BMWCorporate Communications



Press release 7 June 2018

Drive system for the BMW i8 wins International Engine of the Year Award for the fourth time.

Munich/Stuttgart. The plug-in hybrid drive system in the BMW i8 (BMW i8 Roadster: fuel consumption combined 2.0 l/100 km [141.2 mpg imp], electric power consumption combined 14.5 kWh/100 km, CO2 emissions combined 46 g/km; BMW i8 Coupe: fuel consumption combined 1.8 l/100 km [156.9 mpg imp], electric power consumption combined 14.0 kWh/100 km, CO2 emissions combined 42 g/km) has won its category in the world's leading engine competition for the fourth year in succession.

The drive system powering the BMW i8 (BMW i8 Roadster: fuel consumption combined 2.0 l/100 km [141.2 mpg imp], electric power consumption combined 14.5 kWh/100 km, CO2 emissions combined 46 g/km; BMW i8 Coupe: fuel consumption combined 1.8 l/100 km [156.9 mpg imp], electric power consumption combined 14.0 kWh/100 km, CO2 emissions combined 42 g/km*) has won its class – for units with 1.4-litre to 1.8-litre displacement – in the International Engine of the Year Award for the fourth time in a row.

The i8's drive solution came onto the market in 2014 and has topped its category in the prestigious competition every year since. In its first year on sale, it also earned the best new engine and overall awards. The plug-in-hybrid drive system's latest success in the award – this is the fourth year in succession it has emerged victorious in one or more of the categories – demonstrates once again how far it remains ahead of the curve. The BMW i8 is the sports car of the future and has been the world's highest-selling PHEV sports car ever since its market launch in 2014. The BMW i3 and i8 stand at opposite ends of the BMW Group model spectrum as an expression of what is reasonably achievable today. And now their technology is being rolled out across BMW's core models.

The recently updated BMW i8 fuses sports-car performance with the fuel consumption normally expected of small models. The three-cylinder combustion engine in the BMW i8 develops 170 kW / 231 hp and drives the rear wheels. The electric motor – whose output has been raised to 105 kW/143 hp – sources its energy from a lithium-ion battery (which can be charged from a conventional domestic power socket) and channels the power it generates to the front axle. This model-specific plug-in hybrid system developed and produced by the BMW Group enables all-electric driving with a range now increased to a maximum 55

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Page 2

kilometres (34 miles) in the EU test cycle. The combination of an electric motor at the front axle and combustion engine at the rear creates all-wheel drive, gluing the car to the road. The virtues of this drive configuration can be enjoyed most prominently under full acceleration and through dynamically driven corners.

The more powerful of the two drive sources powers the rear wheels and teams up with the hybrid system's electric boost to deliver the driving pleasure for which BMW is renowned, plus trailblazing efficiency. The i8 needs just 4.4 seconds to sprint from 0 to 100 km/h (62 mph). Yet the combined fuel consumption of the BMW i8 Roadster as per the EU test cycle for plug-in hybrid vehicles stands at 2.0 litres per 100 kilometres (141.2 mpg imp) plus 14.5 kWh of electric energy. CO2 emissions are 46 grams per kilometre. The figures for the BMW i8 Coupe are 1.8 litres per 100 kilometres (156.9 mpg imp) and 14.0 kWh of electric energy, which means CO2 emissions of 42 grams per kilometre.

This year marks the 20th edition of the International Engine of the Year Award. Over the course of the award's history, engines developed for BMW Group brand models have notched up a total of 69 class and overall wins. An independent jury of experts identifies the best power units in a variety of categories. This year, the jury was made up of 70 automotive journalists from 31 countries. The award winners were crowned on Tuesday, 5 June 2017 at the Engine Expo fair in Stuttgart.

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BMW

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Page 3

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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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