

Scout Motors Inc., headquartered in Tysons, Virginia, is an independent U.S. auto manufacturer backed by Volkswagen Group. The company was formed in 2022 to design and manufacture all-electric trucks and rugged SUVs in the same tradition that made the original Scout an American icon. Originally produced by International Harvester from 1960 to 1980, the Scout was the world's first utility vehicle capable of both off-road adventure and family duty. The company plans to revitalize the brand and is expected to begin vehicle production at the end of 2026. Scout has 132 employees across the U.S., with 44 of them in Michigan.

The company plans to establish a new research and development facility in Novi, which will serve as a hub for future innovation and development for the auto industry within the U.S. The project is expected to generate a total capital investment of \$11 million and create 200 high-wage jobs with the support of a \$10 million Michigan Business Development Program performance-based grant. Michigan was chosen for the expansion over competing sites in several Southern states because of the strength of the automotive engineering talent in the state.

The project represents the first new automotive OEM to invest in Michigan in 20 years. The project will bring immediate, high-wage engineering, design, and development jobs to the state with a large and growing auto manufacturer, and further builds on Michigan's global leadership in mobility and automotive R&D.

INFORMATION ABOUT LOCAL SUPPORT? Learn more about careers with Scout Motors [here](#).

Mayor and Council –

Here is a forthcoming announcement (planned for next Tuesday, 12/12) of a new company coming to Novi. **Please keep this under your caps** until it's announced publicly next week. They will be occupying the soon to be former Autoneum building on Haggerty. No abatement requests have been made by Scout.

- Victor

Scout Motors: Everything You Need to Know

Volkswagen is reviving an American icon, using different propulsion.

BY TYLER DUFFY

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<https://www.gearpatrol.com/cars/g41530884/scout-motors-2026/>



Scout

Volkswagen announced back in May they were reviving the Scout nameplate — from the International Harvester Scout — for a new American electric vehicle brand. Scout Motors will start with two vehicles, a pickup truck and a rugged SUV.

Here's what we know about VW's new Scout EV brand.

Scout Motors is reportedly partnering with Magna Steyr



Mercedes-Benz

According to Austrian reports, VW will partner with Magna Steyr to build the Scout Motors SUV and pickup. Magna Steyr knows its off-road vehicles; building the G-Wagen for Mercedes-Benz. It also manufactures the Toyota Supra and several other vehicles.

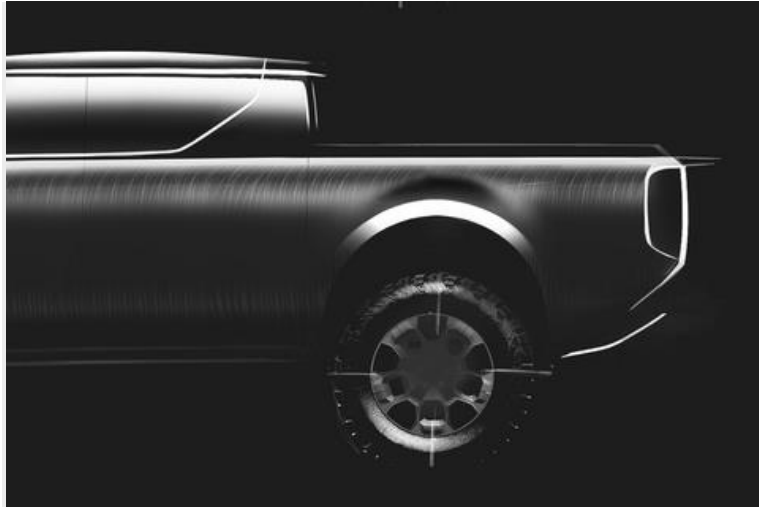
When will Scout vehicles arrive?



Scout

Scout has said production will start at its South Carolina facility before the end of 2026; we don't know yet whether the pickup or SUV will launch first. Scout promised prototype reveals for some time in 2023.

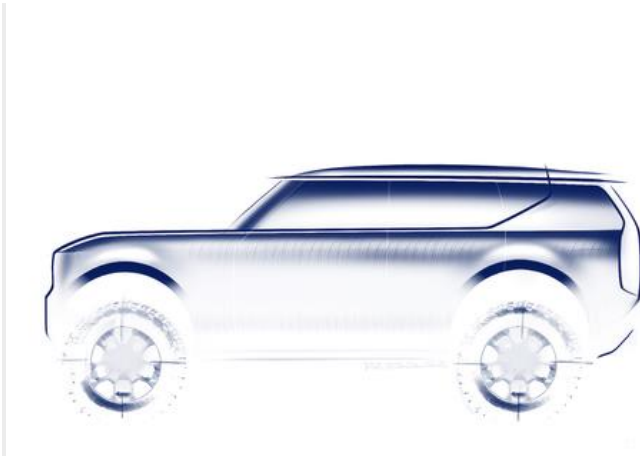
How did VW get the rights to the Scout name?



