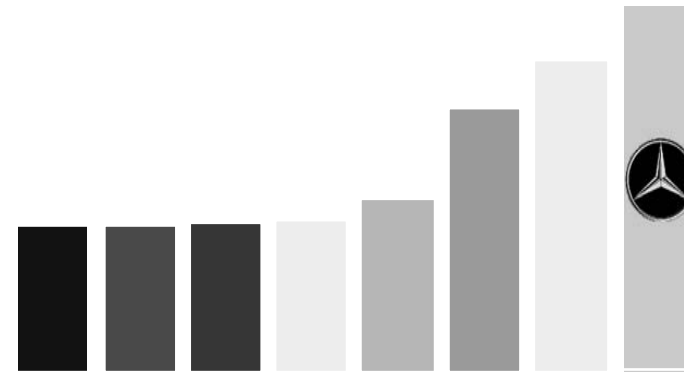


Cooling module

Savings

EUR > 20 m p.a.

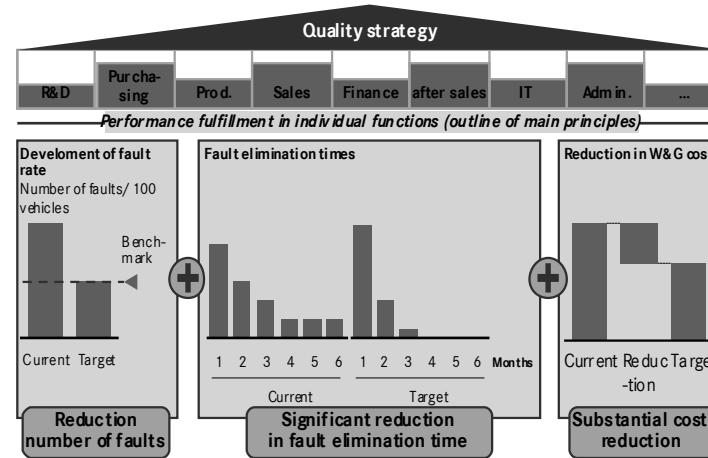
## WM3: Production Efficiency



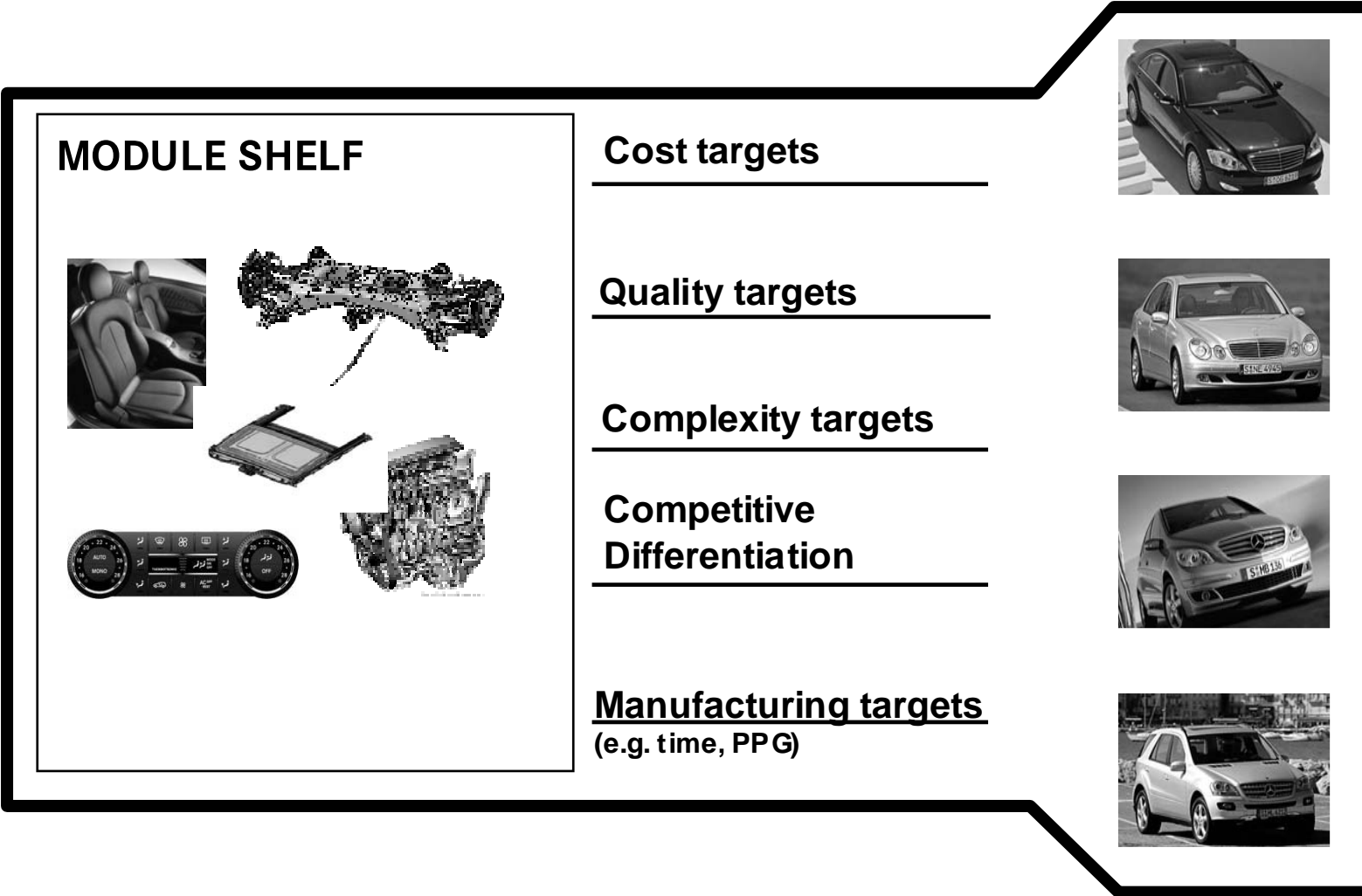
## WM4: Direct material optimization

Functional teams	① July - Nov. 2005	② Nov. - March 2005/2006	③ April - June 2006	④ June - Sept. 2006
Power train	• Supercharging • ...	• Gear components • ...	• Generators, starters • ...	• Raw material • ...
Electrical / electronics	• Telematics • ...	• Display and operation • ...	• Electronic brake systems • ...	• Central systems • ...
