

## Press information

# Kyocera receives Supplier of the Year 2013 award from Continental for outstanding quality of piezo actuators

Thanks to zero defects, Kyocera managed to impress the automotive supplier throughout the final half of 2013.

**August 13, 2014 – Kyoto/Neuss** – Kyocera was one of 16 suppliers to receive an award for its outstanding performance at the Continental Automotive Group's Supplier Day 2014, which was held in Prague on July 17. The global automotive supplier honored the Japanese technology company with its Supplier of the Year award for its piezoelectric ceramics solutions made especially for Continental's Powertrain Division. The award is one of the most prestigious in the industry. More than 40 million piezo actuators have been delivered in recent years. Thanks to the products' high quality, Continental did not file a single complaint about defects in the second half of 2013. As a result, Kyocera succeeded in exceeding the automotive supplier's expectations with the best defect rate possible: zero parts per million (ppm).

The awards are based on a comprehensive systematic evaluation of performance among the company's 900 strategic suppliers. As part of this analysis, the Continental Automotive Group takes a closer look at its suppliers in terms of basic quality, technology, logistics and purchasing criteria. Continental recognizes its suppliers once a year in the fields of electronics, electro-mechanics and mechanics. It also hands out awards for division-specific solutions in its three automotive divisions – Chassis & Safety, Powertrain, and Interior –

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and honors excellence in the fields of investment and engineering services. The company's Quality Award acknowledges outstanding achievements in quality improvement.

"This award encourages us to continue striving to provide the best possible reliability for our industrial customers with the highly developed materials employed in Kyocera products. What's more, this approach is a perfect match for the high demands our partner Continental places on quality," stated Shigeru Koyama, president of Kyocera Fineceramics GmbH.

### Caption:

Persons from left to right:

Guenter Fella, Head of Purchasing Automotive, Continental; Dr. Elmar Degenhart, Chairman of the Executive Board, Continental; Ahmed Trabelsi, Head of Division Purchasing Powertrain, Continental; Shigeru Koyama, European President, Kyocera Fineceramics; Kyoji Isaka, Senior Sales Manager Automotive, Kyocera Corporation; Frank Hipper, European Product Line Manager Automotive, Kyocera Fineceramics; Sigrid Sporbart, Head of SQM, Continental; Markus Grohall, Senior Purchasing Manager Engine Systems, Continental.

### For more information about Kyocera:

[www.kyocera.eu](http://www.kyocera.eu)

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### About Kyocera

Headquartered in Kyoto, Japan, Kyocera Corporation is one of the world's leading manufacturers of fine ceramic components for the technology industry. The strategically important divisions in the Kyocera Group, which is comprised of 230 subsidiaries (as of April 1, 2014), are information and communications technologies, products which increase quality of life, and environmentally friendly products. The technology group is also one of the largest producers of solar energy systems worldwide, with more than 5 gigawatts of solar power having been installed around the world to date.

The company is ranked #531 on *Forbes* magazine's 2014 "Global 2000" listing of the world's largest publicly traded companies.

With a global workforce of about 70,000 employees, Kyocera posted net sales of approximately €10.19 billion in fiscal year 2013/2014. The products marketed by the company in Europe include laser printers, digital copying systems, microelectronic components, finoceramic products and complete solar power systems. The Kyocera Group has two independent companies in the Federal Republic of Germany: Kyocera Finoceramics GmbH in Neuss and Esslingen and Kyocera Document Solutions in Meerbusch.

The company also takes an active interest in cultural affairs. The Kyoto Prize, a prominent international award, is presented each year by the Inamori Foundation — established by Kyocera founder Dr. Kazuo Inamori — to individuals and groups worldwide who have contributed significantly to the scientific, cultural, and spiritual betterment of humankind (converted at present €362,000 per prize category).

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