

The simulation of changing weather conditions is vital in the development of new cars that have to function reliably and comfortably anywhere from the tropics to the Arctic Circle. Final decisive tests always take place at the most extreme local-

traditional "shake the bedclothes" method to high technology using a snow making system adapted perfectly to the Volkswagen wind tunnel. A KAESER rotary screw compressor supplies the air that is essential for producing the snow. The effects of powder or wet snow, especially when the car is on the move, can now be tested at any



*The front of the car is free of snow even after a 30-minute "trip" at 50 mph through a shower of powdered snow*

## Blizzard on demand

In Volkswagen's climatic wind tunnel winter is just the flick of a switch away.

tions possible, such as the famous trials, spectacularly reported, in "Death Valley" and in the snowstorms of Lapland, but all the preparatory work is carried out under laboratory conditions with reproducible temperature, humidity and wind conditions.

### Wintertime, anytime

The research engineers at Volkswagen now have a direct link to Mother Holle with a snow making system from Innovag AG. Mother Holle, the well-known, just-in-time snow supplier in one of the Brothers Grimm fairytales, has upgraded from the

time without the need for long-distance travel. Precisely repeatable conditions allow modifications to be tested immediately, an important time gain, and a contribution to the higher reliability of the final product, improving customer satisfaction and reducing warranty costs.



Photos: Innovag

*Snow that has penetrated the radiator grill has settled on some of the equipment in the engine compartment*



*The results of driving through a snowstorm in Volkswagen's climatic wind tunnel*

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Selective snow storming in the wind tunnel simulates wintry conditions for car development