Interior	• Complete seat incl. seat components • ...	• Heating, climate, ventilation • ...	• Paneling, decor, accessories • ...	• IP, center console, nozzles • ...
Exterior	• Add-on parts • ...	• Doors • ...	• Molded parts • ...	• Wind ows, roof • ...
Chassis	• Suspension / insulation • ...	• Brake system • ...	• Wheels / tires • ...	• Mounting elements, frame parts • ...
	11 scopes	12 scopes	12 scopes	8 scopes

## WM6: Quality increase & warranty cost reduction

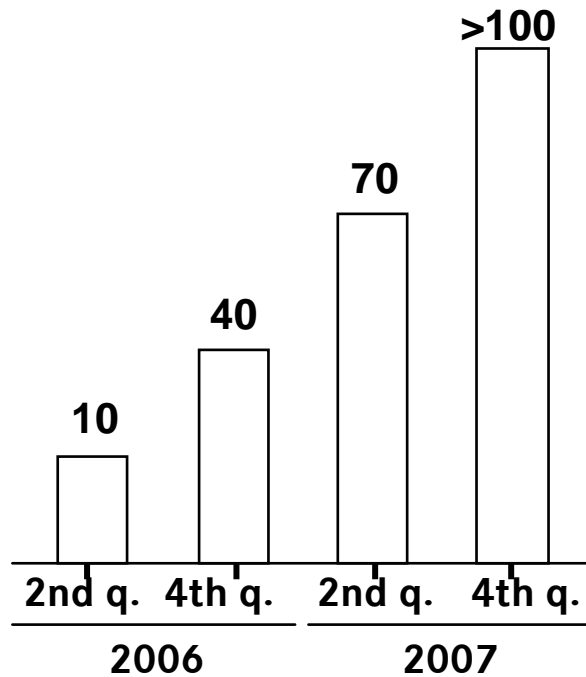


Each module will be tracked along several targets to enable successful vehicles.

