

PRESS RELEASE

Frankfurt, March 11th, 2019

“Innovation Award Architecture+ Technology“

The winners have been selected

The winners of this year’s „Innovation Award Architecture+ Technology“ have been chosen. For the 20th time the architectural journals AIT and xia Intelligente Architektur in cooperation with ISH, have initiated the Innovation Award Architecture+ Technology. For the 10th time the award was held at the ISH fair. The Innovation Award is intended for manufacturers of innovative products and building services in the fields of bathrooms, heat distribution, air-conditioning and building automation, as well as architects, interior designers and designers who work in these areas.

The Award was initiated to honour products that correspond to the requirements of architects and interior designers to an outstanding degree. The prize recognises conceptual solutions and selected products, which satisfy in design and functionality. Important assessment criteria are the degree of intelligent technical solutions and the variety of application.

There was a great and interbranching response to the Innovation Award: **25 products by 18 companies** have been submitted.

A jury of three renowned architects and interior designers have decided upon the winners on Monday 11th, 2019, the opening day of the ISH fair.

The jury:

Hendrik Fraune | Studio architects, Düsseldorf

Dieter Schmidt | Schmidt Holzinger Innenarchitekten, Rodgau

Roger Wirtz | Architekten Stein Hemmes Wirtz, Frankfurt

Seven products were awarded with the following prices:

The 20th Innovation Award Architecture+ Technology went to:

Product: VISIGN FOR MORE 201

Manufacturer: Viega GmbH & Co. KG

Jury assessment:

“The VISIGN FOR MORE 201 WC actuation plate is punched out of a single, thin sheet steel. The operating points are carefully bent out of the surface and are therefore intuitive to operate both in terms of look and feel. A 2-volume flush is activated electronically via these actuation points. This product receives the Innovation Award for its balanced, rational-geometric design vocabulary and high-quality use of materials.”

Special Mentiones were conferred to:

Product: VAL
Manufacturer: Laufen Bathrooms AG

Jury assessment:

“The jury praised the product for its compact elegance, especially for small rooms as architecture rarely focuses on small rooms. The washbasin owes its elegance to SaphirKeramik, which allows narrow, filigree edges. The edges of this washbasin merge with a compact tap area. The washbasin has everything it needs in the smallest of spaces and is also beautifully designed.”

Product: IXMO_solo Thermostat
Manufacturer: KEUCO GmbH & Co. KG

Jury assessment:

“The product is an integrated shower fitting system. Its overall appearance is smart because the size of the thermostat was optimised and reduced. It is vivid because it is well designed and communicative because the display functions, such as temperature control and water quantity, are presented in a self-explanatory way. The product impresses with its clever design. It is easy to clean – but always cuts a fine figure.”

Mentiones were awarded to the following participants:

Product: PLANCOFIX PLUS
Manufacturer: Jung Pumpen GmbH

Jury assessment:

“In case there are no downward drainage possibilities, the product allows drainage within the bath cell by means of a pumping process. The product is a trouble shooter for issues relating to bathroom conversions and enables more convenient use of showers, conversions from bathtub to shower, and thus the conversions to barrier-free showers. The product thus adds value by improving functionality. The product convinces by its high technology density; the product is thoroughly developed in many directions, i.e. holistically engineered.”

Product: AIR PLUS
Manufacturer: Duscholux AG

Jury assessment:

“A smart mounting system for glass shower enclosures. The features are: An almost invisible profile system, which is only visible at second glance and thus looks clean. The system is interface-oriented, it deals with the reduction of dependencies. The product is sustainable because the long-term investment for the maintenance of joints is eliminated. The product meets a high level of detail.”

Product: fixMi
Manufacturer: Mat Inter

Jury assessment:

“As soon as the bathroom or kitchen has been tiled, accessories require first holes to be drilled. FixMI thinks

*a decorative finishing trim further: Similar to a shaker rail, an all-round metal rail holds a wide range of accessories that can be added and replaced as required. That's very convincing!
However, what does the joint pattern look like when the trim does not continue all way round? And does the filigree fixation allow regular disassembly for cleaning? These are the questions that remain unanswered from the jury's point of view."*

Product: JANSEN shark Technologie

Manufacturer: Jansen AG

Jury assessment:

"A product, which – to be honest – is usually only of marginal interest to the designing architect. Nevertheless, the manufacturer has managed to direct our interest to the probe, building services, and heating technology pipes with patented inside surface structure. This alone deserves some recognition. The jury was convinced, however, that a surface derived from nature brings about a double improvement: on the one hand, a lower pressure loss in the system, and on the other hand, a larger surface for heat exchange. A simple intervention that promises a significant increase in energy efficiency with almost the same amount of material used."

The award ceremony took place on Tuesday, March 11th, 2019 at 5pm at the booth of the Innovation Award.

All participating products are on display for the entire duration of the fair at the special exhibition area of the Innovation Award at the Foyer at hall 4.2. In addition, all participants will be published in a special feature within the June issue of the AIT.

Besides the Innovation Award Architecture+ Technology, the journals AIT and xia Intelligente Architektur initiate innovation competitions for window and door systems, textile-, office furniture-, sanitation system-, flooring- and presentation industry as well as the building and construction industry on the respective trade fairs: fensterbau frontale at Nuremberg, Orgatec at Cologne, light + building at Frankfurt a.M., EuroShop at Dusseldorf, Heimtextil at Frankfurt a.M. and BAU at Munich.

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