


FGW - THIS  
MAKES THE  
**DIFFERENCE** 

- Comprehensive know-how thanks to the cooperation between the testing institute and the R&D under an umbrella organisation
- Research, testing and certification out of one hand
- Competence gained by decades of experience
- We assist you in the application of public funds
- Be part of a network for application-oriented research



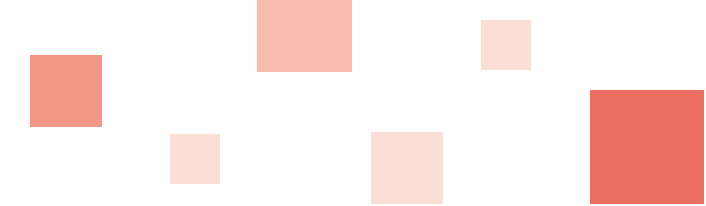
FGW Forschungsgemeinschaft  
Werkzeuge und Werkstoffe e.V.  
Papenberger Straße 49  
42859 Remscheid  
Germany

Tel.: +49 (0) 2191 59210  
Fax: +49 (0) 2191 5921100  
E-mail: info@fgw.de

[www.FGW.de](http://www.FGW.de)

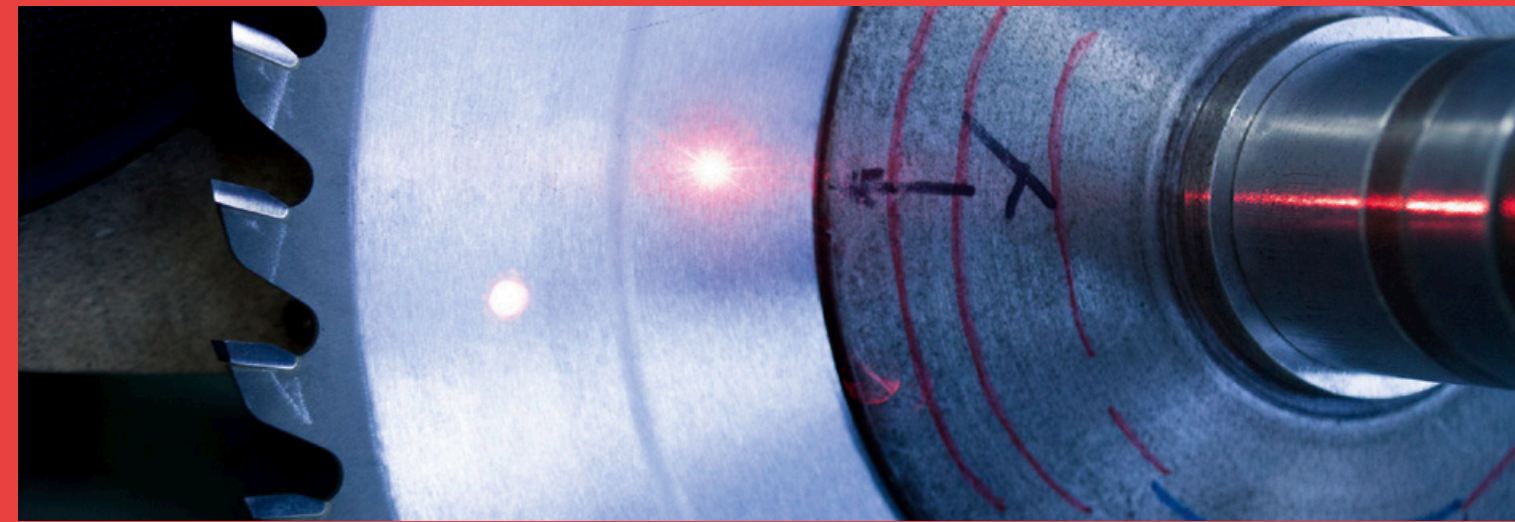
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FGW FORSCHUNGSGEMEINSCHAFT  
WERKZEUGE UND WERKSTOFFE E.V.



### Research - Testing - Certification

The Forschungsgemeinschaft Werkzeuge und Werkstoffe e.V. (FGW) - Research Association for Tools and Materials - is a private, non-commercial institution for applied



## COMPETENCE WHERE TOOLS AND HOUSEWARES ARE CONCERNED



Affiliated Institute of the  
University of Wuppertal

research combined with affiliated commercial businesses. For more than 60 years, we define ourselves as an interface between university research and the application-oriented requirements of the tool and houseware industry. The cooperation with reputable companies and institutions in Germany and abroad, quite a number of publications in trade magazines, regular presence in the media and the continuous enquiries to deliver expert opinions strengthen the importance of the FGW as one of the most competent institutes in the field of tools and housewares.

[www.FGW.de](http://www.FGW.de)

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The **FGW** has the following divisions:

- **IFW Institute for Tool Research and Materials**
- **ZAF Centre for Applied Shape Memory Technology**
- **VPA Research and Testing Centre**
- **VPA Research and Testing Centre Certification Division**
- **IUB Institute for Environment and Operation**

As a member of the Arbeitsgemeinschaft industrieller Forschungsvereinigungen (AiF) - Working Group of Industrial Research Associations -, the FGW represents the „Tools and Materials“ industry as against the Federal Ministry of Economics.

The primary responsibility is the acquisition of external funds and the network activities between the various sectors of industry.

## IFW

Since its establishment in 1952, the Institut für Werkzeugforschung und Werkstoffe (IFW) - Institute for Tool Research and Materials - has developed to one of the most renowned institutes in the field of applied research for the tool industry. In more than 200 research projects, practical solutions have been developed, which could be adapted promptly by the companies working in the tool and cutlery industry. Numerous patents prove the success of the research results. The scientific institute of the FGW is an excellent example which shows that also the smallest businesses can participate in innovative research.

## ZAF

The Zentrum für angewandte Formgedächtnistechnik - Centre for Applied Shape Memory Technology - bases the application-oriented research and development of products and processes on shape memory alloys. With this, the ZAF is the first institute of this kind in the world. The ZAF supports industrial cooperation partners with the introduction of this technology and with the common research and development of new applications. Our equipment, our methods of development and our knowledge databases are especially designed for this technology.

## VPA

The VPA, which was established in 1923, was incorporated in the FGW as an independent business line in 1986 and today, it is a modern service provider for the damage case analysis and the component and material testing. Our activities focus on the testing of hand, machine and garden tools, cutlery and housewares. In these fields, our range of services includes:

- **Quality testing**
- **Testing of guaranteed features**
- **Damage case analyses**
- **Technical advice**

## VPA ZERT

As an authorised Testing Institute for Tested Safety (GS) marks, the VPA ZERT is concerned with certifications and the awarding of test marks.

Besides awarding the Tested Safety (GS) certification, which is mainly granted for hand and garden tools, we are also testing the compliance with relevant standards and guidelines of products, which cannot be awarded the Tested Safety (GS) mark. For these cases, we award the following test marks:

- **VPA TESTED** Testing of individual product features
- **VPA CERTIFIED** corresponds to the Tested Safety (GS) tests as regards contents
- **VPA EXCELLENT** for especially high quality standards

## IUB

The Institut für Umwelt und Betrieb (IUB) - Institute for Environment and Operation - provides a comprehensive service package for all the questions concerning the industrial safety and the quality management, especially for small and medium-sized businesses.

Our services include:

- **Providing advice**
- **Planning**
- **Documentation**
- **Support in the implementation of measures**
- **Providing of a qualified specialist for industrial safety**
- **Providing of fire and laser protection representatives**