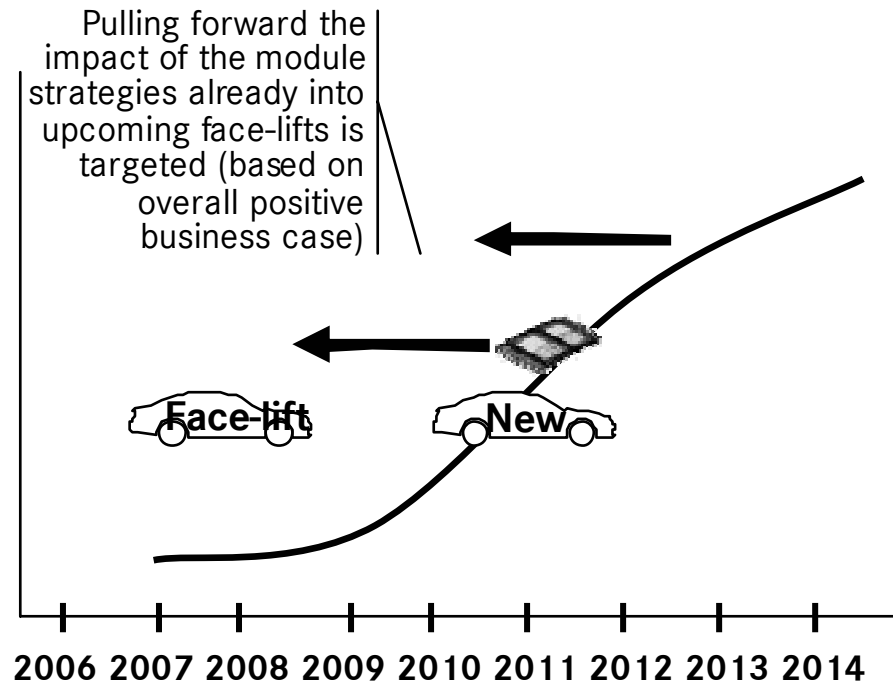


By end of 2007 over 100 module strategies will be developed to enable amendments of quality, cost and function – early impact is targeted.