VW

Volkswagen's truck subsidiary Traton merged with Navistar. Navistar was the corporate descendent of International Harvester, the company that built and still owned the trademark for the Scout.

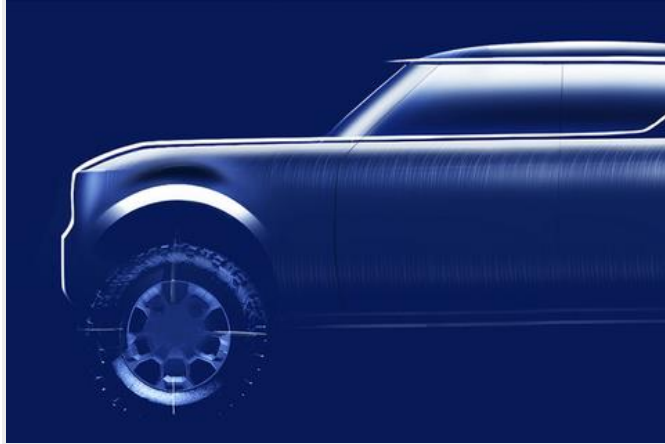
Scout will be an American brand



VW

Scout will be part of the broader VW Group. But VW says Scout vehicles will be designed, engineered, built and sold in America. We're not sure new CEO Scott Keogh (formerly head of Volkswagen Group of America) will literally take the stage to Grand Funk Railroad's "We're an American Band." Still, we expect Scout marketing to convey that sentiment with gusto.

Scout vehicles are getting their own EV platform



VW

VW did release an MEB platform off-roader concept with the ID. Buggy concept. But Scout has confirmed its vehicle will not use the MEB or any other extant Volkswagen EV platform. It will use a newly created all-electric platform.

The new Scout platform design will focus on "ground clearance, approach angles, robust axles, payload capacity and all-electric range" to deliver "credible capability and off-road prowess."

That platform presumably could be an option if Audi decides to proceed with an electric pickup.

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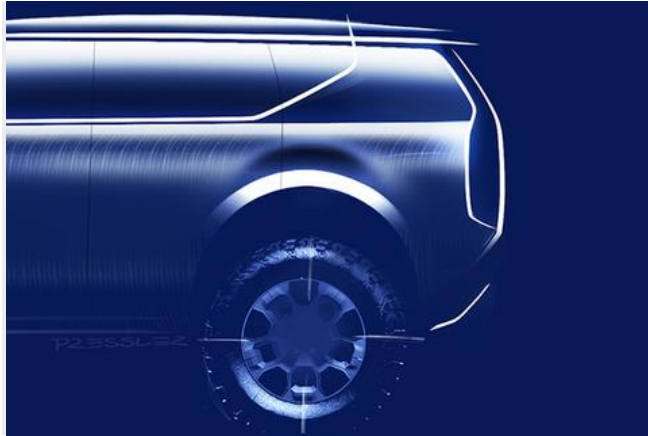
Scout Motors vehicles will be built in South Carolina



Scout

Scout Motors announced that South Carolina had been selected as a site for its new production facility. The brand says the plant will be able to produce 200,000 vehicles per year. Making the vehicles in America should meet one requirement to be eligible for the federal tax incentive — to the extent we can predict how that will work in 2026.

How much will Scout Motors' Truck and SUV cost?



VW

They should be affordable (relatively). Volkswagen Group of America Chief Operating Officer Johan De Nysschen floated the idea of a Scout brand to journalists before the official launch. He described it as like Rivian but “at a \$40,000 price point instead of \$70,000.”

According to a Facebook post from a prominent Scout enthusiast who got early access, VW will provide a wide range of accessorization options, which could be where Scout makes its profit.

Scout Motors hired its Chief Design Officer



Scout Motors

Scout Motors announced that it hired Chris Benjamin as its chief design officer. Benjamin comes from Stellantis where he was in charge of producing some of the best car interiors in the industry for Jeep in vehicles such as the Grand Wagoneer.