

Press Release

**Smart bushings
Vibracoustic presents innovative sensor bushings**

Weinheim, 8 September 2008

Supplementing automotive vibration control components with appropriate mechatronic functions constitutes the declared strategy of the Weinheim-based technological leader Vibracoustic. The latter is presenting a smart chassis-mounted steering bushing along with active linear absorbers, switchable engine mounts and active vibration exciters for driver's assistance systems. An electronic angle-measuring system is integrated into a traditional rubber-to-metal chassis bushing to generate information about the load conditions of the chassis. These signals make it possible, for example, to control level compensating appliances and headlamp levelers and, at further development stages, damping and spring rate characteristics on active chassis systems.

The sensor works according to the induction principle and measures the bushing torsion. Analog or digital signals are generated alternatively. The component is supplied via the standard on-board network.

First applications in series are planned for use in headlamp levelers. The integration of the sensor into a chassis bushing makes it possible to dispense with any additional space required for installation and the assembly of the traditional system consisting of toggle-lever sensors.

For Vibracoustic, a perfect example for an innovative product which not only enhances customers' benefits, but reduces costs, too.