Tesla Engineering Chief Walks Out Of Tesla Motors on "Asshole" Musk Management Idiocy

By Dana Hull

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TSLA TESLA INC 301.06 USD -3.96 -1.30%

GOOGL ALPHABET INC-A 1,103.38 USD -2.09 -0.19% <u>Tesla Inc.</u>'s engineering chief is out of Tesla just weeks after Elon Musk took over production responsibilities during the rocky ramping up of the Model 3 sedan.

Doug Field, a senior vice president, is taking "time off to recharge and spend time with his family" a spokesman said in an email.

Separately, Tesla also lost Matthew Schwall, its primary contact with U.S. regulators. He is joining the safety team at Waymo, the self-driving-car company started by Google confirmed on Saturday.

Musk, 46, had asked Field about a year ago to manage both engineering and production to better align the two departments, the CEO wrote in a <u>tweet</u> last month.

Musk was responding to a report by <u>The</u>

<u>Information</u> that said he had taken direct control of production. The CEO confirmed this, tweeting that it was "better to divide & conquer."

In another <u>tweet</u>, Musk wrote that he regarded Field as "one of the world's most talented" engineering executives. He's one of only four executive officers named in the company's recent proxy statement.

Field, 52, made headlines in March with an email to workers that urged them to "prove a bunch of haters wrong" by boosting Model 3 output. Tesla came up short of a target to build 2,500 of the cars in the final week of that month. On April 3, the company reported that it produced 2,020 in the previous seven days.

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— With assistance by Kenneth Pringle