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Supply Chain Awards 2022: Knorr-Bremse and Trucksters are the winners

Knorr-Bremse has won the Supply Chain Management Award 2022, Trucksters has been awarded the Smart Solution Award 2022.

Frankfurt am Main/Munich, 17 November 2022. The winners of the Supply Chain Awards 2022 – i.e. the Supply Chain Management Award and the Smart Solution Award – have been chosen. The Supply Chain Management Award 2022 has gone to Knorr-Bremse. This year, LOGISTIK HEUTE, PwC and Strategy& presented the Supply Chain Management Award for the 17th time. The winner of the Smart Solution Award 2022, which was bestowed for the fifth time, is Trucksters. The Supply Chain Awards 2022 were presented in Frankfurt am Main on 15 November as part of a gala prize-giving ceremony that was held with some 100 people in attendance. The final day of the Supply Chain Awards 2022 also featured some compelling keynotes, group discussions, a fascinating round-table discussion, workshop sessions and plenty of networking opportunities.

In the course of the finalists' pitches, the audience had the opportunity to assess the presentations of four different companies. As in previous years, the participants' votes were taken into account in the jury's assessment. The jury, consisting of supply chain professionals, academics, consultants and industry media representatives, made their selection from the finalists who were chosen after

auditing, comprising: BSH, Knorr-Bremse, MediaMarktSaturn and Schaeffler for the Supply Chain Management Award 2022 and Colonia Technologies, Flexport, Prewave and Trucksters for the Smart Solution Award 2022. The patron of the Supply Chain Awards 2022 is Oliver Luksic, MdB and parliamentary state secretary at the Federal Ministry for Digital and Transport.

Supply Chain Management Award 2022: prize winner Knorr-Bremse

To become more efficient, sustainable and resilient – that was the objective of the NextGen European Distribution Network. With this project, Knorr-Bremse has made the European logistics network of its Rail Vehicle Systems division fit for the future. In view of changing material flows, geopolitical factors and growing ESG (Environment, Social, Governance) requirements, Knorr-Bremse had already decided to further develop its logistics and supply chains prior to the pandemic. The results now speak for themselves: A 15% reduction in logistics costs, significantly lower carbon emissions through a 20% drop in tonne-kilometres travelled, and an increase in logistical speed and flexibility towards customers. Trendsetting tools such as the Digital Twin also played a pivotal role in the implementation. This virtual image of its entire footprint enabled Knorr-Bremse to improve transparency in its logistics network and thus create the basis for cutting its costs.

"Knorr-Bremse's supply chain transformation convinced the jury with its consistent transformation approach from strategy to implementation. The success of the 'NextGen European Distribution Network' is demonstrated, among other things, by a significant reduction in costs and tonne-kilometers. Knorr-Bremse has managed to balance requirements for service levels, costs and ESG aspects," said jury member Stefan Schrauf, Global Supply Chain and EMEA Operations Lead, PwC Germany, in his laudation. "In the future, the project will enable Knorr-Bremse to continuously improve its distribution network with a Digital Twin."

Thomas Rapp, Vice President Supply Chain & Service Operations at Knorr-Bremse Systeme für Schienenfahrzeuge GmbH: "We would very much like to thank the jury and the audience of this year's Supply Chain Awards for acknowledging our NextGen European Distribution Network. This major project is an essential step forward in helping us to strengthen and enhance our logistics and supply chains across Europe. We are proud to be able to contribute to further reinforcing Knorr-Bremse's position and to increasing speed, flexibility and quality for our customers with the improvements and optimisations we have achieved. Overall, the project is a glowing example of how we, as a global technology leader, can position ourselves to become even more efficient, sustainable and resilient in these times of change."

Since 2006, the Supply Chain Management Award has recognised outstanding solutions of industrial value chains and thus companies that optimise their supply chain in a consistent or unusual way. Award-worthy are convincing end-to-end supply chain solutions as well as outstanding implementations in sub-areas of the value chain. Award winners included HelloFresh (2021), Electrolux (2020), Continental (2019), Cemex Germany (2018), Gries Deco (2017), Peri (2016) and Nokia Networks (2015).

Smart Solution Award 2022: prize winner Trucksters

Founded in 2018, road transport start-up Trucksters cuts transit times by up to 50% and offers cost savings of 20% by using a relay system between truck drivers based on big data and artificial intelligence. As specialists in long-distance haulage, Trucksters also minimises the risk of cargo theft as goods never stand still, and allows drivers to sleep more nights at home as they travel shorter distances. This is made possible by relays and using corridors that function in a similar way to airlines.

Dr Jürgen Brock, CEO of fulfilmenttools, last year's winner, paid tribute to the winner of the Smart Solution Award 2022 in his laudation: "With its relay system, Trucksters offers an innovative approach that generates clear added value by reducing transport times and costs. The solution can also help improve the quality of life of drivers and drive the use of e-trucks." It was this overall package that led the jury to honour Trucksters with the Smart Solution Award 2022.

Luis Bardají, CEO and co-founder of Trucksters: "We are enormously excited to win an award that, for us, represents so much within the industry. It is an honour and a pleasure to receive this award among so many proposals and disruptive innovation projects. I would like to thank the jury and the organisers, and also congratulate the other finalists. A distinction is a great boost towards the goal of making road transport more efficient and more human, because we only understand the use of technology as a way to improve people's lives".

In 2022, the Smart Solution Award was awarded for the fifth time for particularly innovative concepts that are still at an early stage of their implementation. The prize rewards solutions that have the potential to fundamentally change traditional value chains going forward. Past prize winners are: fulfilmenttools (2021), Schubert Additive Solutions (2020), parcelLab (2019) and InstaFreight (2018).

"Congratulations to the winning teams from Knorr-Bremse and Trucksters. The finals day brought the supply chain community together and facilitated open and stimulating dialogues in different formats. The Supply Chain Awards will be presented again in 2023. We are already looking forward to many exciting solution concepts from the applicants and to once again offering the supply chain community a meeting place for exchange," said jury member Matthias Pieringer, editor-in-chief of LOGISTIK HEUTE.

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Attachment: Happy winners: Stefan Schrauf (left), Global Supply Chain and EMEA Operations Lead, PwC Germany, and Matthias Pieringer, Editor-in-Chief LOGISTIK HEUTE (right), presented the awards to the winning teams from Trucksters (Smart Solution Award 2022) and Knorr-Bremse (Supply Chain Management Award 2022)

Image Credit: Mario Andreyra

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LOGISTIK HEUTE

The trade magazine LOGISTIK HEUTE addresses managers in industry, trade and the service sector who are responsible for logistics processes in the company. An editorial team and specialist authors from science and practice provide up-to-date information on innovative logistics concepts, new products, ideas and trends in all areas of the supply chain. Detailed market overviews and company reports complete the range of logistics topics month after month. Procurement, production, distribution and disposal - logistics is involved everywhere. That's why LOGISTIK HEUTE, the logistics magazine for decision-makers in industry, trade and the service sector, refers consequently to the entire supply chain and represents thus an indispensable source of information.

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