



Dr. Markus Kliffken (middle), Member of the Management Board at BPW, and Katrin Köster, Head of Corporate Communication, received the certificate from Prof. Dr. Tim Hosenfeldt, Senior Vice President Corporate Innovation at category sponsor Schaeffler

May 18, 2017 17:03 CEST

A breath of fresh air in the urban environment – BPW’s electric axle drive eTransport takes second place in GreenTec Awards

- BPW takes home Germany’s most prestigious environmental innovation prize for the first time
- New intelligent axle drive enhances safety and eliminates emissions in urban electric transport segment
- Innovation spawned by 120 years of running gear and axle

expertise – also for retrofitting to existing delivery fleets

Berlin/Wiehl, 18.05.2017 --- In Berlin on Friday BPW Group was presented with second prize for its electric axle drive eTransport in the GreenTec Awards, which rank among the world's leading environmental innovation distinctions. The axle is targeted at electric urban delivery vehicles between 7.5 and 18tonnes – a segment in which vigorous growth continues to be fuelled by online sales. Its innovative features include integration of the drive in the axle, and the space-saving location of the battery packs between the axles – out of harm's way in case of an accident. eTransport replaces the conventional powertrain, consisting of a diesel engine, transmission, drive shaft and exhaust emission control system, without adding to the vehicle's weight or reducing cargo space. By varying the torque transferred to each wheel (torque vectoring), it also significantly improves the vehicle's agility and manoeuvrability. The electric axle can even be retrofitted to existing delivery vehicles.

BPW Group is a leading innovator in the transport sector and an acknowledged hidden champion of the German commercial vehicle industry. When developing the electric drive concept, BPW was able to draw on around 120 years of experience in axle and running gear engineering. "Conventional electric drive systems retain a very deep structural and intellectual attachment to the internal combustion engine. They bring to mind the very first automobiles and the debt they owed to the horse-drawn carriages they replaced," explains Dr. Markus Kliffken, director of innovation management at BPW Bergische Achsen KG in Wiehl. "Our drive, in contrast, adopts an entirely new approach giving consideration to both the axle and the running gear. It enables us to overcome the design compromises accepted in the past as regards functionality, weight, accident impact and cargo space. We are delighted to receive this award, which has a history of recognising foresighted developments. Elon Musk won the GreenTec Award, for example, at a time when Tesla was practically unknown in Germany."

Since 2008 the GreenTec Awards have been rewarding concepts that bring

together innovative engineering and sustainability. The nominees and prize winners are selected by an independent panel of experts. Winning a GreenTec Award is certainly no easy task. Every year an experienced panel applies [strict criteria](#) when choosing the most deserving industry front-runners in several categories. BPW Group was nominated this year for the very first time.

About BPW Bergische Achsen KG

BPW Bergische Achsen KG is the parent company of the BPW Group. With more than 1,600 employees, including around 120 trainees, the family-run company has been developing and producing complete running gear systems for truck trailers and semi-trailers at its headquarters in Wiehl since 1898. BPW's technologies include axle systems, brake technology, suspension and bearings. BPW's trailer axles and running gear systems are in use in millions of vehicles around the world. An extensive range of services also provides vehicle manufacturers and vehicle operators with the opportunity to increase economic efficiency in their production and transport processes. www.bpw.de/en

About BPW Group

BPW Group, based in Wiehl, Germany, is a dependable international mobility and system partner for the transport industry, serving as a one-stop shop for innovative solutions. Its portfolio embraces axles, suspension systems and brake technologies (BPW), locking systems and bodywork technology (Hestal), lighting systems (Ermax), composite technologies (HBN-Teknik), and user-friendly telematics applications for trucks and trailers (idem telematics). BPW Group's technologies and services support manufacturers' cost-effective workflows and enable vehicle operators to manage their fleets efficiently by maximising the transparency of loading and transport processes. The owner-managed BPW Group encompasses more than 60 companies worldwide and employs around 6,400 people. www.wethinktransport.com

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