### Decided module strategies [#]



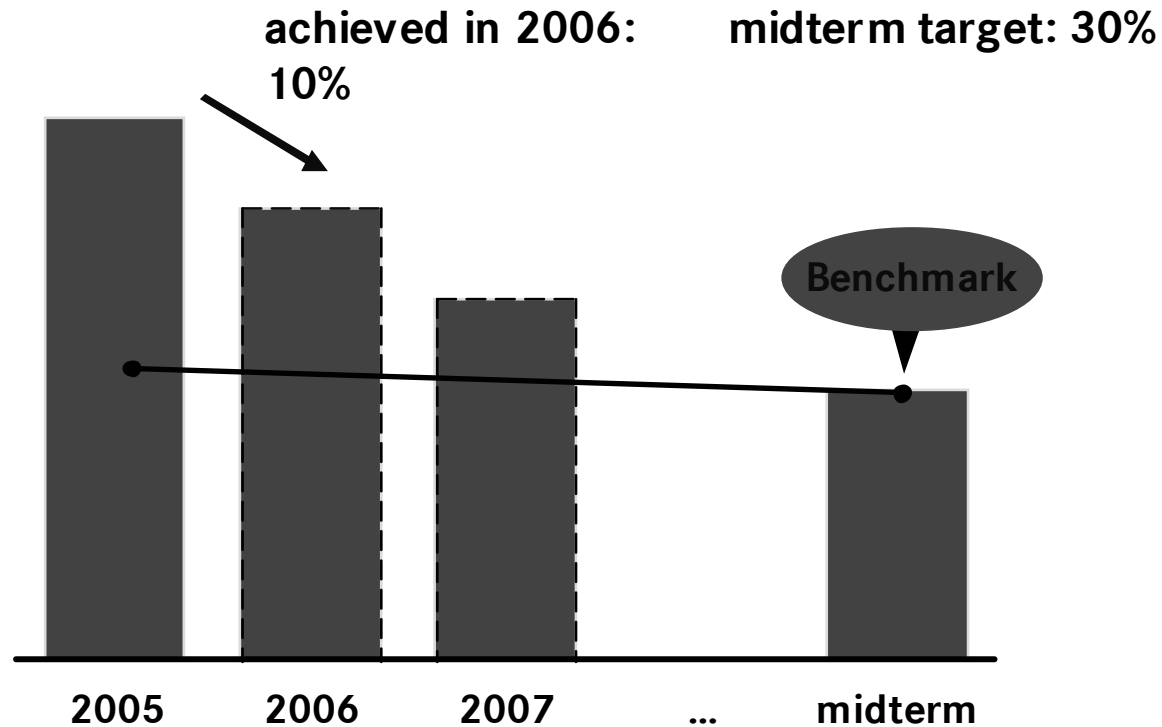
### Savings [EUR]



Optimization of HPV as the lever for production efficiency - a challenge for all functions – HPV in 2006 already decreased by 10%.

