



*Joint press release of the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety, and Consumer Protection (BMUV), the Federal Environment Agency (UBA), and the International Design Center Berlin (IDZ).*

*December 2, 2024*

## **13th German Ecodesign Award Honors Ten Outstanding Ideas Shaping the Future**

*From a record-breaking pool of over 400 submissions, the advisory board and jury of the German Ecodesign Award have selected ten winners. Most awards recognize innovations focusing on material efficiency and recycling processes as well as a special commendation for "Timeless Design".*

### **Federal Environment Minister Lemke and UBA President Messner Hand Out the Trophies**

Steffi Lemke MdB, Federal Environment Minister (BMUV): *"In 2024, the German Ecodesign Award – now in its 13th year – has, for the first time, surpassed 400 submissions. This milestone highlights how deeply ecological design has become embedded in the field of design. The projects awarded today are trailblazers in their respective industries, combining outstanding design with reduced environmental impact."*

Prof. Dr. Dirk Messner, UBA President: *"This year's award winners are driving significant progress in the fields of circular economy, material development, and technological innovation, earning them special recognition. They demonstrate how forward-thinking design and advanced production methods can reduce resource consumption and promote sustainable material use."*

### **Special Commendation for "Timeless Design"**

This year, the importance of durable products and timeless design was highlighted.

Timeless design is characterized by simplicity, functionality, longevity, and a lasting aesthetic that transcends short-term trends. It combines high usability with a clear design language, creating products that endure across generations.

The Thonet Coffee House Chair is a prime example of these design principles. Due to its visionary design, which remains relevant even after more than 160 years, the Coffee House Chair was awarded the **special commendation "Timeless Design"**.

Werner Aisslinger, Jury Member: *"The minimalist construction of the chair is considered a model for ecological design today – durable, robust, and sustainable. It serves as a symbol of the connection between traditional craftsmanship and contemporary environmental responsibility."*

### **The Call for Entries Will be Open Again on January 20, 2025**

Since 2012, the Federal Ministry for the Environment and the German Environment Agency have jointly awarded the German Ecodesign Award annually, in collaboration with the International Design Center Berlin. The competition recognizes outstanding work that excels from both an environmental and design perspective. The Product, Service and Concept categories are open to companies of all sizes and industries and the Young Talent category is for students across Europe.

The aim is to find durable and circular products, processes, and systems that contribute to the transformation towards greater sustainability.

The German Ecodesign Award goes to the following projects:

### Young Talent Category

- **Break-up Lab** | Sophia Reißerweber (Burg Giebichenstein University of Art and Design Halle)
- **Entopolis – a Serious Game** | Anne Carolin Klosson (ecosign / Akademie für Gestaltung, Cologne)
- **Soft Spot** | Franziska Baumgartner (Akademie der Bildenden Künste München)

### Concept Category

- **ONOX** | Raumideen GmbH & Co KG (Head office: Pullach)

### Service Category

- **Tork PaperCircle®** | Essity Professional Hygiene Germany GmbH (Head office: Mannheim)

### Product Category

- **Kynd Hair – plant-based synthetic hair** | Kynd Hair GmbH (Head office: Berlin)
- **PIGMENTURA** | CHT Germany GmbH (Head office: Tübingen)
- **Schwalbe Green Marathon** | Schwalbe – Ralf Bohle GmbH (Head office: Reichshof)
- **Sleep 'til Infinna™** | ARMEDANGELS – Social Fashion Company GmbH (Head office: Cologne)

### Special Commendation "Timeless Design" in the Product Category

- **Coffee House Chair** | Thonet GmbH (Head office: Frankenberg)

### The Jury of the German Ecodesign Award 2024

- Werner Aisslinger (Product designer)
- Ina Budde (Fashion designer, Co-founder and CEO of circular.fashion)
- Prof. Matthias Held (Product designer, professor at the HfG Schwäbisch Gmünd)
- Prof. Dr. Claudia Perren (Architect, Director of the Academy of Art and Design Basel)
- Siddharth Prakash (Head of the Circular Economy and Global Value Chains Group in the Product and Material Flows Division at the Öko-Institut in Freiburg)
- Paula Raché (Communication designer, works with Material Stories on exhibitions, publications and interdisciplinary workshops)
- Dr. Bettina Rechenberg (Head of Division III "Sustainable Products and Production, Circular Economy" at UBA)
- Dr. Bettina Hoffmann MdB (Parliamentary State Secretary, BMUV), represented by Ingo Strube (Department TI3 'Sustainable Consumption, Product-related Environmental Protection' at the BMUV)
- Michael Volkmer (Communication designer, founder of the creative agency Scholz & Volkmer)

### Information about the competition

[bundespreis-ecodesign.de](https://bundespreis-ecodesign.de)

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