

PRESS RELEASE

KRONPRINZ Germany at IAA-Transportation

- **KRONPRINZ unveils world's first lightweight steel wheel at IAA-Transportation 2026, pushing boundaries of technical feasibility**
- **Forged aluminum wheels with the innovative X-TRA POLISH + (XP+) surface finish complement the portfolio of lightweight wheel solutions**
- **Market-leading innovations for heavy-duty applications, electric vehicles, motorhomes, and transporter complete the company's trade show presentation**

Solingen, Germany – July 15, 2026. KRONPRINZ Germany GmbH, Europe's leading supplier of commercial vehicle wheels, will showcase a wide range of innovative steel and aluminum wheel solutions for the commercial vehicle industry at IAA-Transportation 2026. In the steel segment, the company will unveil a weight-optimized world-first innovation that pushes the boundaries of technical feasibility. KRONPRINZ will also present forged aluminum wheels featuring the new X-TRA POLISH + (XP+) surface finish. The exhibition portfolio is further complemented by robust steel and aluminum solutions for heavy-duty applications, specially developed wheels for electric vehicles, as well as products for motorhomes and transporter. With these innovations, KRONPRINZ reinforces its position as a trusted innovation partner for the diverse requirements of modern mobility and transportation concepts. Visitors can find KRONPRINZ Germany at IAA-Transportation in Hall 26, Booth C01.

Europe's Lightest HSLA Steel Wheel

The weight-optimized 22.5 x 9.00 wheel is the ideal solution for standard European truck applications. Manufactured from high-strength low-alloy (HSLA) steel and produced using state-of-the-art flow-forming technology, it combines maximum strength with minimal weight. The significant weight reduction decreases the vehicle's rotating mass, enables higher payload capacity, and contributes to lower fuel consumption. As Europe's lightest truck steel wheel currently available, it makes an important contribution to improving efficiency in the transportation industry. At IAA-Transportation 2022 and 2024, KRONPRINZ already showcased key development milestones on the path toward further weight reduction of commercial vehicle wheels, presenting what was then Europe's lightest standard truck wheel. With its latest innovation, the company continues this technological journey and once again pushes the boundaries of what is technically possible.

Surface Coating XP+

The KRONPRINZ portfolio of forged aluminum wheels includes the sizes 22.5 x 11.75, 22.5 x 9.00, 22.5 x 8.25, and 7½ J x 18 H2. The previously available high-gloss X-TRA POLISH (XP) finish is now complemented by the new X-TRA POLISH + (XP+) surface treatment, which combines an exceptionally attractive appearance with a protective, easy-to-clean finish. The innovative XP+ coating prevents wheel oxidation and significantly reduces the adhesion of contaminants such as brake dust. As a result, wheels with the XP+ finish are particularly easy to clean while maintaining a shine that is virtually indistinguishable from that of freshly polished wheels.

XP+ has been tested by an independent laboratory in accordance with commercial vehicle OEM requirements and successfully met all approval criteria with outstanding results. In addition, the coating achieved a “Best in Class” rating in the filiform corrosion test, underscoring its exceptional durability and performance.

Cutting-Edge Wheel Innovations for Commercial Vehicles

KRONPRINZ will also showcase innovative wheel solutions made from HSLA steel for heavy-duty applications and electric vehicles. The portfolio ranges from standard truck wheels in the 22.5 x 9.00 dimension to 22.5 x 8.25 and 22.5 x 7.50, covering a wide variety of requirements in terms of payload, efficiency, and durability. For the motorhome and transporter segment, including vehicles based on platforms such as the Fiat Ducato, Citroën Jumper, Peugeot Boxer, and comparable models, KRONPRINZ will also present its one-piece forged aluminum wheel in size 7½ J x 18 H2. Thanks to its forging process, the wheel combines maximum strength with low weight. Compared with conventional cast wheels, the material densification achieved during forging provides significantly greater resistance, enhanced fatigue strength, and a longer service life - even under the most demanding operating conditions.

Would you like to experience KRONPRINZ innovations firsthand? Join KRONPRINZ at IAA-Transportation 2026 in Hall 26, Booth C01.



KRONPRINZ at IAA-Transportation 2026 – Concept Study

Media Relations KRONPRINZ Germany GmbH

Sebastian Bednarz
Corporate Communications Specialist
Phone: +49 212 701 2449
sebastian.bednarz@kronprinz.de

About KRONPRINZ Germany GmbH

KRONPRINZ Germany GmbH is a leading supplier of wheels for the European commercial vehicle industry, headquartered in Solingen, Germany. The company's product portfolio includes commercial vehicle wheels made of steel and aluminum. KRONPRINZ was founded in 1897 by Rudolf Kronenberg and Carl Prinz in what is now the Solingen district of Ohligs. www.kronprinz.de