Become an Author

Dear Reader,

I often get asked how an article makes it onto the cover of ATZ. In the case of the Pre-Scan concept in the Mercedes-Benz F700, it was like this: about a year ago, I listened to a paper presented by the author on the subject of predictive suspension control at the highly regarded chassis congress "chassis.tech" at the Technical University of Munich. I was immediately fascinated by this innovative approach and spoke to Dr. Streiter about it. I didn't succeed, however, in getting him to write an article for us at short notice, as he was "fully booked" for months ahead. At the presentation of the F700 at the IAA last September, I saw the reason why. A new dialogue was initiated, and it finally led to the publication of the present article.

Regardless of whether this approach becomes standard practice or not (and a great deal speaks in its favour), we are proud of this article, as it stands for the 110-year-old tradition in which ATZ has documented the very latest progress in automotive engineering and provided a platform for information and the exchange of ideas.

Above all, a publication of such quality needs time. Only someone who has developed the system himself can write in this quality about the algorithms on which the Pre-Scan system is based. And for most creative engineers, time is always in short supply.

So why should you — in a professional world that demands the highest performance from you day in day out — also be expected to put in extra hours writing articles and conference papers? Because it is a worthwhile investment in your personal network. It is a form of giving that allows you to get something back when the time comes. And as employers also benefit from networked employees, there are indeed only winners in this game.

Shortly after the publication of this issue of ATZ, the editorial team will begin its annual planning for 2009. I would be very pleased if, during the course of next year, you could contribute an article or present a paper at one of our twenty or so conferences.



Johannes Winterhagen Editor-in-Chief

Johannes Winterhagen Munich, 14 April 2008

Claus Why

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