

Press release

Track and trace made remarkably easy and affordable, too – BPW paves the way towards digitisation for hauliers with mini telematics

Wiehl, 11.09.2018 --- Is digitisation leaving small and medium-sized hauliers behind? The fact is that around 85% of trailers on the market have no telematics and are missing a digital connection – faxes, paper trails and constant calls to drivers and dispatchers are still part and parcel of day-to-day work, even in 2018. The BPW Group now wants to change that – with a remarkably easy and affordable way to get started with digitisation that can be flexibly expanded.

Robust, attractive, simple and affordable – it was using this formula that Nicolas G. Hayek's 'Swatch' once rescued the Swiss watch industry from its Asian competitors. Using the same formula, the BPW Group now hopes to pave the way into digitisation for small and medium-sized hauliers with a brand new innovation from its Innovation Lab.

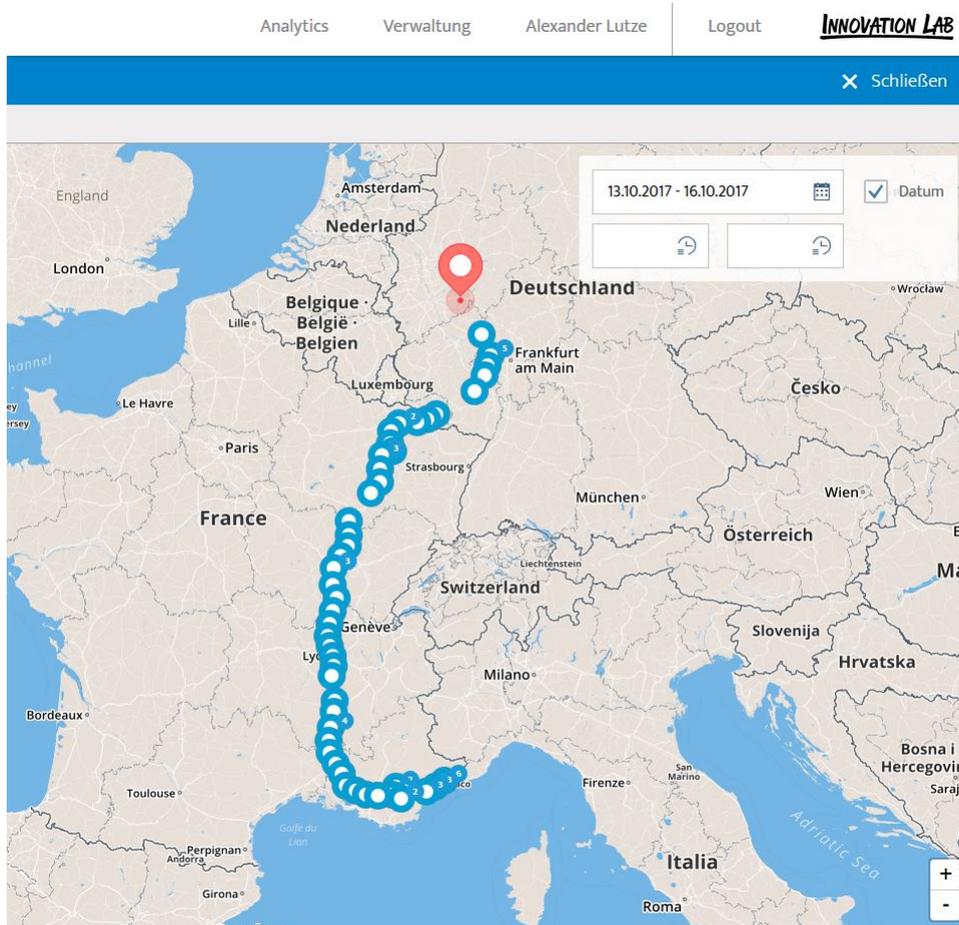
This solution is known as 'TC Track & Trace' and allows hauliers to easily locate their vehicles and identify their prospective arrival time. At its core is a handy and robust mini telematics box developed by BPW InnovationLab. The device doesn't need a power supply, SIM card or antenna. Instead, it is simply attached to or just set inside the vehicle – and it's ready to go. The device uses an innovative wireless data technology and gets by without expensive and energy-consuming mobile communications components, so the battery lasts up to two years.

The data sent by the box can be displayed on idem telematics' online 'cargofleet' platform, creating full transparency regarding the route and position of the vehicle at all times. Due to its low cost, the system is also suitable for locating and tracking goods carriers and other valuable assets.

The 'TC Track & Trace' boxes can be displayed in the Cargofleet portal alongside other idem telematics boxes – the open-system, manufacturer-independent cargofleet platform constitutes Europe's leading transport telematics, connecting trucks, trailers, freight and drivers. This allows idem telematics to support temperature-controlled transport and vehicle and swap box van management as well as hidden box van protection using 'digital seals' – plus many other features.

According to Marcus Sassenrath, Head of IT and Digital Strategy at the BPW Group and founder of the BPW Innovation Lab in Siegburg: 'right now, there's no easier or more affordable path into digitisation for hauliers. We are using innovative technology to lower the barriers to entry into telematics for smaller and medium-sized hauliers. This allows transport companies to gain valuable experience with minimal outlay and use the most successful telematics platform of its kind in Europe from the outset as they do so.'

The BPW Innovation Lab and idem telematics will be demonstrating the new TC Track & Trace system at **IAA Commercial Vehicles (20-27 September in Hanover, Hall 26, Stand C31)**. The system should be available off-the-shelf starting in December.



Picture caption: TC Track & Trace ensures transparency regarding the vehicle's route and position – at all times. (Source: BPW Bergische Achsen KG)

About BPW Bergische Achsen Kommanditgesellschaft

BPW Bergische Achsen Kommanditgesellschaft is the parent company of the BPW Group. With over 1,600 staff, including around 120 trainees, the family-owned 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, braking 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 the efficiency of their production and transport processes. www.bpw.de

About the BPW Group

The BPW Group, based in Wiehl, Germany, is a reliable international mobility and system partner for the transport industry and offers innovative solutions from a single source. Its portfolio ranges from axles, suspension systems and braking technologies (BPW), locking systems and trailer

The brands of the BPW Group:



body technology (Hestal), lighting systems (Ermax) and plastics technologies (HBN-Teknik) to user-friendly telematics applications for trucks and trailers (idem telematics). The BPW Group's technologies and services enable economical production processes for manufacturers and provide maximum transparency in loading and transport processes for efficient fleet management by vehicle operators. The owner-operated BPW Group encompasses more than 70 subsidiaries worldwide and employs around 7,000 people. www.wethinktransport.com

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