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22 November 2018

BMW Group recognises suppliers for outstanding innovations **Fifth BMW Supplier Innovation Award presented at Plant Landshut**

Munich / Landshut. The BMW Group has honoured suppliers for their outstanding innovations and development work for the fifth time with the BMW Supplier Innovation Award: A total of 15 suppliers were recognised for their achievements and exceptional collaboration on Wednesday evening at BMW Group Plant Landshut. In the categories Productivity, Sustainability, Efficient Dynamics, Digitalisation and Emotional Experience five winners were selected.

The BMW Group's global network of 3,200 suppliers at 4,500 production locations in around 50 countries plays a decisive role in implementing new developments. Every day, BMW Group vehicle plants worldwide take delivery of more than 31 million parts. The companies that supply the BMW Group ceased to be just suppliers of components years ago and have now become system developers and innovation partners. Over the years, their share of value creation at the company has risen steadily and currently stands at over 70 percent. The BMW Group's annual purchasing volume totals around 60 billion euros.

"Close cooperation with our suppliers is the basis for guaranteeing supply security at all our production locations worldwide, as well as ensuring innovation in future areas of mobility," according to Dr. Andreas Wendt, member of the Board of Management of BMW AG, responsible for Purchasing and Supplier Network. It is no coincidence that the Supplier Innovation Award 2018 was presented at the Landshut plant, explained Wendt in his speech in front of 250 CEOs and managing directors of top suppliers: "This is not only home to a large share of our inhouse component production, but also our innovation hub for components and innovative solutions: The LuTZ, our Lightweight Construction and Technology Centre in Landshut, embodies our passion for innovation."

The winners of the BMW Supplier Innovation Award 2018 are:

Category "Productivity"

3Con: World's fastest press laminating system

BMW joined forces with 3Con to build the world's fastest press laminating system, which can attach sewn leather and synthetic-leather coverings to an injection-moulded part with a cycle time of only 30 seconds. Thanks to rotating combination tools, left-hand and

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right-hand drive components can be produced in sequence with no integration restrictions. This reduces production costs by more than 80 percent.

Category “Sustainability”

BASF SE: Best CO₂ performance with ambitious goals

In the report published by the non-governmental organisation CDP, BASF achieved the best performance in CO₂ emissions and anchoring the fight against climate change within the company. BASF is also working to reduce its own suppliers' emissions and is essentially oriented towards the global two-degree target.

Category “Efficient Dynamics”

LG Chem: 12V lithium-ion battery

Thanks to the 12V lithium-ion battery from LG Chem, the current system using two heavy lead starter batteries can be replaced by a lead-acid battery and a lightweight lithium battery. This saves weight and reduces CO₂. The lithium-ion battery is also more powerful than a lead-acid battery, with better recuperation ability – which makes the system even more environmentally-friendly.

Category “Digitalisation”

Inrix: On-street parking

The ConnectedDrive on-street parking service makes it easier for BMW customers to find parking in 68 cities across Europe and the US. The navigation system shows streets where parking is likely to be found in graphic form. This saves time and reduces CO₂ emissions. The service was recently improved by integrating ultrasound data from the BMW fleet.

Category “Emotional Experience”

Preh GmbH: Modular centre-console control panel

The modular centre-console control panel combines different technologies in a single component. Instead of many individual switches and outlets, there is just one interface, which allows customers to choose their preferred configuration. Thanks to its modular principle, it can be used in numerous BMW series.

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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 30 production and assembly facilities in 14 countries; the company has a global sales network in more than 140 countries.

In 2017, the BMW Group sold over 2,463,500 passenger vehicles and more than 164,000 motorcycles worldwide. The profit before tax in the financial year 2017 was € 10.655 billion on revenues amounting to € 98.678 billion. As of 31 December 2017, the BMW Group had a workforce of 129,932 employees.

The success of the BMW Group has always been based on long-term thinking and responsible action. The company has therefore established ecological and social sustainability throughout the value chain, comprehensive product responsibility and a clear commitment to conserving resources as an integral part of its strategy.

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