BMW GROUP





Unternehmenskommunikation

Press information 6 July 2021

idealworks wins IFOY AWARD 2021 in category for Automated Guided Vehicle.

+++ New BMW Group spin-off wins over independent specialist jury +++ iw.hub granted Best in Intralogistics seal of approval +++ Innovative control concept offers extreme flexibility and performance +++

Munich. The iw.hub autonomous mobile robot (AMR) by idealworks has won the International Intralogistics and Forklift Truck of the Year (IFOY) AWARD 2021. Topping the category for Automated Guided Vehicles, the logistics robot by the new BMW Group subsidiary won the favour of an independent jury of industry experts and journalists from specialist publications of global renown, who confirmed its tremendous flexibility, impressive performance and sheer innovativeness.

The AMR had already received the seal of approval as Best in Intralogistics in the spring of this year, after successfully completing the IFOY audit. Now, less than eight months after the BMW Group spin-off idealworks was founded, the CE-certified autonomous mobile robot has convinced the jury again, receiving the IFOY AWARD on 5 July at the German Football Museum in Dortmund.

The iw.hub works with an innovative control concept that offers extreme flexibility, said the panel of jurors from various nations after putting it through a complex, multi-stage test routine. "The performance of this machine is impressive, especially when it comes to speed and picking up badly positioned loads," they explained. Anita Würmser, Chairwoman of the IFOY AWARDS jury, described the robot as "a particularly flexible solution that takes just a few days to install and is very reasonably priced. The 'factory-in-a-day' is now within reach."

"The iw.hub by idealworks is a unique logistics innovation that has met with a considerable response and demand, both within the BMW Group and with customers worldwide. The fact that idealworks, a spin-off of ours, has been able to scoop such a prestigious award only months after it was established is a testament to our extreme innovativeness and process expertise," said Milan Nedeljkovic, Member of the BMW AG Board of Management, Production.

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The IFOY AWARDS run under the patronage of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy. Established in 2013, they are among the most prestigious accolades for intralogistics products. "We are delighted to receive this IFOY AWARD for bes AGV," said Michael Schneider, CEO of idealworks, explaining the importance of the award for the 100% BMW Group subsidiary. "At idealworks, extreme innovativeness, performance and flexibility are a part of our DNA. For us to share a stage with the best of the best is a huge honour and confirms we have chosen the right pathway: we have developed an autonomous mobile robot that offers a decisive value-add and will bring lasting change to the logistics industry." The logistics robot was developed within the BMW Group and is used there extensively. But since the autumn of last year, it is also being utilized by other renowned companies in various industry sectors.

About idealworks:

idealworks was established in November 2020 as a 100% subsidiary of the BMW Group. The Munich-based spinoff specialises in the development of autonomous transport robots and their control systems. Focusing on developing the most intelligent, flexible and most collaborative logistics services, idealworks aims to promote innovation and the use of autonomous logistics. In combination, the CE-certified iw.hub autonomous mobile robot, the iw.brain control unit and the cloud-based Any-Fleet control platform provide unique performance and tried-and-tested hardware for the autonomisation of intralogistics workflows in industry settings.

www.idealworks.com









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The BMW Group production network

Uniquely flexible and highly efficient, the BMW Group production network is able to respond quickly to changing markets and regional sales fluctuations. Expertise in manufacturing is a key contributor to the BMW Group's profitability.

The BMW Group production network uses a range of innovative digital and Industry 4.0 (IoT) technologies, including virtual reality, artificial intelligence and 3D printing applications. Standardised processes and structures across the production system ensure consistent premium quality and allow a high degree of customisation.

The BMW Group

With its four brands BMW, MINI, Rolls-Royce and BMW Motorrad, the BMW Group is the world's leading premium manufacturer of automobiles and motorcycles and also provides premium financial and mobility services. The BMW Group production network comprises 31 production and assembly facilities in 15 countries; the company has a global sales network in more than 140 countries. In 2020, the BMW Group sold over 2.3 million passenger vehicles and more than 169,000 motorcycles worldwide. The profit before tax in the financial year 2020 was € 5.222 billion on revenues amounting to € 98.990 billion. As of 31 December 2020, the BMW Group had a workforce of 120,726 employees.

The success of the BMW Group has always been based on long-term thinking and responsible action. The company set its course for the future early on and is making sustainability and resource efficiency the focus of the company's strategic direction – from the supply chain, through production, to the end of the use phase, for all its products.

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