

New from BHTC at the IAA 2007: Energy-saving button for climate control systems

Climate Control with ECO-AC™ for Climate Protection

Lippstadt / Frankfurt, September 2007. **The Lippstadt-based climate comfort company this year is launching an air conditioning control system with a genuine energy-saving function. The new ECO-AC™ - feature makes it possible to continue to operate the functions required for safe driving and climate comfort while maintaining a moderately controlled climate – and still save energy: using the ECO-AC™ button, the maximum power level of the compressor with the highest energy consumption can be controlled without switching off the automatic control of the air-conditioning system. BHTC once again is setting new standards in environmental protection and design.**

This initiative is backed by a new philosophy. “We are arguing for a rethink in terms of the requirements for climate control systems,” says Norbert Gruber, CEO of BHTC. Systems are still being rated by how fast they reach the desired temperature.“ This requires maximum power, which means high energy consumption, and that is not what we need today. “In contrast, we have developed a system with which it is possible to provide the climate inside the car that is needed at all times for safe driving and travel comfort, and yet achieves significant energy savings,” Managing Director Friedrich Waldeyer explains. To date, it has only been possible to save energy with climate control systems by switching off the compressor – with the result that key climate control functions are no longer available. At the IAA 2007, the engineers from Lippstadt will demonstrate a way to reduce CO₂ emissions by increasing energy efficiency.

System expertise in the car interior

In addition to the forward-looking function of the systems, interior comfort is becoming increasingly important. “A pleasant climate alone is no longer enough,” says Gruber. “Carmakers today expect simple, straightforward operation combined with an operating surface that perfectly matches the car’s interior design.“ With the expertise available in its own “Synthetics Competence Center“, BHTC has what it takes to enhance the front panels of the operating elements to meet the manufacturer’s specifications in every detail. “This means that we are able to meet all the performance requirements in terms of the climate control system’s hard and software,” points out Waldeyer.

At IAA, BHTC will be demonstrating its all-round competence in ease of operation and interior comfort with various materials, material combinations and innovative control elements for **climate control panels** that in each case match the individual character of specific cars: a selection of different, high-quality materials for the **Audi TT and R8**, a modern, snazzy look for the **Smart Fortwo** or the elegant, ergonomic effect created for the **Mercedes Sprinter** – all BHTC control panels offer intuitive operation – in other words, they are easy to use and enable safe driving. High-quality finished surfaces, clear functionality, attractive soft-touch elements, excellent illumination and individualized acoustics – BHTC has mastered the fine art of blending surfaces, shapes, material properties, coating techniques and technical performance characteristics of the materials and combines this with its competence in climate control. At the same time, the company covers the entire area of application: from private car to commercial vehicle, sporty to elegant, low-cost, high-volume model to luxury limousine.

Gruber: “The decisive factor for OEMs is that they get cutting edge technology at BHTC from a single source worldwide – from surface finishing and operation to integration in the vehicle electronics.” In the very early design phase of a new vehicle and in collaboration with the OEMs and specialized component suppliers, BHTC develops innovative and intelligent solutions that meet the highest standards of comfort and design. Computer-supported simulation techniques are used to speed up the development process. Due to BHTC’s global network, with company locations in all the key markets, customers all over the world can benefit from the bundled know-how of synthetics experts. In addition to its locations in Europe and the United States, BHTC has set up own production facilities in India and China, and BHTC Japan is just being founded.

Proven basic program: sensors and power electronics

A comprehensive sensor program (the solar sensors portfolio includes mono – dual – 3D, humidity and temperature sensors) and power electronics products (basic blower module, cyclic blower controller, auxiliary PTC heater) round out the range of products BHTC will have on display at this year’s show.

Visit us at IAA 2007:

Hall 5.1/booth A20.

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