



Media Information 21 February 2020

New record for BMW Group idea management – Employee proposals generate over 62 million € in savings

Top idea saves 39 million € in first year Horstmeier: "Our employees make all the difference"

Munich. Improvements proposed by BMW Group employees reached a new all-time high last year as part of the CRE8 idea management programme. "Over 62 million € in annual savings from employees' suggested improvements is the highest amount the BMW Group's idea management programme has ever achieved. More than 8,000 ideas for improvement have been submitted in 2019," explains Ilka Horstmeier, member of the Board of Management of BMW AG responsible for Human Resources, "and more than a quarter of those ideas were implemented."

One proposal – submitted by two employees from Munich – stood out financially from all the others. Together, the two were able to increase the functional efficiency of the head unit, the central electronic control unit in every current BMW vehicle – with potential savings of 39 million € in the very first year.

"Idea management is another area where our employees make all the difference. Their dedication to optimising processes is an important aspect of the BMW Group's innovative capacity," adds Horstmeier.

The company has honoured its employees' outstanding ideas for the past 80 years. Its idea management programme focuses on ideas outside employees' own field of work. Employees receive a bonus if their proposal is implemented. The amount reflects the creativity and commitment of the idea, the level of quality improvement and how economical it is to implement. It is also financially worthwhile for employees: In this case, each of the employees who put forward the idea received the maximum amount. 15 locations worldwide have CRE8 programmes.

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Corporate Communications

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Page

Date

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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 31 production and assembly facilities in 15 countries; the company has a global sales network in more than 140 countries.

In 2019, the BMW Group sold over 2,520,000 passenger vehicles and more than 175,000 motorcycles worldwide. The profit before tax in the financial year 2018 was € 9.815 billion on revenues amounting to € 97.480 billion. As of 31 December 2018, the BMW Group had a workforce of 134,682 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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