



# PRESSINFORMATION

## **NGK Spark Plug Europe exclusively supplies BMW with spark plugs supplier for BMW i8**

**Ratingen, 5. April 2015 – The BMW i8 is the current flagship of the Bavarian premium brand. For the three-cylinder engine installed under the plug-in-hybrid car's bonnet BMW chose spark plugs of the world's leading spark plug manufacturer, NGK Spark Plug.**

BMW's i8 combines an electric engine with 96 kW (131 PS) power and the first BMW three cylinder direct injection engine produced for passenger cars. The downsizing engine delivers 170 kW (231 PS) from 1.5 litres capacity. Taken together, the BMW i8 offers a total output of 266 kW (362 PS) and a maximum speed electronically limited to 250 km/h. Zero to hundred takes 4.4 seconds.

The TwinPower turbo three-cylinder works with variable valve control, turbo charging and high-precision direct injection close to the spark plug. The spark plugs therefore need to fulfil demanding requirements: They have to guarantee high mixture accessibility and a reliable ignition in the face of high charging pressures and strongest air-fuel-mixture movements.

NGK Spark Plug, the world's leading manufacturer of spark plugs, exclusively supplies BMW with the plugs for the car. For the 1.5 litre direct injection engine, NGK developed the SILZKGR8C8S, a M12 bi-hex double precious metal spark plug with an iridium tip on the centre electrode and a platinum chip on the ground electrode. These precious metal electrodes are virtually resilient against spark erosion and hot gas corrosion. They safeguard optimum ignition conditions along many kilometres. Additionally, a special electrode design improves mixture accessibility and with this the efficiency of combustion. Finally, the spark plug comes with a lengthened insulator and a cup-shaped terminal. This design effectively prevents flashovers and electrical breakthroughs even at extreme ignition voltages.

About NGK: NGK is the world's leading manufacturer of spark plugs, glow plugs and lambda sensors. The Company runs production plants and sales organisations all over the world. With a total of 12,000 employees, the Company generates an annual turnover of around 2.7 billion euros. NGK is represented on all continents and has 32 group companies, 12 production plants and four technical centres.

Article and pictures (300 dpi, 10 x 15 cm) are available for download at [www.ngk.de](http://www.ngk.de) - press.

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