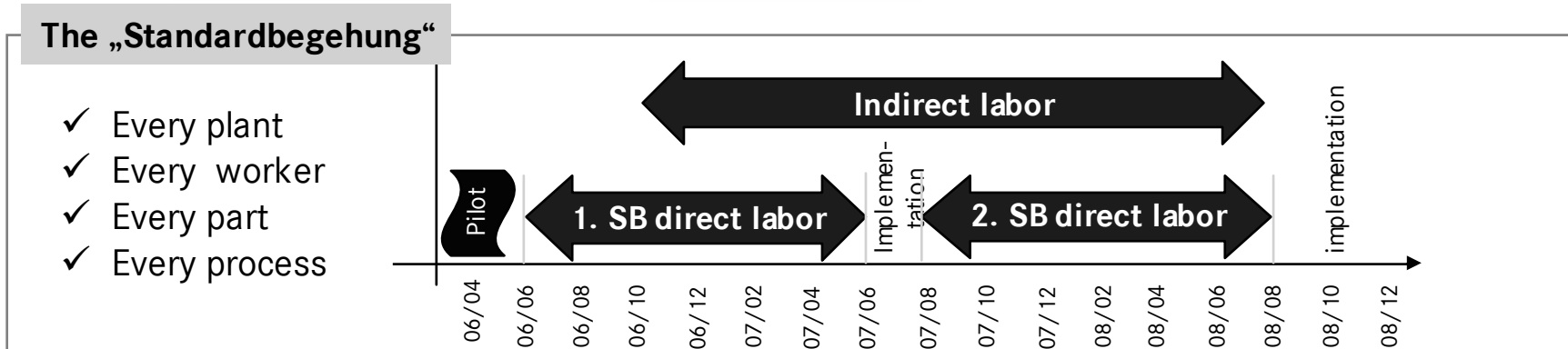
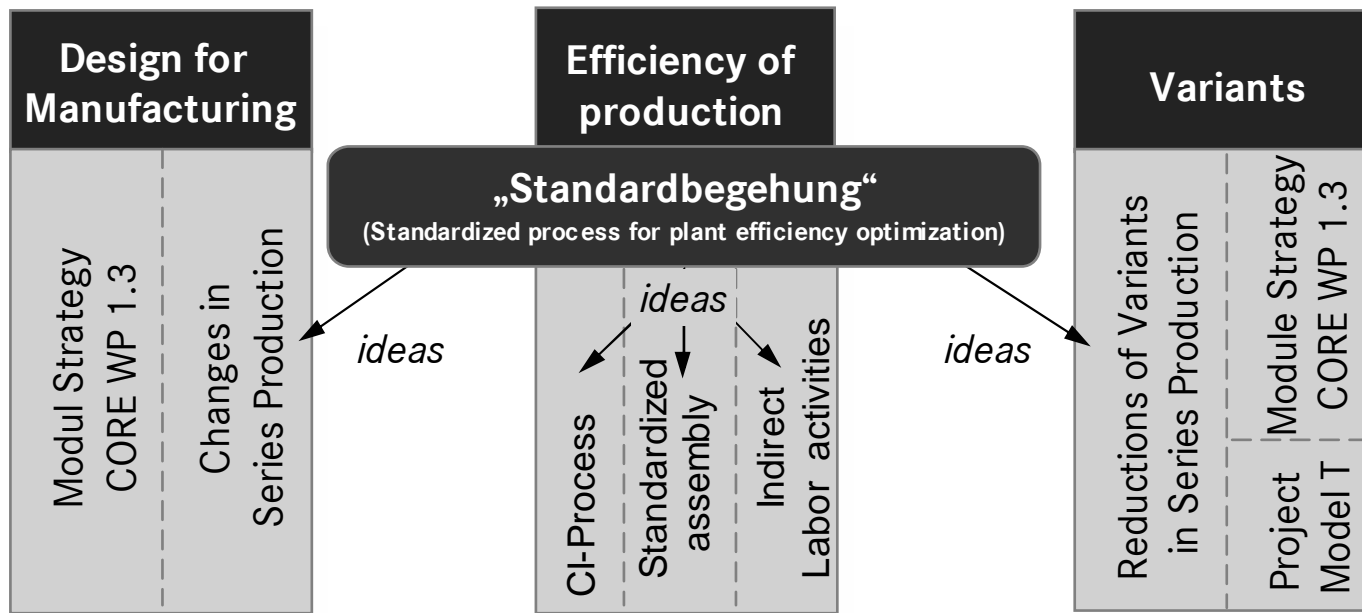
### HPV

