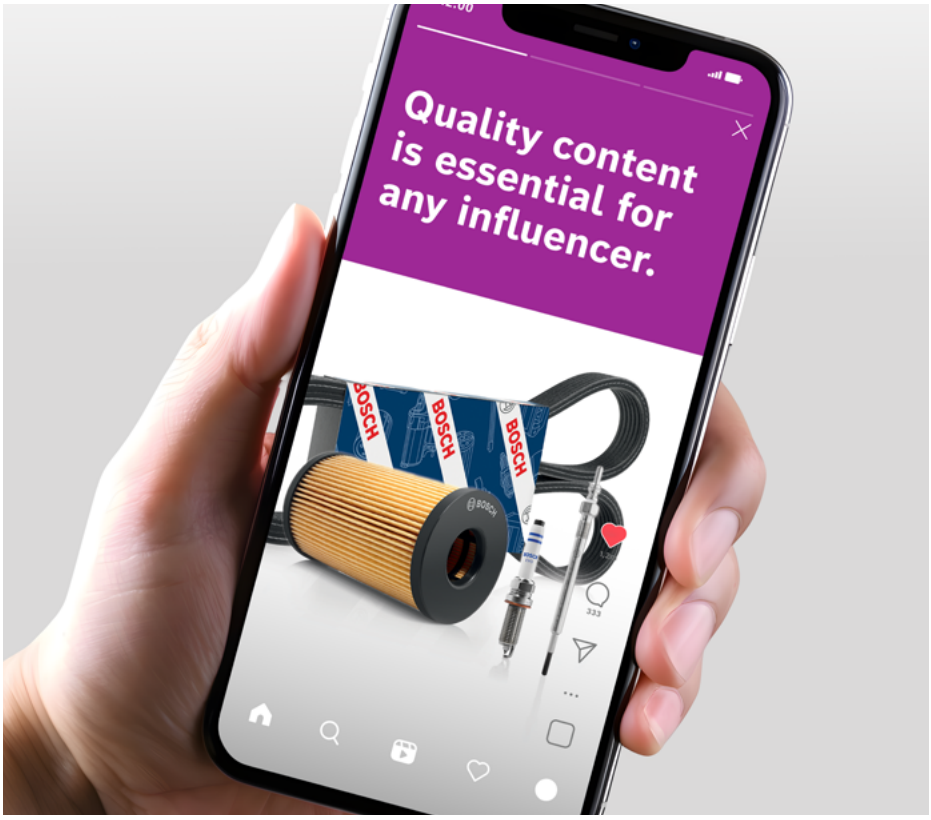
Automotive Insiders: Bosch timing belts – built to go the extra mile



In a world of ‘influencers’ – people who use social media to appear as if they’re knowledgeable on a certain subject – Bosch are the real deal. We’re genuine automotive influencers because our in-depth automotive knowledge has been built over 100 years, our innovations have changed the automotive landscape, and our products and services are trusted by millions of customers around the world today.

In our new Automotive Insider series, we find out more about Bosch’s best-known products, by talking to the people behind them. From high-performance wiper blades to bulbs and brakes, our experts lift the bonnet to share how these parts work – their history, how they’ve developed over the years, and how they’re equipping vehicle mechanics and owners to face the future with confidence.

Today we’re talking to Nugzar Bakhtadze and Harald Siebler – the experts behind Bosch drive belt technologies.

What makes Bosch timing belts so good?

In the automotive aftermarket, high resilience and long service life are essential requirements for parts, particularly ones that are subject to high mechanical, chemical, and thermal loads. Bosch timing belts do just that – to ensure synchronized power transmission for the main drive. Bosch’s timing belt portfolio covers almost any vehicle.
In fact, our range belts covers more than 95% of all vehicles with timing belts on the European market.
Bosch belts are designed to give the driver confidence for synchronised power transmission throughout the desired service life.
The application-specific rubber compound and belt design means high operation safety, the belt runs quietly and the application-suitable tooth profile means outstanding power transmission.
For long service life, fiberglass cords give high longitudinal stability and a polyamide or Teflon cover fabric protects the teeth.

“Influencers know how important timing is. That’s why our timing belts are designed to last for a car manufacturer’s defined service life.”

Bosch accessory drive belts

1. Open-flanked and toothed V-belts

Ideal for drives with multiple grooves, these belts have been developed for universal application in compact drive designs, offering long-term safety and reliability, oil- and heat-resistance

2. Single and double ribbed V-belts

Ideal for vehicles equipped with a vast array of options as standard, these belts offer high bending strength, outstanding power transmission and high operating safety and performance.

