

# Global auto tech group Aptiv invests \$45 m for expansion of Chennai manufacturing facility

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Chennai

Dublin (Ireland)-headquartered Aptiv Plc (formerly known as Delphi Automotive) has expanded its manufacturing operations in Oragadam, near Chennai, with a \$45-million investment as the global automotive technology group responds to the growing demand for parts for software-defined vehicles (SDVs) in India.

The Chennai facility now includes an additional 2.2 lakh sq ft of production space, dedicated to providing automotive manufacturers with powertrain-agnostic, software-defined cockpit solutions. This expansion will also double the workforce at the plant to approximately 230 employees.

Matthew Cole, Senior Vice-President and President of Advanced Safety and User Experience at Aptiv, told *businessline* that the new plant will be equipped to architect, design and manufacture next-generation, high-performance software-defined integrated cockpit controllers, specifically for the Indian market. He said that just as electric vehicles transformed the industry a few years ago, the shift towards software-defined vehicles is now underway.

Cole explained that Indian automotive OEMs are increasingly focusing on enhancing the user experience inside vehicles, making it a key competitive factor. This trend is driving the need for advanced features like multiple cameras (both inward- and outward-facing), streaming devices and rear-



Matthew Cole (left), President - Global Advanced Safety & User Experience, Aptiv, and Vinod Sahay, President and Chief Purchasing Officer, Mahindra & Mahindra

seat entertainment systems. These features require high-performance computing and sophisticated architectural design, enabling updates and new features even after the vehicle is sold. With the rise of advanced driver assistance systems in India, functions such as blind spot de-

tection and automatic emergency braking are also becoming essential.

"However, simply adapting global systems for the Indian market often falls short," he said. "A tailored solution is essential, which is why our investment focuses on designing, developing, and manufacturing these products in India. Our scalable and flexible systems are designed at our technical centre in Bengaluru and will be manufactured in Chennai, specifically for the Indian market. It's a 'Made in India for India' approach."

## KEY DIFFERENTIATOR

The \$20-billion Aptiv's key differentiator, particularly in advanced safety and user experience, lies in its end-to-end control of the entire process — from sensors to hardware.