

60 years of Cable Knives: JOKARI celebrates a special anniversary

Ascheberg, March 2026: For 60 years, the Cable Knife invented by JOKARI has made stripping cables and wires easier in trade and industry. What began as an innovative idea in 1966 has been continuously developed over decades and is now an indispensable part of electricians' daily work.

From Idea to Revolution: A Look at History

In the early 1960s, cable regulations changed fundamentally. The lead and sheet metal sheaths previously used in cable production were abolished because their application was physically demanding for electricians. Every second or third stripping had to be repeated, resulting in significant material loss. With the introduction of plastic-sheathed cables and wires, there was an urgent need for new tools. Master electrician Josef Krampe recognized this challenge and developed a cable knife that could strip plastic-sheathed wires quickly, safely, and precisely. The JOKARI Cable Knife was born.

Invention and Patenting of the First Cable Knife

In 1966, Josef Krampe invented the revolutionary and subsequently patented JOKARI Knife, which greatly simplified the previously tedious process of stripping cables. "The ingenious basic idea has proven itself millions of times over: After the circular cut, the movable inner blade automatically adjusts to a longitudinal cut, thus enabling the precise stripping of wires," explains JOKARI Managing Director Carsten Bünnigmann.

The original basic model has been continuously developed ever since. Today, the JOKARI product range includes a variety of specialized cable knives for diverse requirements and applications. The original JOKARI Cable Knife is established worldwide and has been copied just as widely.

Continuous Development

Since then, the specialists at JOKARI have continuously developed the founder's invention with further solutions. These include, for example, the development of a hook blade as an alternative to the straight blade. The introduction of ergonomic two-component handles for improved feel and grip also represented a significant modification. The basic model has been expanded with additional cable brackets – cables up to 70 mm in diameter can now be processed with a cable knife, the Cable Knife System 4-70. Besides its wide wire stripping range of 4 to 70 mm diameter, it is also "probably the safest Cable Knife in the world," as JOKARI Managing Director Frank J. Goebbel explains. There's a simple reason for this: "Our unique safety mechanism instantly covers the hook blade if it slips. To cut the cable sheathing, the mechanism must be deliberately pushed back. This patented safety mechanism significantly minimizes the risk of cuts."

Anniversary Edition as a Thank You

To celebrate its 60th anniversary, JOKARI is launching a limited edition of its successful Cable Knife System 4-70: "We would like to celebrate this anniversary with everyone and thank our users. Over the years, JOKARI has become synonymous with wire stripping tools in the industry. We are consciously taking this opportunity to give something back," says Goebbel.

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“Therefore, in this anniversary year, we are offering our popular Cable Knife System 4-70 as a gift set, including the Cable Stripper SECURA Coaxi No. 1, in the same quantity as we sold of this cable knife last year.”

The anniversary year kicked off successfully at the International Hardware Fair and Light + Building, with numerous anniversary promotions that were very well received by visitors.

Bild Imageindex (Picture Source: JOKARI GmbH & Co. KG); Reprint free of charge:



JOKARI_Old Cable Knife Prototype:
One of the first cable knives with a straight blade
designed by Josef Krampe.



JOKARI_Cable Knife System 4-70:
Today's modern safety Cable Knife from JOKARI,
the Cable Knife System 4-70, meets all the
requirements of a modern professional in terms of
stripping cables and wires.



JOKARI Managing Director
Carsten Bünnigmann



JOKARI Managing Director
Frank J. Goebbel

About JOKARI

JOKARI GmbH & Co. KG from Ascheberg, Westphalia, is a specialist for the production and distribution of high-quality precision wire strippers. Since its foundation more than 50 years ago, the company has been focusing on quality made in Germany and manufactures all wire

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stripers in its own factory with an attached plastics injection molding at the Ascheberg headquarter. JOKARI's task is to meet the demands of its world-wide professional customers from industry and craftsmanship: They are asking to strip all types of wires quickly, precisely, easily, and safely for further handling – under all circumstances. According to this the company's innovations are geared to the latest developments in technical and industrial branches, for example in automotive and automation technology. Thus JOKARI is able to deliver exactly the wire strippers the customers need for their work. In addition JOKARI offers multimedia-based, multilingual solutions to provide quick assistance to customers all around world having questions on the use of the wire strippers. For further information visit www.jokari.eu.

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