

nobilia InnovationLab

New era of kitchen innovation // Technology and design for kitchens of the future

nobilia presents pioneering technologies and innovative designs at its in-house exhibition 2025

Verl. Europe's largest kitchen manufacturer nobilia once again emphasises its role as a driver of innovation within the industry at its in-house exhibition 2025. With the newly created InnovationLab, the company, together with its partners Continental and WMF, is opening up exciting insights into kitchens of the future.

According to the motto "Evolution of Senses – feel. connect. inspire.", nobilia shows that innovation is not a product of chance, but a strategically anchored component of the corporate strategy – supported by continuous research, close cooperation with partners and considerable investment. Although the concepts presented are still being developed, they already provide a fascinating glimpse of nobilia kitchens of the future.

How can genuine, tangible added value be created for everyday life in the kitchen? This key question motivates the company in its continuous product development and innovation management. The InnovationLab showcases how nobilia not only transfers its own ideas, but also ideas and technologies from other industries to the world of kitchens, thus realising completely new solutions for everyday kitchen life.

For kitchens of the future, nobilia consciously relies on cross-industry expertise, putting trust in technological pioneers from the automotive industry, among others: in cooperation with Continental, one of the world's leading automotive suppliers, nobilia is already in the process of creating prototypes that redefine comfort, safety and connectivity and that may define kitchen design in the coming years.

Kitchen convenience meets the automotive world

Together with Continental, nobilia is transferring state-of-the-art display and control panels, which were previously used exclusively in vehicles, to the kitchen for the first time. Hidden under semi-transparent surfaces, the functions remain invisible to the eye and only appear when required. "The collaboration with Continental opens up a whole new dimension for us to design intuitive surfaces that respond to the user while maintaining the elegant design of modern kitchens," explains Florian Degenhardt, Head of Innovation at nobilia.

In the InnovationLab, this future technology can be experienced using a custom-made worktop: inductive charging, integrated scales and surfaces for keeping food warm or chilled are invisibly embedded in the worktop. Sensors automatically recognise smartphones and other objects, activate the corresponding control panels and display information precisely when it is needed. This ensures that the purist kitchen design is always maintained.

Another highlight is an invisible sound system in the back panel in the space between the wall units and base units. Since no separate speakers are required, the back panel itself acts as a membrane – music, podcasts or audiobooks seem to come straight from the kitchen.

With these innovations, nobilia takes everyday kitchen life to a whole new level and shows how design and technology can be combined to create a coordinated living experience.

Artificial intelligence for smart kitchens

In the InnovationLab, nobilia will also be demonstrating integration of an invisible screen into the space between wall units and base units. Hidden behind a translucent film in a natural wood look, it remains invisible in everyday life and only becomes visible when in use.

Supported by Continental's AI image recognition system, this opens up a wide range of possible applications: "Pick a Recipe" automatically recognises the food placed on the worktop and suggests suitable recipes – an innovative approach that promotes sustainable cooking and zero waste. "Calorie Count" analyses calories and nutritional values, thus supporting a healthy, conscious lifestyle.

In addition to comfort and sustainability, the focus is also on safety: cameras monitor potentially critical situations on the worktop. For example, a sharp knife within reach of a child's hands or boiling water immediately triggers an alarm – for greater safety in everyday life.

With this combination of invisible technology, artificial intelligence and intuitive applications, nobilia and Continental showcase how kitchens of the future combine convenience, sustainability and safety in perfect balance.

Wireless kitchen: from nobilia and WMF

In addition to its innovative surface and AI solutions, nobilia is working with renowned household goods manufacturer WMF on a world first: the wireless kitchen.

Appliances developed exclusively for nobilia, such as kettles, air fryers and mixers, draw their power from a Ki-Cordless module developed by the E.G.O. Group, which is invisibly integrated into the worktop. As soon as the appliance come into contact with the surface, inductive energy transfer takes place – safely, efficiently and fully automatically.

The world's first module developed for nobilia worktops marks a technological quantum leap: sockets and tangled cables are finally a thing of the past. With this innovation, nobilia, WMF and E.G.O. are setting new standards for kitchens of the future – functional, aesthetic and consistently user-orientated.

Smart safety systems for everyday life

In another milestone, nobilia presents a new Bluetooth-controlled safety system that makes everyday life significantly safer. Certain kitchen units lock automatically as soon as the room is left together with the connected smartphone. This reliably prevents small children or unauthorised individuals from accessing them when you are away – an added safety feature that integrates seamlessly into everyday life. "At nobilia, we see networked locking systems as an integral component of future kitchen equipment – and as an extraordinary opportunity to increase quality of life and safety in your own home in the long term," explains Florian Degenhardt, Head of Innovation at nobilia. With this solution, nobilia combines smart home technologies with maximum ease of use – and showcases once again how kitchens of the future will not only be more functional, but also safer.

Fascinating outlook for specialist retail

At this year's nobilia in-house exhibition in Verl, the future technologies presented will be brought together for the first time to form a visionary complete kitchen and presented to an international retail audience.

"As part of the InnovationLab, we demonstrate how nobilia is actively shaping kitchens of the future and leading the industry into a new technological era. We provide decisive impetus for new designs, smart functions and intelligent technology – and thus a unique outlook on the enormous potential that can be realised by nobilia over the coming years," emphasises Dr Lars Bopf, nobilia Managing Director.

The innovations are not yet commercially available, but are being systematically developed together with partners Continental, WMF and other technology experts. With this, nobilia is sending out a clear signal: kitchens of the future are no longer a vision – they are taking shape here and now.

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