

## **IFA Rotorion enters motor sport**

- **IFA know-how for DTM, NASCAR and WRC**
- **Motor sport solutions do not have to cost a lot**
- **High-performance "Nitroprop" shafts for the 2016 season**

**HALDENSLEBEN (September, 2015).** IFA Rotorion is entering international motor sport. For that, the German company, which is steeped in tradition, has pooled its decades of know-how from all business divisions and contributed it to the development of high-performance drive shafts. Under the name "Nitroprop", ultra-lightweight and extremely durable drive shafts are to be used as soon as in the 2016 motor sport season. Areas of use are DTM, NASCAR and WRC. From September 15 onwards, IFA Rotorion will be presenting the variants of the new Nitroprop to the international trade public for the first time at the world's largest motor show, the IAA.

Professional motor sport has always been the ideal stage for the automotive industry to demonstrate the know-how and performance of products. IFA Rotorion is now also expanding into international motor sport, as Felix von Nathusius, CEO of IFA Rotorion Holding GmbH, announced: "We have been developing drive shafts and joints for cars and commercial vehicles for more than 50 years. As the market leader in Europe and the US, we want to now also underpin our leading position in competition on the racing track."

The company's entry into motor sport has long been planned. Oliver Schimpf, managing director and CMO, sees now as the right moment in time: "We have analyzed the market and see potential for us. The cost pressure in motor sport is constantly growing and expensive materials are increasingly becoming prohibited. With our new Nitroprop versions, we offer manufacturers and racing teams intelligent standard solutions at low prices. Ideally, we already want to see our Nitroprop at the starting line in the 2016 season."

### **Low-cost standard solutions for touring cars and rally sport**

Two variants for touring cars and rally sport have already been completed as prototypes. The drive shaft specialist is focusing on international touring car series such as DTM or NASCAR as well as WRC in rally sport, including the different raid series.

The aim is that seventy percent of the components in the different Nitroprop versions are also used in the large-scale series. It will thus be possible to draw on several thousand parts that have already proven themselves over many years. These components have several million driven kilometers and are always more durable than today's motor sport solutions. They are also characterized by their lower weight. With the Nitroprop, any screw work required when installing and removing the shaft is also a thing of the past. As quick-change systems are used, the shaft can be replaced during competition in half the time, or even faster.

## **Benefiting from motor sport**

The IFA engineers are already looking forward to the new area of use, as Schimpf explains: "Motor sport is an exciting environment that inspires and motivates people. For our young engineers it is an excellent arena to get themselves fit, and stay that way. The motor sport department thus becomes our company's gym."

The IFA engineers drew on know-how from all business divisions for the new development of the Nitroprop. Around 13,000 prototypes for diverse areas of use are developed every year at IFA Rotorion.

In addition, Schimpf is expecting not one but two other positive effects for future development work: "With our activities in motor sport, we can implement ideas that are not yet being considered for articulated shafts in series cars today. At the same time, the newly acquired insights from motor sport will provide us with important impulses for the optimization of the car shafts of tomorrow."

At the International Motor Show (IAA) in Frankfurt am Main, the new Nitroprop versions will be presented to the trade public from September 15 until 27 in the crossover from Hall 5.1 to 6.1, booth A02.

## **About IFA Rotorion:**

IFA-ROTORION is one of the world's largest longitudinal shaft manufacturers. With sales close to half a billion euros, IFA-ROTORION is listed among the top 50 companies in the German automotive supply industry. Within Saxony-Anhalt, IFA-ROTORION is the largest company in the automotive industry. At major manufacturing hubs in Haldensleben, Charleston (USA) and Shanghai (China) employing over 2,200 associates, IFA-ROTORION produces drive shafts, joints and other components for renowned automobile manufacturers such as Mercedes Benz, Volkswagen, BMW, Porsche, Ferrari, General Motors and the Ford Motor Company. IFA ROTORION is also rendering development services in drive technology and lightweight construction. Cutting-edge research and development are the pillars underpinning the success of IFA-ROTORION. The company was privatized in 1992 by Heinrich von Nathusius.