

## Press release in E

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Wolftechnik gets TOP 100 seal

### Science journalist Ranga Yogeshwar congratulates

**The Wolftechnik company has made it into the ranks of the most innovative medium-sized companies in Germany. And that in the largest starting field in the history of the TOP 100. The filter system manufacturer from Weil der Stadt was able to convince the jury with its innovative qualities and is therefore awarded the TOP 100 seal 2023. Only particularly innovative medium-sized companies receive this award. Ranga Yogeshwar accompanies the TOP 100 innovation competition as a mentor.**

Wolftechnik is innovative. And that in all its activities. And is now being awarded the TOP 100 seal for 2023. The medium-sized company from Weil der Stadt was able to convince with a number of innovative new products thanks to its forward-looking commitment in the field of filter systems. The jury also rated the internal work processes, which are characterized by transparency, and the company organization that promotes innovation at all levels as very positive. As well as the particularly pronounced sustainability thinking in the areas of environment, social affairs and the development of new innovative products.

Examples of this are the new type WFMBR depth filter cartridge with 20% recycled content, a first in the segment. And a self-cleaning filter in hygienic design according to EHEDG that does not require disposable filters. In addition, Wolftechnik has been working at the Weil der Stadt location for 2 years now, with zero CO2 emissions according to GHG protocol Scope 1 and Scope 2. In 2022 it was awarded the "Top Job" seal for outstanding employer qualities. In addition, Wolftechnik was awarded the 2022/23 research seal of the Stifterverband für die Deutsche Wissenschaft e.V. And supports sustainable projects such as the cleandanube project.

Wolftechnik was also able to score points in digitization. "For our company, digitization is the decisive factor in the further development of products and services as well as their innovation," emphasizes Wolftechnik Managing Director Peter Krause. Numerous ZIM projects (Zentrales Innovationsprogramm Mittelstand, ZIM for short) with the University of Karlsruhe and the University of Rosenheim, Campus Burghausen have been and are currently being carried out. "We received research grants in 2020 and 2021. In 2022 formed a dedicated department just for engineering and R&D projects. And developed the smart filter concept Wolftechnik 4.0 together with the Fraunhofer Institute and the Mittelstand (SME) 4.0 Competence Center," says Peter Krause.

Wolftechnik is in constant contact with the University of Karlsruhe about the latest technologies and trends through its membership in the Science and Research Promotion Association at KIT (Karlsruher Institute for Technology). Research is being carried out on very ambitious projects in the areas of artificial intelligence (AI), Industry 4.0 and the use of recycle for the manufacture of filter media.

### Successful at the premiere

Wolftechnik made it into the top 100 most innovative companies in Germany right at the first attempt. The TOP 100 competition is based on a scientific selection process. On behalf of compamedia, the organizer of the comparison, the innovation researcher Prof. Dr. Nikolaus Franke from the Vienna University of Economics and his team rated Wolftechnik on more than 100 criteria

from five categories: innovation-promoting top management, innovation climate, innovative processes and organization, external orientation and innovation success. It is particularly important whether the innovations of a company are just a product of chance or whether they are planned systematically and can therefore be repeated in the future.

"We have anchored the topic of innovation in our mission statement," says Wolftechnik Managing Director Peter Krause, describing the corporate culture. "We take on the responsibility of constantly evolving. Only through innovation can we secure the future." And not just for outstanding products with the highest customer benefit. But also for a good future of the location, the employees and the people in the region.

### **Innovation and sustainability as a guiding principle**

The issue of sustainability plays a major role at Wolftechnik. Here we have also two anchors fixed in our mission statement. "When in doubt, we always opt for the more sustainable solution, even if it makes it more difficult to reach our goal," emphasizes Peter Krause. With transparent structures, the company shows its profile both internally and externally. Technical developments and the personal development of each individual create opportunities for growth, added value and unique selling points. Above-average results based on a high level of competence and diligence. "Further training for management, executives and employees has a very high priority at Wolftechnik," says Peter Krause.

The certified quality management system ISO9001:2015 also explicitly includes the topic of development. "We have defined goals in the company and made innovation day-to-day business in the technology team," explains the managing director. "On average there are two to three smaller new developments every year and every two to three years we bring a major innovation to the market that has never existed before in our market segment."

All processes at Wolftechnik run in close and direct coordination with the management. The Technology team is currently working on 12 innovation projects.

### **Selection process with 100 test criteria**

To ensure that all applicants have the same chances, the seal is awarded in three size classes: up to 50, 51 to 200 and more than 200 employees. The current round was the 30th edition of the TOP 100 innovation competition. Interest was particularly high in the anniversary year. Many companies had applied. Only a part of them were successful. Because a maximum of 100 companies per size class can be awarded.

"The TOP 100 is about the question of how important the innovation goal is in the company," says Prof. Dr. Nikolaus Franke, scientific director of the competition. "Do routines and habits dominate or is the company able to question the existing, to think creatively and anew and to successfully assert itself on the market? We analyze this ability based on more than 100 test criteria," explains the professor.

On June 23, all top innovators of the 2023 class will come together in Augsburg for the award ceremony at the German SME Summit. There mentor Ranga Yogeshwar will personally congratulate them on their success in TOP 100.

## **Foto- / Abbildungsindex**

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Fig. 1

**TOP 100 seal confirms outstanding innovative qualities**

Only particularly innovative medium-sized companies receive this award. Science journalist Ranga Yogeshwar accompanies the TOP 100 innovation competition as a mentor.

Credit: compamedia GmbH

Fig. 2

**TOP 100 seal confirms outstanding innovative qualities**

Picture shows: Wolftechnik Managing Director Peter Krause holds the award in his hands

Photo: Martin Wolf Wagner



Fig. 3

**The Wolftechnik team leaders** attach great importance to open structures, short distances, a good flow of information and direct exchange with the employees

Picture shows: Wolftechnik's Management Team (back left to right): Marita Heuter, Vending. Dieter Meschik, Purchasing & Logistics. Georg Hudy, Engineering. Michael Kessler, Sales. (front left to right): Peter Krause, Managing Director, Heidrun Schilbach, Accounting.

Photo: Martin Wolf Wagner



Fig. 4

**Science journalist Ranga Yogeshwar appreciates the medium-sized company's strong culture of innovation**

Wolftechnik Filtersysteme from Weil der Stadt is one of the most innovative medium-sized companies in Germany. For this reason, Wolftechnik has now been awarded the TOP 100 seal.

Photo company building: Martin Wolf Wagner



Fig. 5

**Managing director Peter Krause**

Photo: Martin Wolf Wagner

