

## PRESS RELEASE

November 2017

**Stone+tec 2018: German Natural Stone Award provides inspiration for stone in construction**

- **Alert for architects: entries for German Natural Stone Award close on 31 January 2018**
- **“One of the most important architecture awards in Germany”**
- **Range of stone and sustainable domestic natural stone at Stone+tec**

Whether it's for a façade, floor or interior use, stone lends projects a particular charisma. At Stone+tec 2018 (13-16 July 2018), the focus will be on natural stone and engineered stone in all their variety. For anyone working with stone, the exhibition in Nuremberg will present a wide selection of stone types, new opportunities for surface treatment, and background knowledge ranging from origins to sustainability. The presentation of the 2018 German Natural Stone Award on the first day of the exhibition will offer plenty of inspiration for architects and project owners. The award is given by the German Natural Stone Association (DNV), together with the Association of German Architects (BDA) and NürnbergMesse. Entries can be submitted until 31 January 2018.

The German Natural Stone Award recognises outstanding work with natural stone in the areas of architecture and town planning in Europe. It is given in four categories, ranging from public buildings to landscaping and housing construction. “The German Natural Stone Award has become established as one of the most important architecture awards in Germany,” says architect Gunther Bayer, founder and co-director of Bayer & Strobel Architekten, and one of the members of the jury for 2018. “It's worthwhile considering taking part, and putting your stone projects up for discussion. The award illustrates the broad range covered by stone as a material: from use in the smallest chapel through to the large ministry buildings in Berlin.” The 11-member jury for the German Natural Stone Award also includes BDA chairman Heiner Farwick, architect Christoph Mäckler (2015 prize-winner) and Joachim Grüter (DNV chairman). The public award ceremony will take place at Stone+tec on 13 June 2018.

**Ideelle Träger**

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The subsequent supporting programme for architects, including lectures and tours of the exhibition, provides access to the world of natural stone and many opportunities for networking.

### **Building with stone: examples, technologies, sustainability**

The exhibition halls at Stone+tec will be a platform for stone in all its variety for architects, project owners, stonemasons, stone engineers and restorers. They will provide an opportunity to discover new types of stone, examine the “classics”, and cultivate contacts with suppliers, fellow stonemasons and stone works. The technology area at the exhibition will enable visitors to learn about the latest possibilities in surface treatment. New technology makes new shaping methods available, for façade work in particular, from smooth polishing to computer-assisted algorithmic structures. The special show “Our natural stone – together for a sustainable future” focuses on local stone types from central Europe.

### **“Stone as a symbol of value”**

“Stone as a material radiates a particular charisma. It’s a symbol of value and permanence,” adds architect Gunther Bayer, whose company was one of the nominees for the German Natural Stone Award in 2013. “Its surface has a unique texture of its own. Then there are all the different options for shaping it, from sand-blasting to stacking. Local stone, in particular, provides a strong regional connection. Local stone places new buildings in a particular cultural and living environment, and creates a sense of familiarity. There are not many other materials that can achieve that.”

For further information and an interview with Gunther Bayer on the German Natural Stone Award, visit the Stone+tec Newsroom at:

**[www.stone-tec.com/en/news](http://www.stone-tec.com/en/news)**

### **About Stone+tec**

Stone+tec, the international trade fair for natural stone and stone-processing technology, is organised by NürnbergMesse. Its honorary sponsors are the DNV (Deutscher Naturwerkstein-Verband, German Natural Stone Association) and BIV (Bundesinnungsverband des Deutschen Steinmetz- und Steinbildhauerhandwerks, Federal Guild of German Stonemasons and Stone Sculptors), with international support provided by Confindustria Marmomacchine, the Italian Association for Natural Stone Working Machinery and Equipment. With more than 15,000 trade visitors in 2015, Stone+tec is the most important gathering for the German-speaking natural stone industry.

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