



**AUTO
MOTIVE
CIRCLE**

AGENDA

NOV 17 – 18

DOORS & CLOSURES 2026

TUESDAY | NOVEMBER 17

8:40 AM **Welcome and conference introduction**
Dr. Dirk Meine, Automotive Circle, DE

FUNCTIONAL AND CONSTRUCTIVE TRENDS

9:00 AM **Trends in the design and manufacture of door hardware systems**

Brian Staser, Inteva Products, LLC, US

9:30 AM **Cold stamped door beams with tensile strength above 1700 Mpa**

Manuel Otto, SSAB, SE

10:00 AM **Application Scenarios and Development Trends of Power Operated Door Systems**

Xiùzhōng (Jack) Zhōu, Zhongshan Auto Electronics Technology Co., Ltd., CN

10:30 AM **Meet the Speakers | Exhibition | Coffee and contacts**

OEM PROJECTS – DOORS AND CLOSURES SYSTEMS AWARD COMPETITION

11:15 AM **The Kia PV5 Closure System Development Story**

Rolf Verhoeven, Jungho Han, Hyeonwoo Cho, Hyundai Motor Group, DE/KR
– Technical presentation followed by plenary discussion at the hardware exhibit –



12:15 PM **Exhibition | Lunch break**

1:30 PM **The new BMW X5 Doors and Closures**

Markus Koedderitzsch, Florian Raab, BMW Group, DE
– Technical presentation followed by plenary discussion at the hardware exhibit –



2:30 PM **Doors and Closures of the New Škoda Peaq**

James Myland, Roman Mukhin, Škoda Auto AS, CZ
– Technical presentation followed by plenary discussion at the hardware exhibit –



3:30 PM **Exhibition | Coffee and contacts**

4:00 PM **Doors and Closures of the new Jeep Recon**

tba, Stellantis N.V., US
– Technical presentation followed by plenary discussion at the hardware exhibit –



5:00 PM **Doors and Closures of the new Jaguar Type o1**

tba, JLR Ltd., UK

6:00 PM **Get-together | Exhibition**

7:00 PM **Networking Dinner**



DOORS & CLOSURES SYSTEMS AWARD 2026

As a conference delegate, you are part of the jury that decides on the winner of this year's Doors & Closures Systems Award. This award is bestowed by the Automotive Circle for the most convincing series OEM hang-on part development regarding construction as well as production processes.



OEM HARDWARE PRESENTATIONS:
DOORS & CLOSURES SYSTEMS AWARD

DOORS & CLOSURES 2026

CONFERENCE VENUE: Hotel DOLCE Bad Nauheim
Elvis-Presley-Platz 1 | DE-61231 Bad Nauheim
www.dolcebadnauheim.com

YOUR CONTACT: Jannike von Kampen
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WEDNESDAY | NOVEMBER 18

ANALYSING FUNCTIONALITIES

- 9:00 AM** **From Closing Doors to Opening Silence: Rethinking Sealing Systems for EV Cabin Acoustics**
Dr. Ali Erkin Kutlu, Dr. Orçun Saf, Standard Profil GmbH, DE
- 9:30 AM** **Robotic measuring systems – doors, hood & trunk lid testing**
Christian Aßmann, Günther Battenberg, Battenberg Robotic GmbH & Co. KG, DE

10:00 AM **Meet the Speaker | Exhibition | Coffee and contacts**

LATCHES AND WINGS

- 10:45 AM** **The Sound of Quality: Redefining Front and Rear Latch Experience**
Jan Suk, Martin Krejci, Kiekert AG, CZ
- 11:15 AM** **Seamless Form, Advanced Intelligence: Technical Deep Dive of the BMW X5 Winglet Handle**
Guido Schmidt, Emmanuel Bollinger, Minebea AccessSolutions Deutschland GmbH, DE

11:45 AM **DOORS AND CLOSURES SYSTEMS AWARD 2026**
Disclosure of the results of the awards competition and bestowal of the award

12:00 PM **TECHNOLOGY CLINIC**
With a selection of full vehicles exhibited at the conference site and available for inspection, the audience is invited to experience, compare and benchmark

- 1) Mechanical door handle designs
- 2) Hands-free tailgate/hood operations

1:00 PM **Meet the Speakers | Exhibition | Lunch break**

ADHESIVES AND EXPANDABLES

- 2:15 PM** **High Expandable Anti-Flutter: Enabling Design Flexibility, Functional Cost Reduction and Enhanced NVH Performance**
Dr. Oliver Unruh, Sika Automotive Deutschland GmbH, DE; Grégoire Lepoittevin, Sika Services AG, CH
- 2:45 PM** **Next-Generation Adhesive Technologies with Novel Corrosion Inhibitors for Multi-Substrate Automotive Panels**
Atul Patel, General Motors Company, US; Dr. Thanikaivelan Veeraraghavan, Uniseal / LG Chem Ltd., US

OEM CONCLUSIONS

Members of the Advisory Board on their conference summary and future outlook of Doors and Closures development and production

3:30 PM **Farewell address and end of the conference**

* All times in CET (UTC+1)
Conference program is subject to change
Status as of: July, 2026



REGISTER NOW!

DOORS & CLOSURES 2026

CONFERENCE FEE: 2.235 € | All prices plus 19% German VAT
Registration and Terms & Conditions at www.automotive-circle.com

See you next year at the **DOORS & CLOSURES CONFERENCE**
IN NOVEMBER 2027 in Bad Nauheim again!