

Double gold for Wiha – speedE® also carries off German Innovation Award 2019 in Gold

The German Innovation Awards ceremony took place at the German Museum of Technology in Berlin on 28 May, where hand tool manufacturer Wiha received the Gold award for its e-screwdriver speedE®. Two representatives from the company accepted the trophy for their invention, the tool which makes manual screw-driving incredibly easier.

There was much celebration at Wiha HQ in the Black Forest town of Schonach. After winning the German Design Award 2019 in Gold, the e-screwdriver's innovative capacity has now also been awarded gold by the German Design Council. The German Innovation Award honours cross-sector products and solutions which primarily differ from previous solutions due to a focus on users and added value.

With speedE®, Wiha has managed to further develop a conventional screwdriver into an electrically driven fastening tool using hybrid technology. Tailored precisely to electrician trade user needs, this invention revolutionises the existing manual screw fastening process.

Andreas Beh, Wiha Developer, travelled from the Black Forest to Berlin with Product Development Manager Holger Knaust to receive the trophy from Andrej Kupetz, CEO of the German Design Council. "speedE® is creating its own tool category and fills a gap in needs in the fastening tool market. As the "e-bike" of screwdrivers, it combines automatic screw-fastening with retention of manual control," explains Beh, adding, "This makes work significantly easier for users. We are enormously pleased that the jury has recognised and honoured this potential."

The jury evaluation includes criteria such as degree of innovation, user benefits and cost efficiency. Factors such as location and employment potential, long service life, market maturity, technical quality and function, applicability and synergy effects also play a key role in the decision process. For e-trade users, the speedE® excels in its own very special way: combining it with the insulation-protected slimBits, users can safely work in an electrically live environment with voltages up to 1,000 V while also protecting their health and conserving energy. The two-time prize winner is comparable with conventional screwdrivers in terms of size, weight and format.

Holger Knaust is delighted with this additional prestigious award, "For our entire developer team and all other departments involved in creating the speedE®, this honour is great recognition of our achievement and highlights the innovative spirit behind speedE®."

Characters (including spaces): 2.486

Image

Wiha_speedE_gia19_gda19_300dpi

Image caption

Now a two-time gold winner: after the German Design Award 2019 in GOLD, speedE® now also earns German Innovation Award 2019 in GOLD.



Image

GIA2019_Wiha_goldwinner_stage_300dpi

Source: © German Design Council/photos: Martin Diepold | Grand Visions

Image caption

Holger Knaust (left) and Andreas Beh (right) accepting congratulations from Andrej Kupetz, CEO at the German Design Council (centre), in Berlin on behalf of their fellow developers and the entire Wiha team.



Image

GIA2019_Wiha_goldwinner_ABeh_HKnaust

Source: © Wiha

Image caption

Holger Knaust (right), Wiha Product Development Manager, and fellow developer Andreas Beh (left) are delighted to take the certificate and Gold trophy back home to the Black Forest.



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www.wiha.com/en/newsroom under the corresponding press release. You are also welcome to contact us directly for image files.

About Wiha

Wiha is one of the world's leading manufacturers of hand tools for professional use in trade and industry. Founded as a small family firm 80 years ago, today, Wiha is a globally active company, still owner-operated by the Hahn family. Wiha seeks to make daily life much easier for users with a product assortment of innovative hand tool solutions geared towards user needs which increase efficiency, reduce costs and preserve health. This is why Wiha develops, designs and manufactures products that meet the strictest requirements for quality, functionality, durability and

ergonomic design. It provides a comprehensive range of tool concepts and sets, screwdrivers, torque tools, multitools, L-keys, bits, pliers, soft-faced hammers and much more. Special professional VDE hand tool solutions ensure a greater, optimised range, based on the Wiha segment philosophy focused on need and demand. A host of design awards underline the setting of standards in terms of functionality, design and quality. In 2016 and 2019, Wiha received the honoured distinction of being included among the top 100 most innovative companies among medium-sized enterprises in Germany. Wiha was also distinguished with the Manufacturing Excellence Award (MX Award) as the best SME in Germany back in 2014. A contemporary approach to HR management combined with a deeply rooted, open and fair corporate culture helped Wiha to gain Schwarzwald-Baar-Heuberg CCI's "Attractive Employer in Bronze" seal in 2016.

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