

makes a difference

GUIDELINES FOR SUBMISSION

To protect the interests of the individual submitting the idea, as well as those of our company, please note the following points before submitting an idea:

- 1. Ideally, we review ideas which are accompanied by an adequate technical description and ideas for which IP rights have been registered, for example a patent or registered design. The rights of all parties involved can be defined by these, and these can constitute a reliable starting point for potential future negotiations.
- 2. Submissions for which no IP rights have been registered are accepted as suggestions. Suggestions are not reviewed in detail and the individual submitting the suggestion bears the risks associated with safeguarding their rights. We are unable to accept any types of claims made against us.
- 3. The ideas submitted are presented to the designated department for evaluation. Suggestions are added to the knowledge database and the departments are informed. The associated submitted documents are used for review purposes only and are treated with the same confidentiality and care as comparable in-house matters.
- 4. Submissions are evaluated and responded to as quickly as possible. Under normal circumstances, it takes no longer than eight weeks to process your idea.
- 5. The decision not to use an idea is based on Kärcher's own business considerations and should not be seen as a quality-related judgement of the idea's value. We ask for your understanding that we may not give reasons for rejections.
- 6. Please note that Kärcher reserves the right to develop innovations independently of your idea, which may be similar or identical to your idea, or request or obtain information about these kinds of innovations from third parties.

In case of questions, please contact:

Alfred Kärcher SE & Co. KG Alfred-Kärcher-Str. 28–40 71364 Winnenden (Germany) Innovation@de.kaercher.com