

## Press release

### Measuring technology is key to long-term development of the automobile industry

**Winterthur, 6 October 2017 – The automobile industry is facing major political pressure to launch alternative drive technologies. The sector is therefore gearing up for the transformation of combustion engines. Future developments will be shaped by an increased demand for hybrid and electric vehicles, as well as self-driving vehicles. The Kistler Group offers a range of measuring technology that can be applied to this end.**

The Swiss company generates as much as 70% of its sales revenue from measuring technology for the automobile industry. In crash tests as well as durability and endurance tests, the measuring technology is similar regardless of the particular drive technology. In contrast, measurements in engine research and development are directly affected by the transformation of the combustion engine.

#### No decline in sight for the combustion engine

Jürg Stadler, Head of Engine Research and Development at Kistler, explains why the combustion engine will remain important in the medium term: "In order to achieve the CO<sub>2</sub> emission reduction targets, combustion engines will need to be enhanced and developed further. Combustion engines will continue to be used in hybrid drives or drives with energy recovery features." This year's Bloomberg New Energy Finance Report<sup>1</sup> also surmises that sales of vehicles with combustion engines will remain steady. Diesel however will become less significant as a result of the disproportionate increase in costs: the stricter the emission limit, the higher the cost of exhaust emission treatment. Combined with the current political climate the diesel engine's image has suffered significant damage, which could influence consumers' willingness to invest.

#### Measuring technology is key

The industry will focus on the development of innovative gasoline engines and sustainable electric vehicles. Kistler's innovative measuring technology can help address the growing demands of the automobile market – including new markets in emerging economies. "We expect to see the demand for intelligent measurement solutions rise as a result of increasingly complex drives and stricter safety requirements, as well as trends, such as self-driving vehicles. Change will require comprehensive measurements and a deep understanding of the industry – especially if the vehicle of the future is fully automated and driverless," says Stadler.

#### Unbridled growth

This year, the Kistler Group reinforced its market position with three acquisitions. Its range of Industry 4.0 (Vester Elektronik GmbH, IOS GmbH) and transport safety (eso GmbH) solutions was consequently strengthened. "Thanks to our comprehensive portfolio and pioneering technologies, we are now well equipped to face any future challenges in the automobile industry, including Industry 4.0," Rolf Sonderegger, CEO of the Kistler Group, says.

<sup>1</sup> Source: [http://docketpublic.energy.ca.gov/PublicDocuments/17-IEPR-07/TN217132\\_20170417T164544\\_Global\\_EV\\_trends\\_and\\_forecast.pdf](http://docketpublic.energy.ca.gov/PublicDocuments/17-IEPR-07/TN217132_20170417T164544_Global_EV_trends_and_forecast.pdf)

The Swiss measuring technology experts received orders worth approximately 325.2 million US dollar by the end of September 2017, which accounts for a 19.2 % growth compared to the same period last year, or 19.4 % when adjusted for currency effects. Kistler currently employs 1,850 staff members at 61 sites across the world.



Precise measurements are an absolute necessity in combustion engine development. Kistler's KiBox Measurement and Evaluation System allows users to carry out complete combustion analysis in the vehicle and on the engine test bench. (Source: Kistler Group)

A high-resolution version of this image is available for download [here](#).

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**Kistler DTI technology ensures efficient crash tests at Continental**

Continental Safety Engineering relies upon innovation leader Kistler's data collection technology for its efficient and effective crash tests. The crash test dummies feature Kistler's reliable DTI (Digital Transducer Interface) technology, which transforms each crash test's analog measurement data into digital signals in the sensor itself, and sends them to a central data recorder via a differential bus system. Continental benefits from the technology's reliability and high data quality. Additionally, the flexible measuring technology solution takes up less space. As a result, the required amount of cabling is massively reduced since just one cable is routed from the dummy. This also reduces the required time for test preparation. At the same time, the susceptibility to failure is also minimized, which in turn increases measurement accuracy.

Read our success story on how [DTI technology from Kistler contributes to successful in-dummy crash test measurements.](#)



Tried-and-tested crash test dummies from Continental use pioneering DTI technology from Kistler for maximum flexibility and measurement accuracy. (Source image: Continental)

**About the Kistler Group**

Kistler is the global leader in dynamic measurement technology for recording pressure, force, torque, and acceleration. Kistler's modular solutions are based on state-of-the-art technology.

As an experienced development partner, Kistler enables its customers in industry and science to optimize products and processes and to ensure sustainable competitive advantages. The owner-managed Swiss corporation shapes future innovations in automobile development and industrial automation and numerous up-and-coming sectors through its unique sensor technology. With its broad application knowledge and absolute commitment to quality, Kistler makes an important contribution to the further development of current major trends. These include areas such as electrified drive technology, autonomous vehicles, emission reduction, and Industry 4.0.

Around 1,850 employees at 61 sites around the world dedicate themselves to the development of new solutions and provide local application-specific services. The Kistler Group has been growing together with its customers since it was founded in 1959, and generated sales revenues of CHF 358 million in 2016. Around 10% of this goes back into research and technology, thereby ensuring better results for all customers.

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