Hours per vehicle





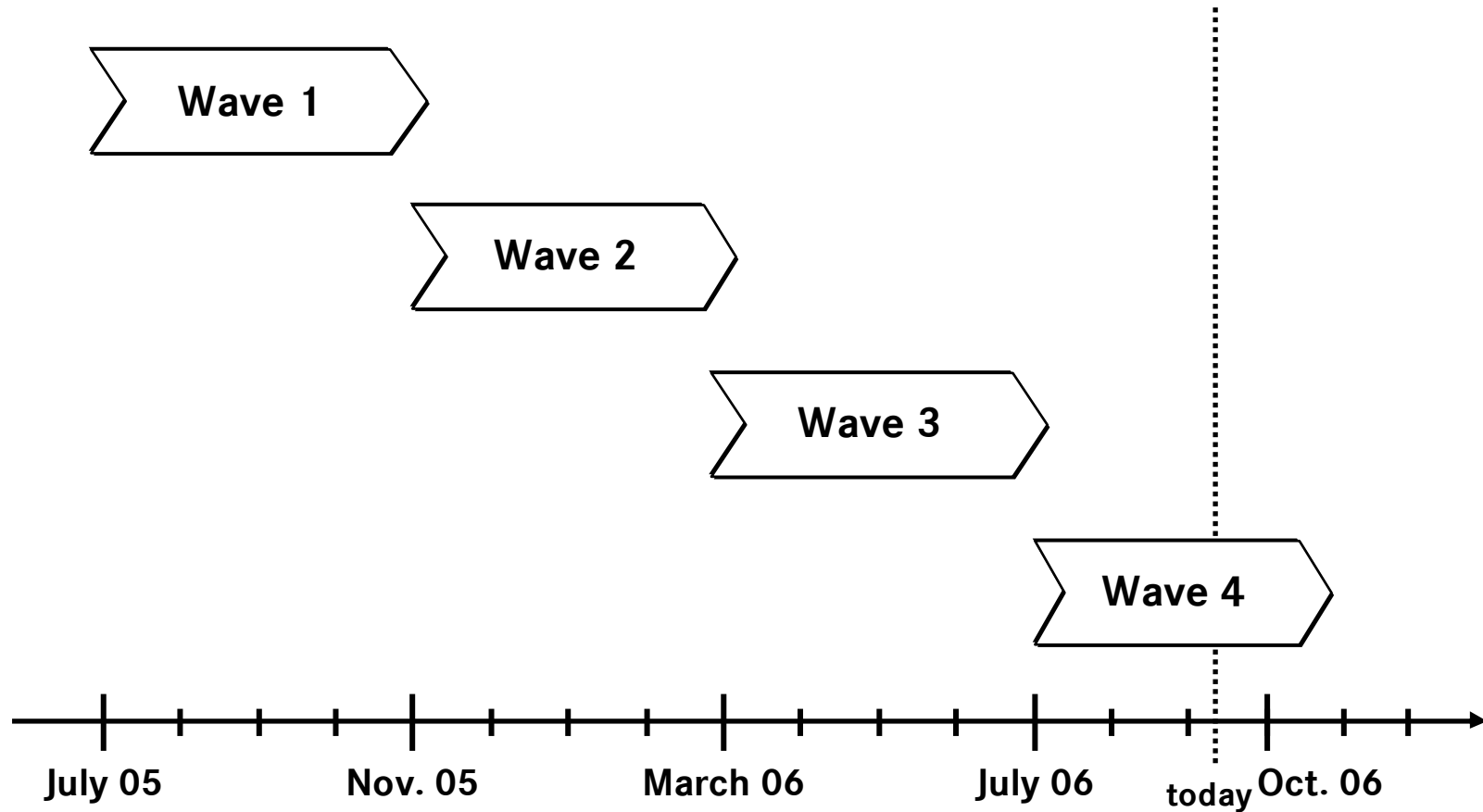
The „Standardbegehung“ creates ideas to reach the HPV targets – using intense interdisciplinary cooperation of all functions.



