

FVA | VDMA Electric Mobility Forum: E-MOTIVE

11th E-MOTIVE Expert Forum – cooperative competition for the best solution approaches for the power train of the future

In Schweinfurt, automotive manufacturers and suppliers came together with research and science to find new ways to cooperate

The wind is getting stronger. Automotive manufacturers and their suppliers have more and more opportunities to choose the right, or perhaps the wrong path. Success demands an increased focus on partnership and cooperation, both nationally and internationally. The E-MOTIVE Expert Forum brings industry together with research and science, supporting exchange and knowledge transfer in one of the most important core German industries.

Frankfurt/Schweinfurt, 05.09.2019: For the automotive sector, 2019 is all about change – from digitalization to electromobility and new mobility concepts. Discussion, exchange and cooperative competition for the best solution approaches are more essential than ever.

The meeting of experts in Schweinfurt in advance of the IAA 2019 to discuss the power trains of today and tomorrow could therefore not have come at a better time. The core topic of this year's E-MOTIVE Expert Forum was therefore exactly that: the further development and integration of new technologies in the vehicles needed for the mobility transformation.

Dr. Lutz Lindemann, CTO at Fuchs Petrolub SE, got to the heart of the matter: "E-mobility is a disruptive element in the technological development of mobility. The changes affect and change entire supply chains. Meeting the new technological challenges will also take a huge effort. Interdisciplinary exchange and the development of new partnerships are extremely important in order to find solutions.

The pressure on the automotive and supplier industry is now enormous. Society expects dedicated effort from Germany's most important industries, as well as specifications and support from policymakers. Bernd Stephan, President, SKF Automotive & Aerospace, is ready to deliver: "We will only reach the CO² goals by 2050 with the help of electromobility. It is a real game changer for the automotive industry." But he also notes the enormous challenges: "Switching to electric drives in vehicles has far-reaching consequences, both for OEMs and for the supplier industry. The entire supply chain will need to redefine itself."

"To back this up, policymakers need to improve the funding provided to research bodies like the Industrielle Gemeinschaftsforschung IGF (German Federation of Industrial Research Associations), support the establishment of excellence clusters for mobility, and optimize the statutory framework to guarantee fast transformation," said Hartmut Rauen, Deputy Executive Director at VDMA.

The E-MOTIVE Expert Forum is of course also a space for discourse. After all, not everyone is yet in agreement about whether the preferred approach of using electromobility is already the final word on the subject, or has already reached the necessary market maturity. Bert Hellwig, Head of System House E-Mobility at ZF Friedrichshafen AG, dived straight in to the debate: "The plug-in hybrid with an electric range of 80-100 km will be the ideal addition to battery cars over

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the next decade. Not BEV or PHEV, but BEV and PHEV.” He pointed to the behavior of consumers, who are buying more and more SUVs and petrol-powered cars, despite the ongoing discussion in society about tightening CO² limits.

Given the wide range of views on the drive of the future, Forschungsvereinigung Antriebstechnik e.V. (FVA - Research Association for Drive Technology) has joined up with Forschungsvereinigung Verbrennungskraftmaschinen e.V. (FVV - Research Association for Combustion Engines) and the Expert Forum’s program committee to organize a program of presentations and sessions that is as broad as it is in-depth. They seem to have taken note of the statement by Eckhard Hörner-Marass, Managing Director of 2H.IM Executive Interim Management GmbH: “The fast beat the slow, not the large the small.” If one had to put the program in Schweinfurt into a few words, it would be about interdisciplinary collaboration, international connection and cooperation between industry and science, in order to keep up with the increasing speed of international developments. More than 220 participants enjoyed the presentations by leading research institutes and keynote speakers from the automotive and supplier industry.

About E-Motive

The VDMA electromobility forum, E-MOTIVE, addresses central topics relating to technical aspects and applications of electromobility in an interdisciplinary manner, while examining the full and varied range of applications on offer. The central topics in and around electromobility are research, production technology and mobile machines. The forum pools the expertise from the diverse sectors represented by VDMA and is the point of contact for all activities relating to electromobility. www.elektromobilitaet.vdma.org

About the FVA

The FVA (Forschungsvereinigung Antriebstechnik e. V.) is the world's most successful and largest drive technology research and innovation network. Since 1967, industrial developers and scientific researchers have been working together on basic pre-competitive questions of drive technology. This form of industrial collaborative research provides the basis for product innovations of the more than 200 FVA members. Over 1700 projects with an investment volume of more than 230 million euros have been carried out by the FVA over the past 50 years. www.fva-net.de

Abot the FVV

The FVV (Forschungsvereinigung Verbrennungskraftmaschinen | Research Association for Combustion Engines) is a worldwide innovation network of companies, research & technology performers (RTD) and funding bodies. Manufacturers of automotive engines, industrial engines and turbomachinery as well as their suppliers and service providers work together with universities and other research establishments on cutting-edge technologies. The aim is to make engines and turbines cleaner, more efficient and sustainable – for the benefit of society, industry and the environment. The FVV has invested more than 500 million euros in 1,200 research projects since it was founded in 1956. www.fvv-net.de/en/

Attached photos

- E-motive gets down to business (juergenmai.com © FVA)
- Dr. Tobias Böhm, Group Research, Head of Electrified Powertrain, Volkswagen AG, Chairman E-Motive-Boards (juergenmai.com © FVA)
- Bert Hellwig, Head of System House E-Mobility, ZF Friedrichshafen AG (juergenmai.com © FVA)
- Bernd Stephan President - SKF Automotive & Aerospace, SKF Group (juergenmai.com © FVA)

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