

Press Release

Dornbirn, 13 June 2012

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Zumtobel Group Award 2012: **Over 230 projects submitted in response to public tender**

Dornbirn, 13 June 2012 – In the next few days the jury of the Zumtobel Group Award for Sustainability and Humanity in the Built Environment will be reaching their decision on the winners of the international lighting company's architectural award. The award, which is being offered by the Zumtobel Group for the third time, honours outstanding, sustainable solutions in architecture and engineering that make a pioneering contribution to the future quality of life.

This time around, the company broke new ground by issuing a public tender for entries, and projects could be submitted online. The invitation to tender went out in the autumn of 2011 with a closing date 12 weeks later and attracted a high level of international attention. "We were aiming to draw attention to the award and attract a large number of entries, but the actual response exceeded our expectations," said Zumtobel Group CEO Harald Sommerer. "In all, we received more than 230 entries and the international scope of the projects in both categories was particularly gratifying."

In the "Built Environment" category, entries were received from 22 nations while the projects themselves spanned some 30 countries. The "Research & Initiative" category attracted entries from 26 nations, with projects distributed over approximately 40 countries. This high level of submissions not only confirms that the Award has become established but also underlines the relevance of its themes.

As in previous years, the Zumtobel Group Award 2012 is being held under the curatorship of Kristin Feireiss and Hans-Jürgen Commerell of Aedes Architecture Forum in Berlin. In the spring of this year, a first-line jury chose 20 projects per category from among the submissions and prepared them for the jury session on 14/15 June.

At this final session, the jury, which is once again made up of prominent international experts from a variety of disciplines, will shortlist five projects per category and select a winner from among these five. The winners will be announced shortly thereafter in a press release and on the new Zumtobel Group Award website www.zumtobel-group-award.com. To mark the occasion, the website has been brought into line with the redesigned Zumtobel Group web presence. The official presentation ceremony for the Zumtobel Group Award 2012 will take place in Berlin on 15/16 November 2012.

The Jury

Kunlé Adeyemi, Architect & Urbanist / Principal at NLÉ Shaping the Architecture of Developing Cities, Amsterdam (NL), (OMA, 2002- 2010)

Ute Meta Bauer, Director Visual Arts Program, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Boston (US)

Stefan Behnisch, Architect / Behnisch Architekten, Stuttgart, Munich (D), Boston, Los Angeles (USA)

Yung Ho Chang, Architect / Studio FCJZ, Peking (CH)

Brian Cody, Chair of the Institute of Buildings and Energy, Graz University of Technology (AT)

Sejima Kazuyo, Architect / SANAA, Tokyo (JP)

Winy Maas, Architect / MVRDV, Rotterdam (NL)

Harald Sommerer, CEO Zumtobel Group, Dornbirn (AT)

Initiator

Zumtobel Group

Curator and Organiser

Aedes Architecture Forum

Categories

Built Environment: EUR 80,000

Research & Initiative: EUR 60,000

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Portrait Zumtobel Group:

The Zumtobel Group, based in Dornbirn in the Vorarlberg region of Austria, is one of the few global players in the lighting industry. The Group, which started life as Elektrogeräte und Kunstharzpresswerk W. Zumtobel KG in 1950, employed a workforce of 7,814 full-time equivalent employees on the balance sheet date 30 April 2011 (PY: 7,329) and in the 2010/11 financial year posted consolidated revenues of EUR 1,228.2 million (PY: EUR 1,114.6 million). Within its multi-brand strategy, in the professional luminaire and lighting solution business the Group is represented in the marketplace by the Thorn and the Zumtobel brands. The lighting components' business (control gear, lighting management, LED components / modules) is handled by the Tridonic brand. And since the beginning of 2010 the Group has also been developing a B2C business with innovative LED lamps under the Ledon Lamp brand. The financial year of the Zumtobel Group commences on 1 May and ends on 30 April. For further information, please visit www.zumtobelgroup.com

Portrait Aedes:

Aedes was founded in 1980 in Berlin as the first private architecture gallery in Europe. The Architecture Forum Aedes has become one of the most successful institutions internationally for communicating architectural culture, urban design, and related topics. Aedes is associated with the great names of the architectural avant-garde and offers an excellent platform for new generations of architects. Aedes strives to focus public attention on the cultures of building and architecture, presenting architectural visions, sustainable urban concepts, and innovative projects in urban planning and landscape architecture. In addition to staging ten to sixteen exhibitions per year, Aedes promotes dialogue with outside experts and an interested public through symposia, lecture series, and discussions. www.aedes-arc.de