

## EDITORIAL

Dear readers,  
new year has brought us some important headlines about our industry:

### AVA Deutschland & GERI Autokühler GmbH: Joined forces

The consolidation of both German companies forming an operative and legal unit is progressing fast according to the schedule. GERI has already taken over the complete AVA range and from April, 1st, 2010, they will be taking over the part numbering system as well.

At the end of April 2010, the fusion of both German subsidiary companies followed - with retrospective effect from January, 1st, 2010.

The new corporation is named AVA Deutschland GmbH and is based in Gerlingen near Stuttgart – the current headquarters of GERI Autokühler GmbH.

In the beginning of May, the sales department of AVA Deutschland GmbH moved from Berlin to the company headquarters in Gerlingen and a single order management center is established. By the end of May, the stock in Gerlingen is centralized. The market share of the company's thermal products among the German IAM (Independent Aftermarket) is around 10-12%. A purchase of further market shares is not planned. We are focusing on internal development and growth by concentrating on the strongest acquisitions. The consolidation of the brands GERI and AURADIA under the family brand AVA Quality Cooling comes along with the complete organizational integration of the companies.



New seat/headquarter of AVA Deutschland GmbH in Gerlingen from Mai 2010

### Mahle takes over the majority of the participation of Behr Industry.

In the beginning of February, Behr announced in a press release that all members the supervisory body of MAHLE GmbH and BEHR GmbH & Co. KG have agreed with the acquisition of 60 per cent of the BEHR Industry GmbH & Co.KG company shares by MAHLE GmbH. BEHR Industry will trade under the name Mahle Behr Industry.

MAHLE intends to consolidate the company Mahle Behr Industry with its former industry activities in the sector of big engines and industry filtration. Besides the acquisition of the majority, MAHLE and BEHR both check the possibilities to find other strategic co-operations in the automotive department.

Both companies estimate the thermal management and mechatronics to be growth markets.

### Indian Investor takes over NRF

The Indian company Banco Products has settled in Europe and has taken over 100 per cent of the Nederlands Radiateurs Fabriek (NRF) in the beginning of March. The former parent company Proliance ranges under Chapter 11 formalities. According to a press release, NRF has been taking over clear of debt for 17.7 Mio Euros. NRF is to be managed as an independent profit centre by a local management.

Our market segment is changing quickly and the reorganization caused by the financial crisis has not yet been finished.

The AVA Kühler Haugg Group will focus on existing strengths and put them into service for the customers.

I am hoping for a "hot" summer for all of us and a cool head despite all the changes

Yours Wolfgang Haugg

## NEWS

Editorial:	Wolfgang Haugg	p. 1
Technical Info:	Auto A/C system evacuation	p. 2-3
Products:	New Models	p. 4
Marketing:	AVA News	p. 5
	Motorsport	p. 6



## TECHNICAL INFO

### Auto A/C system evacuation

source: Automotive A/C Reporter - [www.auto-ac-reporter.com](http://www.auto-ac-reporter.com)

#### Auto A/C system evacuation; pre-heating the heater core can enhance process efficiency

The evacuation process of the auto a/c unit is meant to empty the system of contaminants such as air and moisture. If the evacuation process is performed correctly, practically all air and moisture can be removed from the system.

Thorough evacuation of the a/c system is of great importance because anything in the a/c system other than refrigerant reduces system efficiency. Emptying air from the system is necessary because air is a non-condensable gas that can lead to higher pressures in the system. Apart from the fact that these pressures can sometimes get too high, higher pressures because of air can also make it more difficult to correctly diagnose the unit. Moisture in the unit can mix with lubricant, forming a sludgy substance in the system. Under certain circumstances the moisture can freeze near the expansion valve and restrict refrigerant flow, block the system or lead to excessive noise.

With a good quality vacuum pump that is serviced on a regular basis it is no problem to remove all moisture from a leakfree system. During the evacuation process the moisture will start boiling and leave the system in a gaseous state. Most a/c system manufacturers recommend to maintain the vacuum for 45 to 60 minutes once the deepest point of vacuum has been reached. In case of an a/c unit with two evaporators even 60 to 90 minutes.

Some manufacturers prefer to use a thermistor vacuum gauge when a system is evacuated. A thermistor vacuum gauge indicates the reached vacuum level in microns on a digital display. This means that the readings are much more precise than on a normal vacuum gauge and that the smallest change in vacuum can be monitored.

#### Preheating the evaporator prior to unit evacuation

Similar to refrigerant, also moisture can only leave the system in a gaseous state. Because of its fluid state, the moisture in the system is often trapped in system components, mostly the evaporator. To be sure that the evacuation process is performed in an efficient, thorough manner an option is to pre-heat the evaporator before starting the evacuation process.

This can be done as follows:

Run the engine with the heater adjusted to maximum heating.

- Select the recirculation mode.
- Adjust the blower fan to its highest speed.
- Close all doors and windows.

