

## **IONITY CEO WINS EUROSTARS AWARD AT IAA FRANKFURT**

- **Michael Hajesch wins prestigious Eurostars award for Electrification (Infrastructure) at IAA Frankfurt 2019.**
- **One of nineteen executives chosen by Automotive News Europe.**
- **Since starting the role in 2017, Hajesch has been instrumental in establishing IONITY's network of High-Power charging stations**

Munich, Germany, 20.09.2019 – IONITY, a joint venture of BMW Group, Daimler AG, Ford Motor Company and the Volkswagen Group with Porsche AG, is proud to announce that its CEO, Michael Hajesch, has been selected as one of the winners of a 2019 Eurostars award.

Presented at International Auto Ausstellung (IAA) Frankfurt, Automotive News Europe recognised nineteen executives from the automotive industry that stood out from their rivals by exceeding expectations. To fulfil IONITY's ambition of enabling easy European travel with electric vehicles (EVs), the joint venture overcame many challenges under Hajesch's guidance since its foundation in November 2017. Having opened its 100th High Power Charging (HPC) station in May, IONITY is making significant progress towards its 400-station target in 2020.

Despite the difficulty of locating available sites on Europe's major highways, IONITY has already secured 95 per cent of the identified locations. The Automotive News Europe Eurostars recognised Hajesch's determination and clear aims as instrumental to IONITY's remarkable success. The Eurostars also cited the approachable design and innovative feature of IONITY's HPC stations.

Michael Hajesch, CEO, IONITY said, "I am very grateful to have been selected as one of nineteen Eurostars award recipients. I can say with absolute certainty that this recognition is entirely thanks to the incredible work of the whole IONITY team, not just me as an individual. Our HPC network will make a significant contribution to the e-mobility revolution and help increase EV adoption throughout Europe."

IONITY's 350kW charging network is future-proofed while also meeting the needs of today's EVs. Located on or near highways, the stations are making e-mobility a convenient, reliable and everyday experience. IONITY has also teamed up with a number of strategic site partners to secure locations and ensure that IONITY stations are co-located with high-quality amenities.

Hajesch continues "the planned network covers 24 European countries and, crucially, is powered by 100% renewable energy. By offering only renewable energy, we are responsibly reducing the individual CO2 footprint of all customers charging at IONITY stations. We already have around 150 stations up and running with another 50 under construction – it is great to see this hard work recognised by the wider industry and underlines the success that can be achieved when car manufacturers work together. This year has been a very busy and exciting time for us."

-ENDS-

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**About Michael Hajesch**

Hajesch was appointed as head of the IONITY European charging network in 2017 after five years working in electromobility at BMW Group, which is one of the owners of IONITY along with Ford, Daimler and the Volkswagen Group. His experience focusing on charging infrastructure and e-mobility for BMW's i subbrand made him the perfect candidate for the CEO role. Hajesch has a doctorate in industrial and manufacturing science from Cranfield University in England.

## **About IONITY**

IONITY is headquartered in Munich and was founded in 2017; it is a joint venture of the BMW Group, Daimler AG, Ford Motor Company and the Volkswagen Group with Audi and Porsche. The goal of the joint venture is to build an extensive and reliable 350 kW High-Power-Charging network (HPC) for electric vehicles in Europe to secure comfortable long-distance travel. IONITY has attractive national and international locations through its strong partners. IONITY is an internationally registered trademark. [www.ionity.eu](http://www.ionity.eu).

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