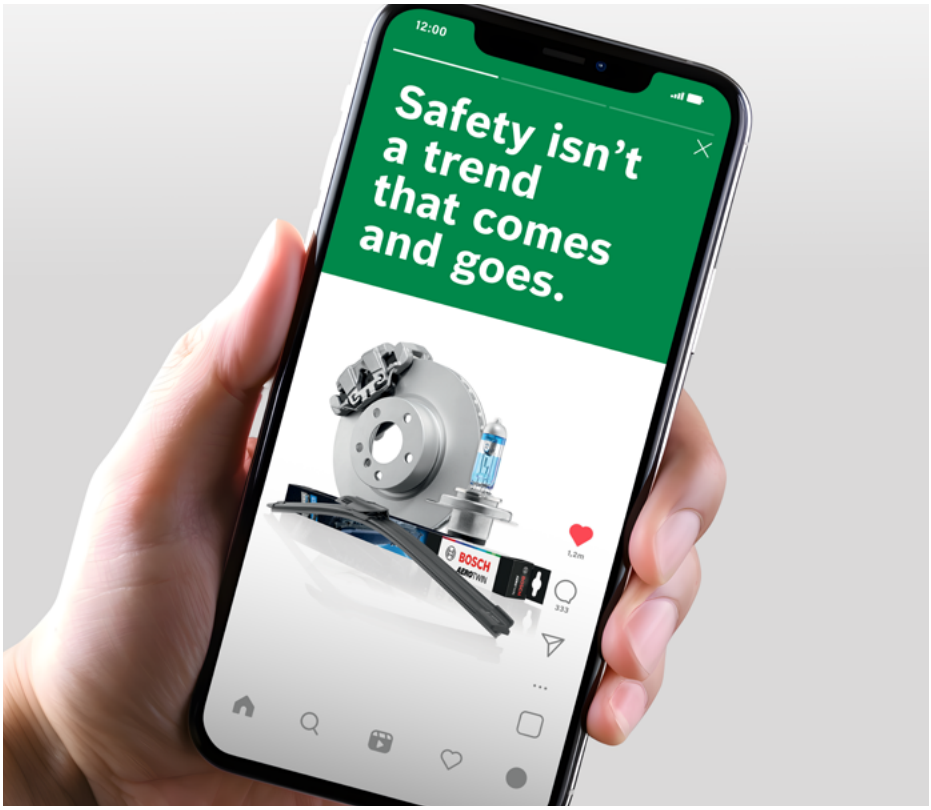
Invented for life

Automotive Insiders: Making your world clearer with Bosch wiper blades



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 Hasibe Candan, Martina Maurer and Alexander Ksoll – the experts behind Bosch high performance wiper blades.

Tell us a little about how Bosch wiper blades have developed over the years

The history of Bosch wiper blades really has been driven by downpours! In the early days of the automobile, clearing your vehicle's windscreen was a major challenge, making driving in dark, wet, and foggy conditions hazardous.

Following the patenting of the first functioning windshield wiper system in 1903 – where a lever was operated inside the vehicle to make an arm move across the windshield – Bosch developed the first electrically operated wiper system in 1926. Powered by a small electric motor that sat above the car battery, the system didn't need to rely on a running engine to function. Minimum power consumption opened up the possibility of longer journeys in wet conditions, as well as helping drivers tackle the roads safely.

So safety is a key feature?

Absolutely. For a relatively inconspicuous product that many vehicle users tend to take for granted, windscreen wipers are fundamental to vehicle safety. They need to function reliably for an extended amount of time, throughout all seasons, in all weathers.

"With a 500,000 wipe cycle average lifespan, we're addicted to refreshing your screen."

Because of this, safety has always been of prime importance for wiper blade developers. Since the inception of wiper blades, their technology has constantly been refined to make driving safer. After the initial launch of the electric system, the windscreen washer system was subsequently developed.