## Analysis of total direct material in cross-functional teams

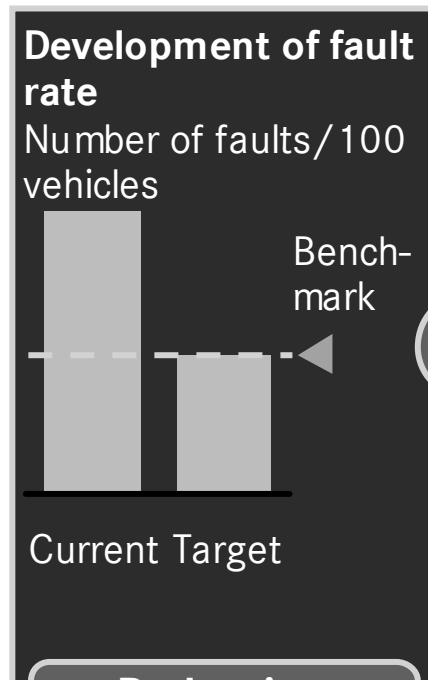
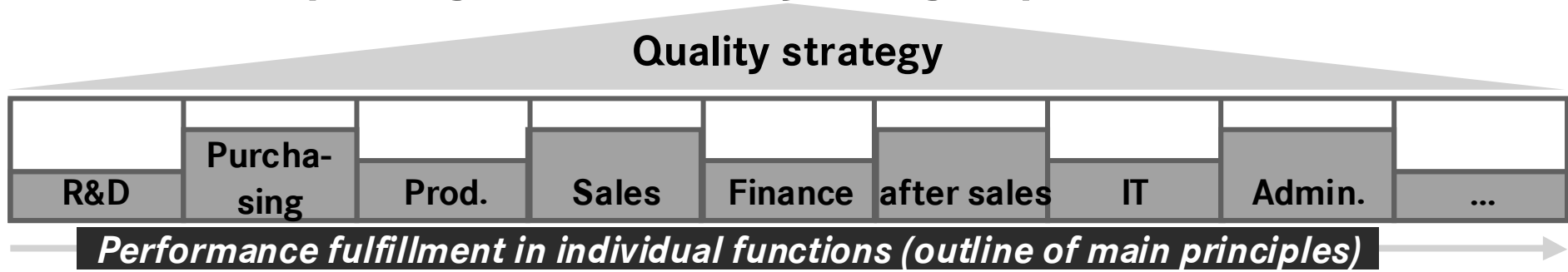
Functional teams	① July - Nov. 2005	② Nov. - March 2005/2006	③ April - July 2006	④ July - Oct. 2006
Powertrain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supercharging</li> <li>• ...</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gear components</li> <li>• ...</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Generators, starters</li> <li>• ...</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Raw material</li> <li>• ...</li> </ul>
Electrical/electronics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Telematics</li> <li>• ...</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Display and operation</li> <li>• ...</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Electronic brake systems</li> <li>• ...</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Central systems</li> <li>• ...</li> </ul>
Interior	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete seat incl. seat components</li> <li>• ...</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Heating, climate, ventilation</li> <li>• ...</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Paneling, decor, accessories</li> <li>• ...</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IP, center console, nozzles</li> <li>• ...</li> </ul>
Exterior	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Add-on parts</li> <li>• ...</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Doors</li> <li>• ...</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Molded parts</li> <li>• ...</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Windows, roof</li> <li>• ...</li> </ul>
Chassis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Suspension/insulation</li> <li>• ...</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brake system</li> <li>• ...</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wheels/tires</li> <li>• ...</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mounting elements, frame parts</li> <li>• ...</li> </ul>
	11 part groups	12 part groups	12 part groups	8 part groups