3. Special belts

These offer high performances for modern vehicles, for example, vehicles with sophisticated start/stop applications. For particularly resilient tension members, these special belts are often equipped with aramid cords.

Does Bosch offer just single belts?

At Bosch, we understand the severity of possible damage that can be caused by main drive functional failure – there is a chance of more than 90% that significant engine damage will also occur, which will be extremely costly for the vehicle's owner. The best way to ensure efficient power transmission and prevent potential engine damage is to replace all main drive components regularly, as recommended by the manufacturer, with clear service intervals.
This is why we provide complete drive technology kits, which include belts, metal components as tensioners and idlers and also mounting parts e.g. bolts and nuts. These kits give customers everything they need. They provide them with a quick and professional replacement, thanks to optimally matched components. Used with ESI[tronic] (more on that later) you get an easy and time-saving installation process, thanks to vehicle-specific installation instructions.

How are Bosch timing belts helping to cut down fuel consumption?

Reducing CO2 emissions is a key objective for engine developers – and a new, specialized timing belt has been a fundamental step to achieving this.

For several years, vehicle manufacturers worldwide have been using these special timing belts as part of their vehicle's original equipment. Now we are offering these oil bath timing belts on the

Bosch timing belt kits

Because of the comprehensive functional and endurance tests of all components, Bosch kits give the end user a particularly high reliability, as well as quick and professional replacement and time-saving installation.

1. Timing belt kits
Efficient and synchronized long-term power transmission – the Bosch timing belt kits are vehicle-specific and contain all necessary components.

2. Water pump kits
These kits ensure durable and synchronous power transmission and contain all required components – including the coolant pump.

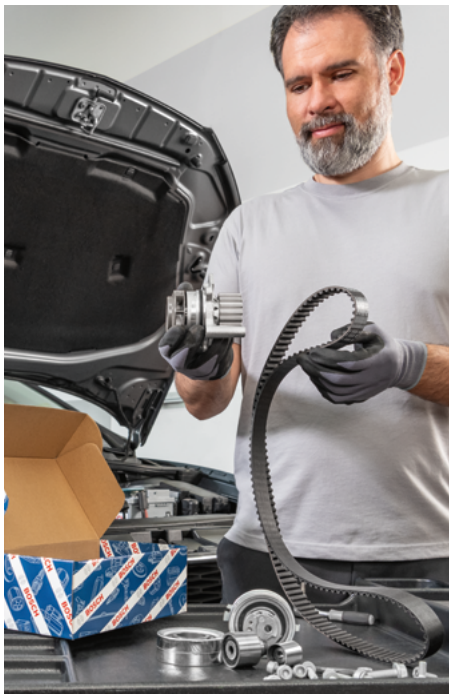
aftermarket to complement our range of drive technology products, all of which have been tested to the same quality standards as those ones used as original equipment.

How is Bosch ESI[tronic] helping to replace timing belts?

For the timing belts that run in an oil bath, it is particularly important to use the type of engine oil specified by the vehicle manufacturer and to stick to the specified oil change interval. Using the ESI[tronic] diagnostic software, workshops can easily identify the replacement intervals specified by the manufacturers. Not only that, but they get technical service information and comprehensive descriptions of the component parts – information that is constantly updated in line with the original manufacturer's guidelines.

Are there any new developments in the pipeline?

New vehicle technology has an impact on the automotive aftermarket, and at Robert Bosch, we are focused on being in the right place at the right time, with the right product – as we have always been! That's why we are currently introducing a new auxillary drive portfolio that can also be used in the new generation of start stop and hybrid electric vehicles.



Service Spotlight:

The Whole Package!

"It's less about one particular product, more the range of high-quality products and packages on offer. Not only do we help you find exactly what you need at the right time, but you can feel confident that you're covering everything that's needed. From QR codes on products that give you access to additional technical service information from the original manufacturer, to the connected sourcing and fitting service through ESI[tronic], our products really do go the extra mile."

Nugzar Bakhtadze, Product Lead for growth and development at Bosch.

About our experts:

Harald Siebler

Technical product manager at Bosch.

Harald joined Bosch in 1979 and worked as a service manager in different countries until 1995, before becoming a technical product manager for 20 years.
Now with a wealth of expertise at his disposal, he's contracted as Bosch management support' offering help and support wherever he's needed.

Nugzar Bakhtadze

Project lead for growth and development at Bosch.

Nugzar has been a project lead for 3 years, with extensive automotive experience in both belts and batteries since 2018.

Choose services with influence.

For more information on Bosch's future-focused ESI[tronic] software solutions, please visit us at:
boschaftermarket.com