By the time the engine has reached its normal operational temperature, the evaporator will be thoroughly preheated. Now the system can be evacuated. Working this way will enable to come to a thorough and efficient evacuation of the system.

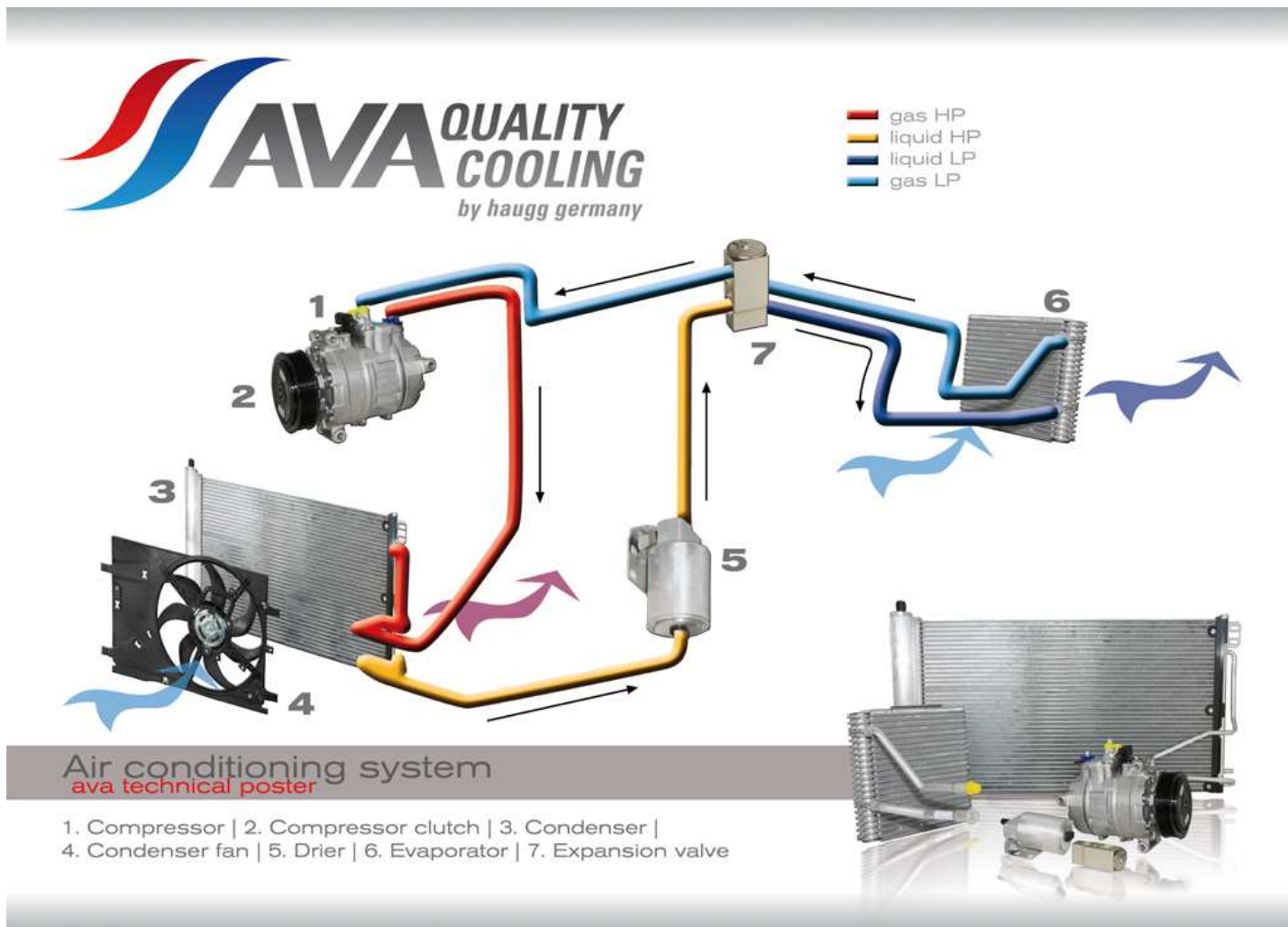
## TECHNICAL INFO

### Auto A/C system evacuation

The evacuation process is often also used to check the a/c unit on leaks. "For if the unit can hold its vacuum long enough, it can be assumed that the system is free of leakages".

This principal is not always valid and evacuation is no 100% proof system to check the unit on leaks. An example is the seal or the o-ring that can move under evacuation and no leak may be found, whilst the same leak or o-ring could leak when the unit is put under pressure.

It is therefore of importance to leakcheck the auto a/c unit before evacuating it.



