

## Press release



### High goals require great effort

PRO CAR from the Sauerland region wants to open up new markets with high-quality plug connections. The medium-sized company has therefore launched a quality offensive with the IATF 16949 certification.

Schalksmühle, May 2018 - For more than 25 years the Schalksmühler company has been producing PRO CAR already 12- 24 Volt plugs for cars, trucks, motorhomes, caravans, motorcycles and boats. Now they want to go even higher. The medium-sized company has been certified by TÜV Rheinland and has received IATF 16949 certification. This should not only benefit long-standing customers and partners, but also manufacturers in the automotive industry with particularly high demands.

*"You can't get far these days without certification. Small companies that are not certified fall down at the back,"* explains PRO CAR Managing Director Carsten Bär.

Certifications such as IATF 16949 are now required by the automotive industry.



*"We want to be able to prove that we are the best are the right partners for the automotive industry."*

Axel Soest accompanied the certification for PRO CAR. The company had to adhere exactly to a given standard. That meant a lot of work and a lot of stress, says Axel Soest: *"You have to live according to this norm for a year. Processes have to be adapted. All the documents must be there. The work processes must be written. The exams must be taken."* First, an internal audit was carried out before the experts from TÜV Rheinland came to the company.



Sales Manager Carsten Schulz, Managing Director Carsten Bär and Quality Manager Axel Soest with the certificates

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## PRO CAR has big plans

For several days, they monitored every step of the work and checked whether the standard had been precisely complied with. With success. No wonder, because PRO CAR has already received several certifications.



*"We are adapting our large product portfolio to our customers' wishes."*

*"But all the standards have changed," Axel Soest explains. "They have been adapted. Harmonized." In addition, they have become more labour-intensive. "The documentation is very, very extensive." Without certification, a company has no chance in a highly competitive market, knows PRO CAR Sales Manager Carsten Schulz from experience. "Customers specifically ask for certifications at trade fairs. They expect you to be certified as a partner these days."*

When Managing Director Carsten Bär walks through his company, he sees what his employees have achieved for the certification. The self-confidence of all colleagues had increased.



*"Of course we are also a little proud of it," says Managing Director Carsten Bär with a smile on his face as he walks through his company in Schalksmühle.*

The DIN EN ISO 9001:2008 quality assurance system was introduced and regularly confirmed as early as 1996. In 2009, the environmental management standard ISO 14001:2004 was added, which was replaced by the current auditing standard ISO 14001:2015 on 14 February 2018

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