Target Achievement 2007 is on track

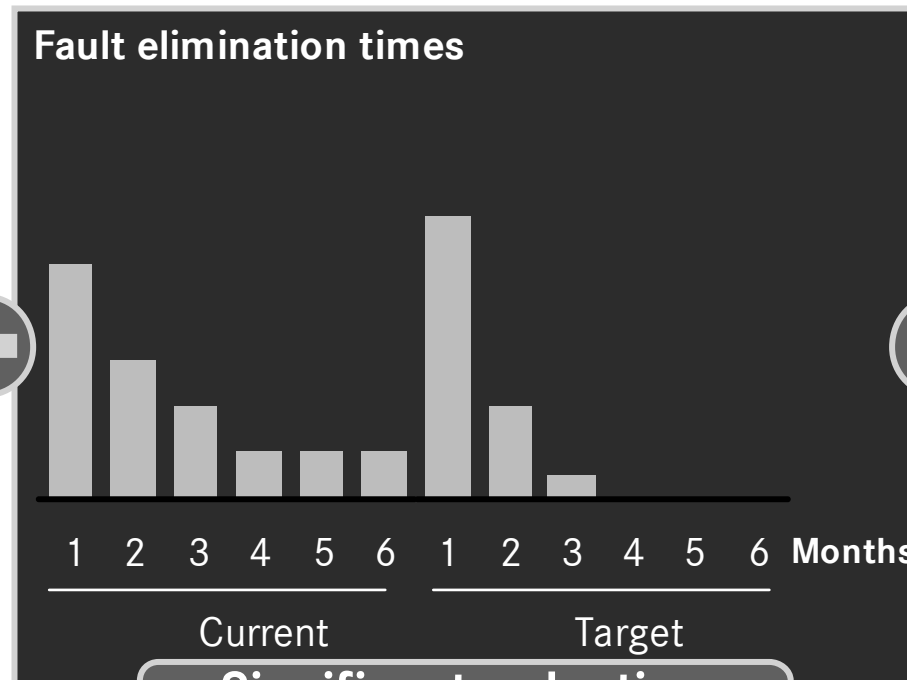


Compensation of raw material increase + significant cost reduction

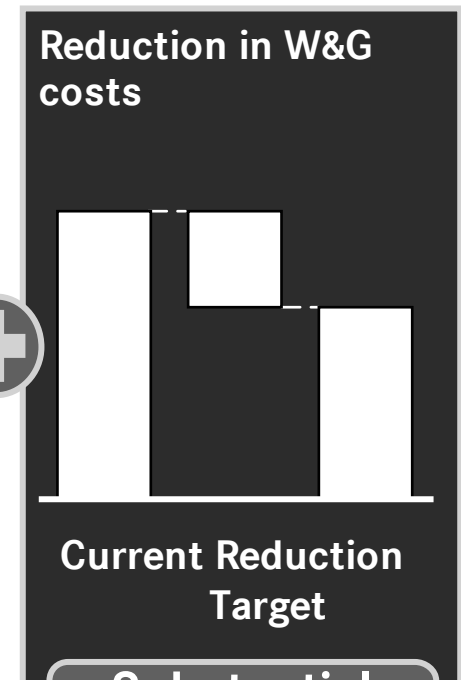
In the field of quality, our new quality strategy with 42 work packages is currently being implemented.



**Reduction number of faults**



**Significant reduction in fault elimination time**



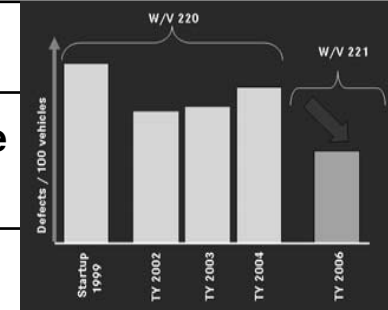
**Substantial cost reduction**

## Examples of implemented quality measures



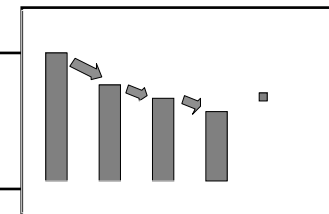
- Increase of training for service staff
- Definition of further standard processes for all countries

- Intensified testing in the early development phase
- Quality driven ramp ups for all new model lines



- Implementation of escalation process
- Advanced IT-systems

- > 1.000 quality meetings with suppliers in 2005
- Closer cooperation on common Q-standards



## DISCLAIMER

This presentation contains forward-looking statements that reflect management's current views with respect to future events. The words “anticipate,” “assume,” “believe,” “estimate,” “expect,” “intend,” “may,” “plan,” “project” and “should” and similar expressions identify forward-looking statements. Such statements are subject to risks and uncertainties, including, but not limited to: an economic downturn in Europe or North America; changes in currency exchange rates, interest rates and in raw-material prices; introduction of competing products; increased sales incentives; the effective implementation of our New Management Model, and the CORE program, including the new business model for smart, at the Mercedes Car Group; renewed pressure to reduce costs in light of restructuring plans announced by our major competitors in NAFTA; disruption of production or vehicle deliveries, resulting from shortages, labor strikes or supplier insolvencies; the resolution of pending governmental investigations; and decline in resale prices of used vehicles. If any of these or other risks and uncertainties occur (some of which are described under the heading “Risk Report” in DaimlerChrysler’s most recent Annual Report and under the heading “Risk Factors” in DaimlerChrysler’s most recent Annual Report on Form 20-F filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission), or if the assumptions underlying any of these statements prove incorrect, then actual results may be materially different from those expressed or implied by such statements. We do not intend or assume any obligation to update any forward-looking statement, which speaks only as of the date on which it is made.