

Innovative bicycle gearshifts based on the model of automotive technology and "Made in Germany" herald a new category of bicycle at a time when a rethinking of mobility behaviour is taking place in Germany.

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The company

Pinion GmbH was founded in 2008 by Christoph Lermen and Michael Schmitz. As budding engineers and passionate mountain bikers, they met in 2006 in the transmission development department at Porsche in Weissach and had the vision of building **"a bicycle gearshift with the heart of a sports car"**.

The idea was born. A small workshop in Stuttgart-Feuerbach was rented, prototypes developed and tested. The result was presented in 2010: An encapsulated gearshift system integrated into the bicycle frame at the bottom bracket. In 2010 the first bike with Pinion gearbox crossed the Himalaya Mountains. In 2012, the company moved to the site and series production of the P1.18 transmission started. Since September 2018 Thomas Raith has been the third managing director to join the team of the two founders and managing partners Michael Schmitz and Christoph Lermen. Today, Pinion employs 35 people at the Denkendorf site.

The best from the car for bikes

Pinion combines the advantages of existing gearshift systems and enables carefree cycling and, thanks to the integration of the gearshift in the center of the bike, an unique riding experience.

Pinion transmissions achieve the widest range of gear ratios on the market. The P1.18 transmission offers 18 very finely and constantly graded gears and a bandwidth of over 630 percent. Other transmission types with 12, 9 and 6 gears have been derived from this and ergonomically designed for the various fields of application. The encapsulated unit is not exposed to weather conditions and requires little maintenance. Following the example of modern automotive technology, the transmissions are as wear-free as they are intuitive to operate. All gears can be shifted through one after the other individually or in any gear steps. It does not depend on whether the bicycle is rolling, stationary or whether the pedal cranks are turning.

Thanks to its innovative strength, Pinion has succeeded in opening up the category of "Pinion bicycles". Pinion central gearboxes are used in the touring, trekking, urban, commuting, mountain bike, e-bike, pedelec, cargo bike and recumbent bike sectors and are compatible with either chain or belt drive systems. Today, Pinion enjoys the trust of over 100 international bicycle manufacturers, including Stevens, Ghost, Nicolai, Kalkhoff, Raleigh, Rose, Idworx, Tout Terrain, vsf bicycle manufacturer, to name just a few.

A unique technology "Made in Germany"

The Pinion drive technology is technically unique. Despite numerous attempts to make the advantages of central gearshifts available in bicycles, no other series manufacturer has been able to successfully establish them on the market.

Every Pinion transmission is "Made in Germany". The development, construction, design, production and sales of Pinion central gearboxes take place in Denkendorf. Pinion gearboxes are tested on our own test stands to conform to the standards of the automotive industry. Pinion is the only gearshift manufacturer to offer a 5-year warranty on the gearshift technology.

The facts - short and sweet

- ✓ System integration on the bicycle frame
- ✓ Completely encapsulated system
- ✓ Reliable, durable and virtually maintenance-free
- ✓ Seven gear unit types for different applications
- ✓ No gear overlap
- ✓ The widest ratio on the market
- ✓ 5 years manufacturer warranty
- ✓ Made in Germany

The milestones

Pinion has received several product and design awards for its technically innovative gear shifting systems based on the model of automotive engineering. A special milestone in the company's history is the award of the "Deutscher Gründerpreis 2017", which honors our company for outstanding entrepreneurial performance in the "rising stars" category as one of the top 3 companies in Germany.

Further awards

- 2019 German Design Award for Pinion E-Bike
- 2017 Top-3 "Deutscher Gründerpreis"
- 2016 Innovation Award of the State of Baden-Württemberg
- 2016 Eurobike Award for C-Line
- 2014 Design & Innovation Award
- 2012 Eurobike Gold Award
- 2011 BIKE Milestone

Excerpts from the Pinion press review

- Tagesanzeiger Zürich (Juni 2017)
<https://www.tagesanzeiger.ch/wissen/technik/der-veloingenieur/story/20874355>
- ZDF Deutscher Gründerpreis 2017 (Juni 2017)
<https://www.zdf.de/verbraucher/wiso/gruenderpreis-2017-wartungsfreies-fahrradgetriebe-von-pinion-102.html>
- Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung „Hightech für das Fahrrad“ (Feb. 2015)
<https://pinion.eu/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/Pinion-FAZ.pdf>
- DER SPIEGEL Pinion: Vom Getriebe getrieben (Nov. 2012)
<http://www.spiegel.de/karriere/pinion-am-fahrrad-wie-die-getriebe-gruender-ihren-investor-fanden-a-869417.html>
- DER SPIEGEL Uhrwerk am Tretlager (35/2010)
<http://www.spiegel.de/spiegel/a-714838.html>

Modern mobility

The rethinking or fundamental change in mobility behaviour due to urbanisation and stricter guidelines regarding the use of cars in city centres is very much in our favour. From our point of view, modern mobility means to use the bicycle as a full-fledged vehicle and to see a serious alternative to the motor vehicle. Sustainability, environmental and health awareness is increasing and with it the willingness to spend more money on a high-quality bicycle / pedelec / e-bike / cargo bike. New user groups are being developed and this is where the advantages of Pinion gearbox technology come into play. Our customer is not only the "bicycle freak", but also the everyday rider who uses his bike all year round and wants to rely completely on his material.

Pinion pictures (as an example)

Company

https://www.dropbox.com/sh/nef8pi6mgn746n3/AAA_KUGw7e_cxYuE4RszSf07a?dl=0

Products

https://www.dropbox.com/sh/vc3pu7gnk6tme2d/AADqucRUR_3KxQ4oYwDIg-XRa?dl=0

Pinion bikes

https://www.dropbox.com/sh/pyitljrkn44rfs/AAC_IWkWAu2UnwP9Hxu7m2Y0a?dl=0

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