It isn't just about safety – efficiency has also become more important over the years. In 1994, two different types of rubber were thermally bonded for the first time to create a new type of wiper rubber. The blade's lip was made from hard rubber and provided exceptional cleaning and a long service life, while the rear element, made of softer, more flexible rubber, provided low-noise wiping.

So what's the technology behind today's wiper blades?

Wiper blade technology entered a new era with the unveiling of the Aerotwin in 1999 – it was the first blade without any joints or brackets. Two curved spring strips pressed the wiper rubber against the windshield and distributed the contact pressure evenly over its entire length. Not only that, but the flatter shape reduced wind noise and improved aerodynamic behaviour, which increases the visibility in limited conditions. It's this particular development that has been particularly important to present day wiper blades.

What can customers expect from modern day Bosch wiper blades?

As 2026 marks the centenary of Bosch´s first electrical wiper invention, the Bosch range of wiper blades is more extensive and flexible than ever before.

The comprehensive Bosch range offers the right wiper blade for almost every type of vehicle. Whether front or rear wipers, cars or commercial vehicles, new vehicles or classic cars – Bosch can offer the right product for every customer.

Bosch provides different technologies for front wipers. With the Bosch Aerotwin Original A, Bosch offers a flat blade wiper that enables quick and easy installation thanks to a pre-assembled original adapter matched to the respective car model. For vehicles with hook wiper arms, Bosch offers both the conventional Twin wiper and the Aerotwin Upgrade for changing from conventional and hybrid wiper blades to flat wiper blades.

Not only that, but Bosch always has the right wiper for the rear window, with flat blades, conventional and design wipers.

How do Bosch ensure their wiper blades are high performing and long-lasting?

No matter what type of wiper blade a customer chooses, they can be sure they'll be getting an extremely high level of quality. To ensure outstanding wiping performance, Bosch wiper blades undergo four testing scenarios:

Wiping Quality

Here the wipers in the development phase are tested on a windshield, both in the laboratory and the field, where their performance is evaluated. Particular attention is shown to the formation of streaks or smears on the windshield, the presence of water residues, or any marks left behind by the wipers.

Resistance against environmental influences

Wipers need to demonstrate their ability to withstand extreme weather conditions, including temperatures at both ends of the spectrum. Not only that, but they are exposed to prolonged UV radiation and spray salt to test their corrosion resistance.

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Load tests / endurance tests

In particularly wintry regions, wipers are exposed to extreme stress, such as snow load tests, as well as being tested for endurance where over 500,000 wiping cycles are simulated.

Increased resistance tests

The wipers' resistance to cleaners and chemicals is scrutinized, so the wiper blades are exposed to aggressive chemicals, and afterwards, the test results are analyzed under a microscope to determine if any traces of the chemicals remain.
Only when all test requirements are met, and the wiping pattern is flawless, are the wiper rubber or blades approved for production.

About our experts:

Alexander Ksoll
Wiper blade specialist at Bosch

Alex has worked for Bosch for 16 years, starting as a developing engineer, before moving to the colourful world of marketing 8 years ago. From technical changes, to new developments, Alexander supports product managers worldwide.

Hasibe Candan
Communications representative
for Bosch wiper blades

Hasibe has worked at Bosch for 2 years and is responsible for the communication of wiper blades for the independent aftermarket.

Martina Maurer
Communications representative
for Bosch wiper blades

Martina has worked in the wiper systems business unit since 1999 and is responsiblefor all the communication material.

Service Spotlight:

Bosch Aerotwin with AeroClip

"Bosch Aerotwin with AeroClip is an innovative, aerodynamic connection. The aerodynamic design of the wiper and the spoiler prevents the wiper from lifting off at high speeds. Compared to other adapters, the AeroClip is more aerodynamically shaped and reinforces this positive effect. It is exclusively at Bosch for several car models. The program is regularly updated."

Alexander Ksoll, Wiper blade specialist at Bosch.

Choose products with influence.

For more information on Bosch high-performing wiper blades, please visit us at: **boschaftermarket.com/gb/en**