



from left: Moderator Alexandra von Lingen, Ralf Merkelbach (BPW) and Paul Göttl (ETM publishing house) at the awards ceremony.

Jun 22, 2017 16:37 CEST

## Best-informed judges in commercial vehicle sector recognise BPW as top brand of 2017

- **BPW wins best brand award for 11th time in succession**
- **Running gear innovation to play a key role in future of transportation**
- **Award presentation in Stuttgart on 21 June**
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**Wiehl/Ludwigsburg, 22.06.2017** --- BPW has retained its status as the best brand for trailer axles. Winners of the award are selected by the readers of three trade journals, namely FERNFAHRER, lastauto omnibus and trans aktuell. BPW was especially delighted to accept the accolade for the 11th time in succession. The best brand award is acknowledged as one of the most coveted prizes in the industry because all the judges are experienced industry professionals.

Ralf Merkelbach, BPW's senior key account manager for large fleets in Europe, and head of corporate communications Katrin Köster received the award at a ceremony in Ludwigsburg Palace on 21 June. Katrin Köster comments, "Even after scooping the prize 11 times in a row, we are by no means complacent. We know from almost 120 years of experience that we have to earn the trust of commercial vehicle professionals and decision-makers every day." Ralf Merkelbach adds, "That applies in particular as regards axles, which are critical elements – the cost effectiveness of transport depends not only on their quality and reliability, but also on the whole service concept. These factors also fuel our ambition to develop innovative running gear solutions, typically in the fields of electromobility or efficient and quiet refrigerated transport."

At the recent transport logistic fair in Munich, BPW exhibited an electric axle drive for the urban environment. Axles also have a crucial role to play in the future of refrigerated transport. BPW is currently testing running gear that eliminates customary exhaust gas and noise emissions by generating electricity to power a refrigeration unit when the vehicle's brakes are applied.

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### ***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](http://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](http://www.wethinktransport.com)*

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