

Early 2006

Christoph Lermen and Michael Schmitz get to know each other at the Porsche Development Center for engines and transmissions. The idea for a "bicycle gearshift with the heart of a sports car" is born.

2006-2007

Various transmission concepts are developed, rejected, revised.

October 2007

The first patent pending is filed. Lermen and Schmitz decide to develop a gearbox to series production standard.

November 2008

Test ride of the first gearbox prototype, which was still built with three intermediate shafts. Foundation of the Pinion GmbH.

December 2009

Commissioning of a self-developed transmission test rig. The first employee is hired.

July 2010

The extreme biker Felix Fröhlich crosses the Himalayas with a Pinion gearbox prototype. The transmission works perfectly.

September 2010

At Eurobike Show, a further developed prototype of the Pinion central gearbox with the designation P1 will be presented to the public for the first time.

2010/2011

The first bicycle manufacturers start frame development for the gearbox, which now bears the official name P1.18.

September 2011

Pinion receives the prestigious BIKE-Milestone Award for the best bicycle component.

November 2011

A final revision brings the P1.18 gearbox from pre-series to series standard. The series production is started.

April 2012

Larger production areas are moved into in Denkendorf near Stuttgart. The starting signal is given for series production of the gearboxes.

June 2012

An exclusive Pinion review by the international online magazine Pinkbike.com becomes one of the most clicked bike articles of the year.

2013

In the meantime, 30 bicycle manufacturers are now installing the P1.18 gearbox as standard.

September 2014

P1.18 will be joined by three further transmission variants: P1.12, P1.9CR, P1.9XR, which are perfectly matched to specific applications.

PINION MILESTONES

FROM THE BEGINNING UP TO TODAY

The Pinion logo is written in a bold, lowercase, italicized sans-serif font.

October 2014

World altitude record for Pinion! Extreme athlete Guido Kunze conquers the highest volcano on earth in Chile with a fat bike and P1.18 gearbox. The transmission masters extreme conditions up to 6,000m altitude.

2015

Around 50 well-known bicycle manufacturers now rely on Pinion drive technology.

September 2016

Pinion introduces the second product line of transmissions, the C line. Pinion high-end gearbox technology is now also available in high-quality mid-range bikes.

November 2016

For its innovative strength, Pinion is awarded the Innovation Prize of the state of Baden-Württemberg and achieves 2nd place.

January 2017

Pinion North America is the sales and service partner for the North American market.

October 2017

Pinion is awarded the "German Founder Award Top 3 Companies, category "up-and-coming".

2018

Pinion drive technology is available in bikes from over 100 international manufacturers.

October 2018

Thomas Raith is the third managing director to join the existing founder and managing director duo Michael Schmitz and Christoph Lermen.

2019

The Pinion e-bike MTB Cycletech Code wins the "German Design Gold Award".

2020

35 employees work at the Denkendorf site.