
Recaro recognized for antibacterial seat

By **Rick Lundstrom** on June, 7 2018 | Seating



Left to right: Marc Schmidt (Materials Engineer, Recaro Aircraft Seating), Joachim Ley (Executive Vice President Supply Chain, Recaro Aircraft Seating)

An antibacterial seat developed by [Recaro Aircraft Seating](#) won the [German Innovation Award](#) presented to the company on June 6, 2018 in Berlin.

The Hygienic Seat is made with active substances in hygienic coatings on the frequently touched plastic parts of Recaro seats. The company is in discussions with multiple customers and plans to launch the solution within the next one to two years.

Although the environmental system of an aircraft filters most germs, a less bacteria-friendly material environment could further support the risk reduction of infectious disease transmission, according to a scientific investigation by Alexandra Mangili and Mark A. Gendreau. With a focus on the survival of pathogens on airplane cabin surfaces, Kiril Vaglenov from Auburn University concluded that E. coli bacteria survived 96 hours on armrests. With this in mind, the Recaro team started to further develop a solution to provide passengers with added safety and comfort. Specially coated surfaces with active substances against antibacterial infestation on the frequently touched parts of Recaro aircraft seats.

“We are honored to receive this award. It shows that we are a clear step ahead meeting the needs of different markets with creative ideas and innovative products,” said Joachim Ley, Executive Vice President Supply Chain of Recaro Aircraft Seating, during the ceremony in Berlin. “We are highly motivated to further develop our hygienic technology to offer passengers added safety and comfort. We combine significant added value for both airlines and their passengers in terms of comfort and efficiency.”

The German Innovation Award puts the focus primarily on the product user. Nominated innovations should have a positive impact on the future. The award also distinguishes cross-industry products and solutions that differ from previous solutions in terms of user orientation and added value.

The award is hosted by the [German Design Council](#), a well-known institution founded by the German Bundestag and donated by German industry organizations. The German Innovation Award honors innovations with lasting effects. The Hygienic Seat of Recaro convinced the independent, interdisciplinary jury, which consists of representatives from businesses, science and finance.