

Press release

Friedhelm Loh Group

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“WirtschaftsWoche” magazine honours innovative edge cloud data centre

Friedhelm Loh Group wins innovation award with ONCITE

First place for the Friedhelm Loh Group in “2020 Innovation Champions Award”. The award-winning ONCITE solution is the first real-time capable, data sovereign and AI-based edge cloud data centre for the future industrial processing of manufacturing data. The award, presented by the “WirtschaftsWoche” business magazine, the University of St. Gallen and the Academy of German World Market Leaders (ADWM), honours the most innovative companies in Germany.

Herborn, 12 February 2020 – The Innovation Award for ONCITE was presented on January 29 at the “Summit Meeting of World Market Leaders 2020” held in Schwäbisch Hall in the presence of high-ranking representatives from politics and business. In the Technology Innovation category, the “All in One Edge” solution was awarded first prize as a “beacon for German industry”. “We are very proud that our development has gained recognition in such a renowned environment,” says Dr Sebastian Ritz, Managing Director of German Edge Cloud within the Friedhelm Loh Group: “The jury’s vote confirms the feedback we have received from our customers, namely that digital streamlining of manufacturing, value creation with data from manufacturing operation, and the protection of expertise through data control are important future issues for the whole of German industry.”

Summit meeting for innovative power

The “Summit of World Market Leaders” under the patronage of Peter Altmaier, Germany’s Federal Minister for Economic Affairs and Energy, and involving around

Corporate Communications

Dr Carola Hilbrand
Phone: +49 2772 505-2527
E-Mail: hilbrand.c@rittal.de

Steffen Maltzan
Phone: +49 2772 505-2680
E-mail: maltzan.s@rittal.de

Rittal GmbH & Co. KG
Auf dem Stützelberg
35745 Herborn, Germany
www.rittal.com

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500 participants, is one of the largest meetings of current and potential world market leaders and political decision-makers in Germany. It focuses on companies whose innovative strength is securing the future of medium-sized German businesses.

The jury presenting the award includes such business experts as Beat Balzli, editor-in-chief of WirtschaftsWoche, Dr Walter Döring, former Economics Minister of the state of Baden-Württemberg, Professor Christoph Müller from the University of St. Gallen, as well as board members from companies such as Schunk, Datev and the Würth Group.

The award-winning answer: digital value creation with data sovereignty

ONCITE is a turnkey edge cloud data centre for real-time and data sovereignty Industry 4.0 application scenarios. It stores and processes data practically in real time in manufacturing processes (“on premises”) and harmonises the data for artificial intelligence (AI)-based analyses.

This way and in the shortest possible time, businesses can digitally optimise their production processes, use data to create value and make it available for further use. The users retain complete control over their data and may decide for themselves who is given access to which data, as well as which platforms and public clouds they want to use in order to network with their partners.

The solution has been developed by Rittal, iNNOVO Cloud, German Edge Cloud and IoTOS – four members of the Friedhelm Loh Group of companies – in close cooperation with Bosch Connected Industry and the Fraunhofer Gesellschaft.

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From industry, for industry

With ONCITE, the Friedhelm Loh Group has created a solution “from German industry for German industry.” With this innovation, it is also driving forward the major digital project Gaia-X, with which the German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy and manufacturing companies want to bolster the European businesses against international competition.

In 1961, as Rittal began with an innovation in enclosure technology, the Friedhelm Loh Group is now supporting its customers in a variety of fields on their way into the digital future – from the value chain in enclosure manufacturing to market-leading IT racks, modular data centres, edge and hyperscale computing solutions and ONCITE.

“ONCITE is the answer to vital questions that are currently being asked by companies – particularly in manufacturing. In other industries too, ever greater amounts of data have to be securely stored, selected and processed in a value-added manner, for example in the health care sector or in ‘smart living’. There is further potential for ONCITE and Gaia-X in these areas as well”, Dr Ritz explains.

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Captions

Image 1: fri20208800.jpg: First place for ONCITE: Dr Sebastian Ritz from German Edge Cloud (centre) and Dieter Meuser from IoTOS (centre right) are delighted with the 2020 Innovation Champions Award. (Photo: Thorsten Jochim)

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Image 2: fri20208900.jpg: The winner! ONCITE, the first real-time capable, data sovereignty and AI-based edge cloud data centre for the future industrial processing of manufacturing data.

ONCITE

ONCITE is a highly available and flexibly scalable edge cloud data centre with a real-time capable edge cloud stack and a pre-installed, extendible industry-specific range of edge applications. Together with German Edge Cloud, IoTOS, iNNOVO Cloud and Rittal, the ONCITE consortium includes four subsidiaries of the Friedhelm Loh Group. They all contribute different expertise, which, in combination with the services of Bosch Connected Industry, makes this all-in-one solution possible. Rittal is supplying the server components, iNNOVO Cloud is building the edge cloud platform along with German Edge Cloud, while partners Bosch and IoTOS are supplying the applications that make IIoT applications possible.

Further information is available at: www.oncite.io

Friedhelm Loh Group

A global player, the Friedhelm Loh Group (F.L.G.) invents, develops, and makes made-to-measure products and integrated solutions for manufacturers, distributors, and other businesses. Member companies of the Group lead their respective industries in innovation and quality. They include the world's leading provider of modular platforms for enclosures, power distribution, climate control and IT infrastructure (Rittal); Europe's number one supplier of software solutions for plant engineering, general engineering, and manufacturing; and a specialist in integrated manufacturing with state-of-the-art materials – steel, aluminium, and plastics.

The family-owned enterprise maintains a worldwide presence, with 18 production sites and 80 subsidiaries. Managed by founder Prof. Friedhelm Loh himself, the Group employs 12,500 people and generated revenues of €2.6 billion in 2018. In 2020, it was named one of Germany's leading employers by the Top Employers Institute, for the twelfth year running. Within the scope of a Germany-wide survey, Focus Money magazine identified the Friedhelm Loh Group as one of the nation's best providers of vocational training for the fourth time in 2019.

For more information, visit www.friedhelm-loh-group.com