

BMW's Gen6 High-Voltage Battery awarded as 2026 International New Energy Vehicles Innovative Technology at the World New Energy Vehicle Congress

- BMW's Gen6 high-voltage battery recognized as the 2026 International New Energy Vehicles Innovative Technology at the World New Energy Vehicle Congress (WNEVC).
- The recognition by WNEVC underscores BMW's strong capabilities in innovation.
- From in-house development to co-creation in China, BMW's Gen6 high-voltage battery demonstrates a systems-based approach centered on safety, efficiency and customer value.
- Long-distance range challenge showcases strong innovation capability, while the sixth-generation eDrive technology turns the Neue Klasse model into an "electric thoroughbred."
- BMW fosters innovation through open collaboration and promotes high-quality development of NEV industry.

Haikou/Beijing, September 23, 2026 – At the World New Energy Vehicle Congress (WNEVC), BMW Group received the "2026 Global New Energy Vehicle Innovation Technology" award for its technologies of an integrated high-voltage battery system based on high-nickel cylindrical cells, namely the Gen 6 high-voltage battery. This marks the fifth consecutive year and the sixth time that BMW has received prestigious technology award at the WNEVC, reaffirming the company's leadership in innovation for NEV technologies.

As an official partner of the WNEVC, BMW Group has participated in the congress for 8 consecutive years. This year, the new BMW iX3, the new BMW i3 and the new BMW i7 made their debut at the congress. BMW also shared its perspectives and experience on topics of high-quality development of the NEV industry, open collaboration and global innovation partnerships at the event.

Jochen Goller, Member of the Board of Management of BMW AG, said: "The automotive industry is entering a new stage of high-quality ICV development. Long-term competitiveness does not only require customer centric innovations, but most importantly the ability to continuously deliver safety, quality and efficiency throughout the entire value chain. As the industry transforms, the BMW Group keeps promoting innovation through technology openness and with this contributing to the successful development of the NEV industry."

For BMW, Gen6 high-voltage battery is not only a technological innovation, but also a key pillar of the Neue Klasse technology cluster. Leveraging a comprehensive value-chain approach spanning research and development, sourcing, production and recycling, BMW continues to integrate battery technology, eDrive technology, digital innovation and sustainability to create future-oriented premium mobility experiences for customers.

Open Collaboration: Connecting Global Technology with Chinese Innovation

China has become a forefront of innovation in the global NEV industry and an integral part of the Group's innovation ecosystem. At the Sino-German Forum on Cooperation and Development of New Energy Vehicles at the WNEVC, Christian Ach, President and CEO of BMW Group Region China, said: "BMW's Neue Klasse technology cluster, including our Gen6 high-voltage battery and BMW intelligent ADAS, demonstrates the deep integration of BMW's engineering excellence and China's innovation strengths. Going forward, we will further strengthen collaboration with Chinese partners, enable more Chinese innovation to the global markets and create greater value by deepening mutual empowerment. "

The Gen6 battery is a prime example of collaborative innovation. BMW combines its in-house R&D expertise of its Battery Cell Competence Center with close cooperation with Chinese partners such as CATL and EVE Energy. BMW's core technologies, safety requirements and quality standards are integrated throughout joint development, engineering validation and industrialization processes. Today, industry collaboration extends beyond traditional component supply to include software, artificial intelligence, industrial digitalization and global process management, allowing Chinese innovation to be further integrated into BMW's global ecosystem.

Proving Innovation through Range Challenges: Driving Experience of Neue Klasse Empowered by Gen6 High-Voltage Battery

The Gen6 high-voltage battery is more than an innovation award winner. It is a fundamental part of the BMW Neue Klasse. As BMW's next-generation product and technology cluster for electrification, digitalization and intelligent mobility, the Neue Klasse combines sixth-generation BMW eDrive technology, a completely new electronic and electrical architecture, and an intelligent user experience. The Neue Klasse BMW iX3 and BMW i3 will be among the first models to bring these innovations to customers, delivering greater efficiency, intelligence and driving pleasure.

The value of a battery should not be measured solely by range or charging speed. For BMW, truly meaningful technological progress must deliver customer value across multiple dimensions. Dr. Florian Preuss, Senior Vice President of BMW Group, CTO China, said: "This award is a great recognition of BMW's innovative strength and the outstanding dedication of our teams. Just like every Neue Klasse technology, the high-voltage battery for the 6th Generation BMW eDrive Technology marks a significant technological leap across all customer-relevant dimensions. It combines the highest safety standards with outstanding range, charging performance and durability, laying the foundation for the fully electric driving pleasure that defines BMW. "

Safety remains the top priority. The new cylindrical battery cells feature a steel housing, top-mounted safety contacts, bottom-directed pressure relief and multi-layer insulation. Combined with comprehensive thermal management and condition monitoring, these measures enhance controllability under exceptional operating conditions and ensure long-term stability. Through its Battery Cell

Competence Center, BMW has established capabilities spanning development, validation, industrialization and recycling, maintaining rigorous scientific verification and engineering standards.

Improvements brought by the Gen6 battery translate into a more confident, efficient and seamless user experience. Take the new BMW iX3 50L xDrive for example, usable battery capacity reaches 111.3 kWh. Under CLTC conditions, 10 minutes of charging adds up to 418 kilometers of range, while charging from 10% to 80% takes only 21 minutes. BMW's self-developed Energy Master control unit supports both 400V and 800V charging environments and intelligently manages energy distribution according to vehicle and charging scenarios.

This summer, the new BMW iX3 "Electric Thoroughbred" challenge attracted widespread attention. A test vehicle drove from BMW's production base in Shenyang to its R&D center in Beijing, achieving more than 1,000 kilometers of range on a single charge. In the challenging high-altitude and large temperature variations around Qinghai Lake, the vehicle still delivered more than 800 kilometers of range. The synergy of Gen6 battery technology, the 800V high-voltage platform and BMW's Energy Master system provides not only extended range but also greater confidence and freedom for long-distance travel.

Looking ahead, BMW will continue to pursue its long-term strategic vision, using innovative technologies such as its Gen6 battery as a foundation for accelerating the implementation of the Neue Klasse strategy. Together with industry partners, BMW will contribute to the high-quality development of the NEV sector and support the global transition towards sustainable mobility.

From 8 years of participation at WNEVC to five consecutive years and 6 technology awards, BMW's journey at the congress reflects a clear path: building core capabilities through long-term investment, expanding innovation value through open collaboration, and addressing diverse customer needs through a technology-open approach. Going forward, BMW will continue advancing the co-development of sixth-generation battery technology, next-generation eDrive systems, intelligent energy management and the Neue Klasse electronic architecture, while bringing Neue Klasse innovations to a broader range of products and customers.

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