## PRODUCTS

### AVA NEW MODELS

#### *Insignia 07/08-*



**OL 5478**

1850134  
1850377  
13241737  
13330217

**OL D479**

1618477  
13277637

#### *500 08/08-*



**FT 4375**

51819187

**FT 4376**

51819186

#### *Delta III 09/08-*



**LC 4092**

51833106

**LC 4093**

51833107

#### *Ibiza V 03/08-*



**ST 5038**

6R0.820.411 A

6R0.820.411 D

#### *Splash 12/07-*



**SZ 2111**

17700 - 73KA0

**SZ 5116**

95310 - 51K00

#### *Landcruiser 08/07-*



**TO 5560**

88460 - 60400

Please visit our [www.ava.eu](http://www.ava.eu) for a complete list of new models

\* All indications regarding compatibility and O.E. part numbers are indicative and for reference purposes only

## MARKETING

### AVA NEWS

#### Experiencing action and relaxing moments with AVA Deutschland and KRAFTHAND:

In cooperation with KRAFTHAND, the popular service centre magazine, AVA Deutschland has initiated a lottery. The main prizes are: 3 weekends for two people in Hockenheim/ Speyer. In Hockenheim, there will be racing action in four different series on the ADAC Masters Weekend and you will find cultural events and relaxation in the Lindner Hotel & Spa in Speyer.



Lindner Hotel & Spa

#### Autotechnica Brüssel – AVA FEDERAUTO Cooperation:

From May, 9th to May 12th, 2010, AVA - in cooperation with FEDERAUTO, the Belgian Association for auto service centers - is organizing an event full of adrenaline on the occasion of the Autotechnica in Brüssel. At the fair booth No. 6 B 26, you will find a factory BMW M3 driving simulator for a round on the legendary GP track Spa-Francorchamps. Among all drivers who had the courage to try this simulator, AVA is raffling off a weekend in Paris for two people - a less racy but more romantic tour on the Seine with a dinner on Saturday evening is included. FEDERAUTO, organizer of the fair, has been already sending out invitations to the fair to all national auto repair shops.



**Auto  
Technica  
2010 9-12/05**

#### European Automotive Air conditioning Convention in Frankfurt/D:

For existing and future air-conditioning producers, this year's Automotive Air-conditioning Convention in Frankfurt from September, 20th to 21st is a unique opportunity to exchange information with other experts and industry experts. A good reason for AVA to support the initiative of the organizer Ron Henzelmans as the main sponsor. Ron Henzelmans is the editor of the only European professional journal concerning air condition technique - the Automotive Air-conditioning Reporter, which we would like to recommend you.



**Automotive Airconditioning Reporter**  
INDEPENDENT MAGAZINE FOR THE AUTOMOTIVE A/C INDUSTRY

You will find further information on the convention under <http://www.auto-ac-reporter.com/cms/>. The fair is taking place subsequent to the Automechanika in Frankfurt, which is also valuable for authorized service centers.

**AVA BENELUX BV**

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## MARKETING

### MOTORSPORT

#### On the fast lane with the Speed Ladies

Under the theme "Women in the automobile industry", AVA supports the women team ATM Speed Ladies in the ADAC PROCAR 2010, the "second Bundes League" of the German touring car sports. The ATM Speed Ladies team consists of three attractive women, who have positioned themselves exemplary in their young occupational history in the male domain of motorsports and additionally seek the challenge in a sporty way. Ramona Hübner and Anja Holzbrecher, two professional automotive mechatronics, are taking over the support of the 1.6 litre Ford Fiesta in the pit whereas the Hamburg citizen Ulrike Krafft, a graduated engine construction engineer, will create a lot of excitement on the racing track with her compact 180 HP racing car. On April 10th and 11th, the season 2010 has started successfully for the Speed Ladies in the Motorsport Arena Oschersleben - Ulrike Krafft came fourth in the first race and even reached a podium place in the second race despite difficult conditions. The petite 26-year-old women absolved the complete race without power assisted steering.



Anja Holzbrecher & Ramona Hübner

#### AVA Austria GmbH says "Thank you!"

The AVA Austria GmbH would like to thank all of their customers for their trust in the new management and the newly formed AVA team - therefore, AVA is announcing a spectacular lottery. The main price is a weekend in Salzburg incl. VIP tickets for the ADAC PROCAR and ETCC (European Touring Car Championship) racing weekend at the Salzburgring. Experience exciting touring car sports and fascinating duels right at the racing track and have an exclusive look behind the motorsport scenes with AVA.

ADAC PROCAR 2010 Ready to start



**Folgen Sie uns AVA mals!**  
 Gewinnen Sie! Fahren Sie mit!  
**ADAC Procar/Tourenwagenmeisterschaft am Salzburgring**  
 2 x je 2 Karten und 2 **Renntaxi**-Fahrten

Wir freuen uns über die zahlreichen Kunden, die uns von Nissens zu AVA gefolgt sind.

Als Dankeschön haben wir am Rennwochenende 24. und 25. Juli für Sie Karten reserviert. Beantworten Sie die Frage auf der Rückseite und gewinnen Sie:  
 Eintrittskarten, inklusive Begleitung und Verpflegung im ADAC Procar Zelt, Boxenführung und Teamvorstellung.

