



## Press Release

### MATERIALICA Design + Technology Award 2014

## ebm-papst takes double gold

ebm-papst claimed two prizes at the ceremony for the MATERIALICA Design + Technology Award, presented for the twelfth time on 21 October 2014. The energy-saving evaporator fan was honoured in the category "CO<sub>2</sub> Efficiency", with the FlowGrid air inlet grille claiming gold in the "Product" category. A jury of material and design experts picked winners in five categories.

Gunter Streng, Director of Development for Product Division A at ebm-papst Mulfingen GmbH & Co. KG, accepted the award for the evaporator fan at the awards ceremony in Munich. The energy-saving fan, designed specifically for use in evaporators, is extremely reliable and boasts a long service life. It has been designed with a comprehensive approach as a complete unit and therefore achieves greater efficiency than a solution composed of individual components. Furthermore, the steel and copper requirement is reduced by 50 % compared to standard products with internal rotor motors, which also results in energy savings in production. The plastic fan impeller, designed as a single piece, has aerodynamically optimised blade geometries, which improve aerodynamic performance. Together with the savings from the use of efficient EC motor technology, the product makes a valuable contribution to reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

Michael Strehle received the award for the FlowGrid air inlet grille. With FlowGrid, noise-generating disturbances in the fan inflow are a thing of the past. The air inlet grille, placed at the intake side, can reduce the noise level by up to 3.9 dB(A) and the blade-passing noise by up to 16 dB, depending on the application and installation location. The innovative air inlet grilles work with both axial and centrifugal fans and do not affect their high efficiency in any way. Using them can help to reduce or even avoid entirely the use of cost-intensive, passive noise-reduction measures. The patent application process for the FlowGrid is still ongoing.

The MATERIALICA Design + Technology Award is awarded annually by MunichExpo Veranstaltungen GmbH during the MATERIALICA trade fair. The award is given for the following five categories: Material, Surface & Technology, Product, CO<sub>2</sub> Efficiency, Student. Over the past ten years, this award has attained great prestige, honouring as it does technological and design excellence. Further prizes in various categories went to Daimler AG, Brose Fahrzeugteile GmbH & Co. KG, BASF Deutschland AG and Schaeffler Technologies GmbH & Co. KG

Katrin Lindner  
Trade press coordinator  
Phone: +49 7938 81-7006  
Fax: +49 7938 81-97006  
Katrin.Lindner@de.ebmpapst.com

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Press office contact  
ebm-papst Group

Phone: +49-7938-81-7105  
presse@de.ebmpapst.com  
twitter.com/ebmpapst\_NEWS  
facebook.com/ebmpapstFANS  
youtube.com/ebmpapstDE  
www.ebmpapst.com  
www.greentech.info/ec-technologie



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Photo 1: Robert Metzger, Managing Director of MunichExpo GmbH (left) hands the prizes to Gunter Streng and Michael Strehle. Right: Christian Trassl, chairman of the jury.

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Phone: +49-7938-81-7105  
presse@de.ebmpapst.com  
twitter.com/ebmpapst\_NEWS  
facebook.com/ebmpapstFANS  
youtube.com/ebmpapstDE  
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twitter.com/ebmpapst\_NEWS  
facebook.com/ebmpapstFANS  
youtube.com/ebmpapstDE  
www.ebmpapst.com  
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Photo 2: The air inlet grille is equally effective with both axial and centrifugal fans. It has virtually no effect on power input and air performance.



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Photo 3: The energy-saving fan specially developed for use in evaporators.

Photos: ebm-papst

#### **About ebm-papst**

The ebm-papst Group is the world's leading manufacturer of fans and motors. Since it was founded, the technology company has continuously set global market standards.

Developments have ranged from electronically controlled EC fans, through aerodynamic improvements of fan blades, and on to the resource-conserving selection of materials, with bio-materials being just one option.

In fiscal year 2013/14, the company achieved a turnover of €1.5 billion. Throughout the world, ebm-papst employs around 11,500 people at 18 production sites (including in Germany, China and the USA) and in 57 sales offices. Fans and motors from the global market leader can be found in many industries, including ventilation, air conditioning and refrigeration, household appliances, heating, IT and telecommunications, as well as automotive and commercial vehicles.

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