

Press Release

Bregenz, Austria, 17 September 2007

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International platform for Zumtobel Group's commitment to sustainability: **Presentation ceremony for first Zumtobel Group Award at Kunsthaus Bregenz**

- **Jury chairman Stefan Behnisch praises exemplary nature of winning projects**
- **Laureate Thom Mayne donates EUR 80,000 purse to Global Green**
- **Keynote speaker Klaus Töpfer calls for more action on sustainability**
- **Film premiere opens traveling exhibition at Zumtobel Light Forum in Dornbirn**

Over 300 invited guests including numerous leading international architects, artists and journalists attended the presentation of the first Zumtobel Group Award at Kunsthaus Bregenz last Friday. The highlight of this gala event was the presentation of the crystal award statues, designed by William Sawaya of Sawaya & Moroni, to the laureates in the two award categories. Jury chairman Stefan Behnisch, himself a renowned architect and visiting professor at Yale University, praised the exemplary nature of the winning projects: "The Solar Updraft Tower by Schlaich Bergermann Solar and the San Francisco Federal Building by Morphosis make a substantial contribution toward a livable, sustainable and equitable future. By selecting the Federal Building, the jury is making a symbolic and political statement on the need for sustainable solutions in the major cities of the developed world in particular, if we are to successfully combat pollution. The Solar Updraft Tower, on the other hand, opens up new prospects for developing countries to obtain simple, eco-friendly and secure energy supplies, which is what we aim to support by selecting this project."

Award statues for Jörg Schlaich and Thom Mayne

The basic idea of the Solar Updraft Tower is to transform solar energy into electricity using existing local resources and skills, explained Jörg Schlaich, who stepped up to receive the transparent green statue in the category "Research & Initiative" also on behalf of his partner Rudolf Bergermann. In the "Built Environment" category it was the natural ventilation system and the ingenious use of space that convinced the jury to honor the Federal Building in San Francisco. A delighted Pritzker Prize winner Thom Mayne received the award statue from the hands of Zumtobel Group CEO Andreas Ludwig and announced that he would be donating the purse of EUR 80,000 to the environmental organization Global Green. "We are very pleased indeed at this generous gesture," said the Director of Global Green, Matt Petersen, who was also among the guests. "For our aid projects, like the reconstruction of New Orleans after the flood disaster, this purse will be a great help."

Keynote speaker Klaus Töpfer calls for more concrete action on sustainability

In his keynote address, the former German Federal Minister for Urban Development, Federal Minister for the Environment and Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, Klaus Töpfer, drew attention to the need for change, above all in the field of urban development. Based on numerous examples of the imbalance between industrialized and developing countries, Töpfer issued an urgent appeal to his audience to take more concrete action to support sustainable development: "We do not need more words; we need action, action, action!"

Art installation & dinner on the Lake of Constance

In the context of the award ceremony, the guests were also able to savor a special art experience: On the upper floor of the Kunsthhaus, they passed through the installation "288 KW" by the artist Siegrun Appelt, which provided a very striking interpretation of the relationship between light, energy and heat: 80 Thorn Mundial floodlights with a total output of 160,000 watts were played onto a white wall that reflected the brilliant light back into the room. The bright light, the heat given off and the humming of the transformers provided the onlookers with a multi-sensory appreciation of the impact of energy. Following the official ceremony, the scene shifted to the Lake of Constance. On board the MS Vorarlberg, the over 300 guests concluded the gala event with a four-course dinner.

Zumtobel Group CEO Andreas Ludwig struck a positive note as the evening drew to a close:

"I am really excited to see what amazing results the first Zumtobel Group Award has produced. What impressed me most is the breadth of the range of innovative solutions and approaches with which we can and must master the challenges of our time – always with an eye to our limited natural resources and to promoting social development worldwide. It has always been our goal, through this award, to create an awareness of how architects and engineers can make a major contribution to sustainable development and to improving the quality of life. And for our company, too, this commitment to greater sustainability is a welcome challenge that drives us on to develop even more efficient and intelligent products and lighting solutions."

Exclusive preview screening for Leonardo DiCaprio's documentary in Dornbirn

The results of the first Zumtobel Group Award, the two winning projects and eight additional projects awarded honorable mentions by the jury are to be presented to a wider audience in an international traveling exhibition. To mark the opening of the exhibition at the Zumtobel Light Forum in Dornbirn on 8 November 2007, Leonardo DiCaprio's documentary on global warming "The Eleventh Hour" will be given its Austrian public premiere. Other exhibition venues will include Vienna, Zurich, Rome, London and New York. A catalogue has been published to accompany the award ceremony and the exhibition. A book on the Zumtobel Group Award is planned for the spring of 2008.

