

Press release

Open Innovation Prize awarded to Binder+Co in Berlin

Gleisdorf, September 30, 2011. Binder+Co, the innovative machine and plant manufacturer from Gleisdorf, Austria, has won the Open Innovation Award in the category "Best SME". Tuesday night, board member Karl Grabner received the prestigious trophy at the second Open Innovation Conference of Handelsblatt in Berlin.

"In recent years, we have been proud to receive several awards, with last year's Austrian National Innovation Prize being a landmark appreciation of our approach to innovation. We are particularly delighted and honoured that a medium-sized Styrian enterprise could win a trans-national prize such as the Open Innovation Award in Berlin", explains Karl Grabner, member of the Management Board of Binder+Co

In her encomium, Prof. Ellen Enkel of the Zeppelin University in Friedrichshafen praised the exemplary implementation of Open Innovation at Binder+Co. Its most important elements are generating ideas via close cooperation with key customers, using the expertise of various universities, research institutions, suppliers and competitors as well as the market introduction of new products through customer partnerships. Last, but certainly not least, the Open Innovation philosophy is an important part of Binder+Co's strategic approach.

Under scientific monitoring of the Zeppelin University Friedrichshafen, representatives of Henkel AG, Procter & Gamble Service GmbH, Osram AG and Deutsche Telekom AG formed the high-calibre jury for this award, which includes Germany, Austria and Switzerland.

This year, the Open Innovation Award was presented for the second time during the Open Innovation Conference of Handelsblatt, the largest German-language business and financial newspaper. Besides Binder+Co, the Schäffler Group ("Best Overall Concept") and BDF Beiersdorf ("Best Partnering Concept") were also awarded.

The Binder+Co Group

Binder+Co AG is a specialist in the field of processing, environmental and packaging technology and the world market leader in the screening and glass recycling segments. The company was listed on the Vienna Stock Exchange at the end of 2006 and is now part of the third market in the mid market segment. Binder+Co was awarded the 2010 Austrian National Innovation Prize for its development of the world's first industrially mature system for the sorting of heat-resistant special glass from recycling cullets. Moreover, the Binder+Co Group recently expanded its product range in the crushing technology area through the incorporation of Comec-Binder S.r.l.