



Press Release Innovationspreis (Prize for Innovation) at Holz 2022

## Innovationspreis Holz 2022 – The Winners

**Basel, 11 October 2022 – The evening of the first trade fair day saw the winners of this year’s Holz Innovationspreis being announced and honoured. OERTLI Werkzeuge AG, Arthur Bründler AG, and Fagus Suisse SA managed to convince the expert judges with their innovative projects and won the GOLD, SILVER, and BRONZE awards.**

It is the fifth time that the Holz Innovationspreis honours outstanding projects that offer technology-, process-, or product-oriented innovations in the timber industry. With its CASTOR Sprint drill milling cutter / universal milling cutter, OERTLI Werkzeuge AG took first place, thus securing the GOLD award. Arthur Bründler AG secured the silver medal and impressed with the innovative HAND GUARD safety system for ALTENDORF panel saws. Third place went to Fagus Suisse SA, who won over the judges with their high-strength laminated timber for top-quality timber construction.

“We congratulate the winners, who strengthen the innovate power of the woodworking industry with the projects that they submitted, and further demonstrated that always thinking ahead is not only worth it, but is actually a must,” said Erich Zeller, head of the judges, at the end of the evening. The winners prevailed against a total of 33 submitted projects and emerged victorious from five short-listed entries nominated by the expert judges beforehand.

### **GOLD Winner: OERTLI Werkzeuge AG – *CASTOR Sprint drill milling cutter/universal milling cutter***

With the CASTOR Sprint drill milling cutter/universal milling cutter shaft made by OERTLI Werkzeuge AG, materials with a thickness of up to 400 mm can be worked on from one side with impressive efficiency. The tool is ideal for working with hardwood and softwood, plywood, and laminated beams on CNC joinery systems, and is primarily used for milling grooves and pockets, as well as rebates and joints. It can also be used as a drill milling cutter. Due to its lightweight



construction, it offers top performance, can be used universally, remains dimensionally stable regardless of the degree of wear, and has an exchangeable core drill bit.

**SILVER Winner: Arthur Bründler AG – ALTENDORF HAND GUARD**

The HAND GUARD innovation is new across the globe and serves as a highly reactive safety system for ALTENDORF panel saws, thanks to artificial intelligence and camera recognition. The proactive, protective invention can make a lasting contribution to reducing the number of accidents involving circular saws. The HAND GUARD system differs significantly in that hands can be pre-detected, also when approaching at higher speeds, which results in the controlled switching off of the machine.

**BRONZE Winner: Fagus Suisse SA – *High-strength laminated timber made from beech wood and other local hardwoods for demanding structural applications***

Timber is once again being regarded as an innovative building material, while at the same time higher load-bearing capacity and stability of building materials is required. Fagus Suisse SA introduced a new type of product to the Swiss construction-timber market with the laminated timber products made from solid beech, since beech is particularly well suited for demanding supporting structures. Thanks to the stability that can be achieved through the innovative, fully automated manufacturing process, new possibilities are opening up in the area of large-volume timber construction. Domestic hardwoods have excellent mechanical and static properties, which will allow for energy-intensive building materials to be replaced by timber.

For complete information about the Innovationspreis and the winners, go to [www.holz.ch/de/p/innovationspreis-holz.129377](http://www.holz.ch/de/p/innovationspreis-holz.129377)

Text and image material for press purposes: [www.holz.ch/de/medien](http://www.holz.ch/de/medien)

**About Holz**

Holz was held for the first time in 1957, making it the oldest trade fair in Switzerland. The trade fair takes place every three years in Basel and thus highlights the tradition and passion that professionals in the woodworking industry have for the natural material. The specialist audience can look forward not only to new products and innovations, but also to exciting specialist forums and a variety-packed accompanying programme, including the carpenters' model competition, the innovation prize being awarded, and the up-and-coming carpenter star being chosen. The next edition of Holz will take place at the Basel Exhibition Centre from 11 to 15 October 2022.



### **About MCH Group**

MCH Group, headquartered in Basel, is an internationally active experience marketing company with a comprehensive service network. It organizes around 30 community platforms in Switzerland and abroad, including Art Basel, Swissbau, and Giardina. The Live Marketing Solutions division offers comprehensive experiential marketing solutions with its brands MCH Global, MC2, and Expomobilia. MCH Group also operates the Messe and Congress Center Basel and the Messe Zurich. The company employs more than 800 permanent staff, around half of whom are based in Switzerland and the US. Further information: [www.mch-group.com](http://www.mch-group.com)

### **Press contact**

Noemi Schmidt

Marketing & Communications

Holz 2022

T +41 58 206 58 53

[noemi.schmidt@messe.ch](mailto:noemi.schmidt@messe.ch)

[www.holz.ch](http://www.holz.ch)

MCH Messe Schweiz (Basel) AG | Holz | CH-4005 Basel