In future, the Zumtobel Group Award will be presented in alternate years. The next award ceremony will be staged in the autumn of 2009.

Extract from the guest list

Thom Mayne and his wife Blythe – Laureate

Jörg Schlaich and his wife Eve – Laureate

Stefan Behnisch and his wife Petra – Chairman of the Jury

Peter Head and his wife Susan – Member of the Jury

Colin Fournier and his wife Dorothea Mezler-Andelsberger – Member of the Jury

Yung Ho Chung and his wife Lija Lu – Member of the Jury

Klaus Töpfer – Keynote Speaker

Matt Petersen, Director Global Green

Siegrun Appelt, Artist

Matteo Thun, Architect & Designer, and his wife Susanne

James Turrell, Artist

Hartmut S. Engel, Designer, and his wife Gundi
Massimo Iosa-Ghini, Designer, and Milena Mussi
Jean Michele Wilmotte, Architect

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ABOVE: Hans Jürgen Commerell; Thom Mayne; Wolfgang Schiel (Partner des Büros Schlaich Bergemann Solar); Jörg Schlaich; Kristin Feireiss; Andreas Ludwig; Stefan Behnisch; Jürg Zumtobel; Klaus Töpfer (from left to right)



ON THE LEFT: Thom Mayne donated the purse to the environmental organization Global Green (on the picture with Matt Petersen, Director of Global Green)



IN THE MIDDLE: The laureates Thom Mayne, Morphosis Architects and Jörg Schlaich, Schlaich Bergemann Solar



ON THE RIGHT: Thom Mayne in conversation with artist Siegrun Appelt

The press information and photos of the evening event (guests, group photos, etc.) are available at: http://www.zumtobel-group-award.com/en/press_latestnews_f.htm. You will also find videos of the award ceremony and the keynote address by Klaus Töpfer on the website.

Media contacts

Astrid Kühn-Ulrich
Zumtobel Group
T+43-(0)5572 509-1570
astrid.kuehn@zumtobel.com

Kristin Feireiss and Hans-Jürgen Commerell
Aedes Architecture Forum
T +49-(0)30 282-70 15
zumtobelgroupaward@aedes-arc.de

About the Zumtobel Group Award

As the logical next step in its corporate commitment to sustainability, in the spring of 2007 the Zumtobel Group created the Zumtobel Group Award for Humanity and Sustainability in the Built Environment.

The award is designed to honor sustainable solutions and approaches in architecture and engineering that make a pioneering contribution to a livable, sustainable and equitable future. The curators of the award are Kristin Feireiss and Hans-Jürgen Commerell, Directors of Aedes Architecture Forum in Berlin. The award features two categories covering built and realized projects on the one hand and research work and independent initiatives on the other. The "Built Environment" category is dedicated to outstanding architectural, engineering or urban design projects realized within the last two years, which meet current demands for models of sustainable living and working and will match up to the needs of the future. The purse in this category is EUR 80,000. The second category "Research and Initiative" is dedicated to innovative research projects and initiatives in architecture and the built environment. These may be developed by NGOs or universities, or independent groups and individuals. Aiming in particular to encourage an emerging generation of researchers and practitioners in architecture and urban design, this category, which carries a purse of EUR 60,000, is intended to foster the progress of ongoing initiatives and research projects.

The Jury of the Zumtobel Group Award 2007

Stefan Behnisch (Chairman) Architect / Behnisch Architekten, Stuttgart (Germany)
Yung Ho Chang, Architect, Head of Department of Architecture / Massachusetts
Institute of Technology, Cambridge (USA)
Colin Fournier, Architect / University College London, London (United Kingdom)
Peter Head, Structural Engineer / Arup, London (United Kingdom)
Andreas Ludwig, Chief Executive Officer / Zumtobel Group, Dornbirn (Austria)
Enrique Norton, Architect / TEN Arquitectos, Mexico City and New York (Mexico, USA)
Kazuyo Sejima, Architect / SANAA, Tokyo (Japan)
Peter Sloterdijk, Philosopher, Dean of Hochschule für Gestaltung, Karlsruhe (Germany)
Anna Tibaijuka, General and Executive Director / UN Habitat, Nairobi (Kenya)