

**30 years of A/C service: MAHLE supports workshops with efficient, connected and sustainable A/C service units**

- First A/C service unit introduced in 1988
- Complete range with MAHLE E<sup>3</sup> technology
- Connected A/C service units with easy maintenance and update options: innovations at Automechanika Frankfurt 2018 (Hall 9.0, Stand D16/D36)

Stuttgart, August 23, 2018 – This year, MAHLE Aftermarket looks back at 30 years of providing reliable A/C service equipment. This product group is continuously being expanded to meet every need: At Automechanika Frankfurt 2018, MAHLE Aftermarket will introduce a new generation of A/C service units, which offers workshops connectivity with databases, cost-effective maintenance, and straightforward updates.

Thirty years ago, it was a novelty to find air conditioning in a car. When MAHLE—then under the BEHR brand—presented the first A/C service unit to the public in 1988 as one of the pioneers in this sector, a new business segment for vehicle workshops was born. “The first A/C service unit—used not only in workshops but also by automobile manufacturers—was a milestone for environmentally friendly recycling of refrigerants,” explains Olaf Henning, Corporate Executive Vice President and General Manager Aftermarket at MAHLE. Today, around 90 percent of vehicles in Germany are equipped with an HVAC system. A/C service has consequently become much more important. “We have continuously developed and expanded our A/C service range and can thus offer workshops the right solution to meet every need, both now and in the future.”

**Big challenges for the workshop**

The requirements placed on A/C service units are also increasing, with three different refrigerants now used in vehicle HVAC systems: the newly introduced R1234yf and R744 (CO<sub>2</sub>) alongside the well-

established R134a. This means that different A/C service units, tailored to the relevant refrigerant, are needed. Another challenge for workshops is that HVAC systems are becoming more and more compact. They thus contain less refrigerant while the level of complexity of the units keeps on increasing. This means that workshops need to offer a considerably higher degree of precision for the A/C service.

### **E<sup>3</sup> for ecological, economical, and efficient A/C service**

The solution from MAHLE Aftermarket is the E<sup>3</sup> technology found in ArcticPRO A/C service units. This allows workshops to carry out A/C services for passenger cars, hybrid vehicles, trucks, and construction and agricultural machinery—ecologically, economically, and efficiently. The A/C service range from MAHLE Service Solutions—the workshop equipment product group of MAHLE Aftermarket, currently comprises seven units in all.

### **New A/C service units at Automechanika**

For some time, MAHLE Aftermarket has been working with BRAIN BEE, the Italian workshop equipment specialist, on developing and producing units for the European market. In May 2018, MAHLE acquired the majority share in BRAIN BEE—now a new brand for workshop equipment at MAHLE Aftermarket. “To coincide with Automechanika in September 2018, we’ve got various innovations in A/C service lined up, showcasing our joint development,” says Olaf Henning. “These products are all about intuitive operation, connectivity with databases and other systems, and new, simple, and cost-effective technology for service units. And as with all units from MAHLE Aftermarket, updates and upgrades will be seamless. Customers can rely on state-of-the-art service.”

### **About MAHLE**

MAHLE is a leading international development partner and supplier to the automotive industry as well as a pioneer for the mobility of the future. The group’s product portfolio addresses all the crucial issues relating to the powertrain and air conditioning technology—both for drives with combustion engines and for e-mobility. In 2017, the group

generated sales of approximately EUR 12.8 billion with about 78,000 employees and is represented in more than 30 countries with 170 production locations.

**About MAHLE Aftermarket**

MAHLE Aftermarket, the business unit specializing in spare parts, uses the expertise from the series production of original equipment in its automotive aftermarket product range, and supplies trade, workshop, and engine repair partners. The portfolio also includes products developed by MAHLE Service Solutions for workshop equipment, as well as comprehensive services and customized training programs. The full extent of this expertise is found in the MAHLE ORIGINAL, BRAIN BEE, BEHR, CLEVITE, IZUMI, KNECHT FILTER, AND METAL LEVE brands.

MAHLE Aftermarket is represented at 25 locations and other sales offices worldwide, with around 1,600 employees. In 2017, the business unit achieved a global sales volume of over EUR 950 million.

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