

PRESS RELEASE

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Competitions, special shows and natural stone at its finest: Stone+tec preparations in full swing

Stone+tec 2020, the international trade fair for natural stone and stone technology, will take place at Exhibition Centre Nuremberg from 17 to 20 June 2020. Following its successful restructuring in 2018, Stone+tec 2020 is positioning itself as the key industry gathering for the stone sector in central Europe. Preparations are in full swing and several special shows, competitions and presentation series are at the planning stage, including the popular Young Talent Competition organised by the BIV (Association of German Stonemasons) and a special exhibit on functional design with natural stone. Numerous exhibitors from the segments natural stone, technology and building chemicals have already registered, ensuring an event with plenty to offer.

Already, seven months ahead of the fair, 60 percent of the display area from the previous event has been booked, and the registrations keep coming. “In 2018 we repositioned the stone exhibition and were overwhelmed by the extremely positive feedback from our exhibitors and visitors,” explains Beate Fischer, Director of Stone+tec at NürnbergMesse. “We are very pleased that word has spread about the upbeat atmosphere and significant success of exhibitors at Stone+tec 2018. There is a great deal of interest on the part of exhibitors in the forthcoming event and we are receiving a lot of repeat bookings as well as inquiries from new exhibitors. Stone+tec offers visible benefits for the entire stone industry!”

Our natural stone: even bigger in 2020!

An exciting development for exhibitors is that companies have the opportunity of presenting their products and innovations at several special shows in addition to their own exhibition stands. In 2020 the special show “Our natural stone” goes into its second round.

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The entire diversity of European stone will take centre-stage on a display area that has been extended in size yet again.

With only two presentation areas still available at the moment, this special show is already more or less fully booked.

Functional design with natural stone

In the search for individual, “authentic” and unusual material features, natural stone is increasingly popular for interior and product design. A new special show at Stone+tec presents the best designer pieces in or featuring natural stone, curated by Peter Becker, Editor-in-Chief of Stone-Ideas.com. Visitors can experience everyday functional objects in a new light thanks to the use of natural stone. The programme of presentations that accompanies the special show will demonstrate among other things how functional natural stone design can be a winning formula for stonemasonry businesses. An associated competition is being planned.

In 2020, another special show will also bring together solutions from the fields of technology and chemistry for the processing of large ceramics. This exhibit, which is dispersed throughout the venue, includes live demonstrations and shows how stone-processing businesses can also use their existing equipment to handle large ceramics by making just a few adaptations.

Awards for architects and stonemasons

At Stone+tec, there are several competitions acknowledging the best talent in the natural stone scene. The German Natural Stone Award is presented by the DNV (German Natural Stone Association) and honours outstanding building and landscaping projects using natural stone in four categories. The award ceremony, which will take place in Hall 9 at Stone+tec 2020, regularly attracts leading designers and architectural firms to Nuremberg. The deadline for entries to the competition is 31.1.2020.

Also at Stone+tec 2020, the BIV (Association of German Stonemasons) will be hosting its Young Talent Competition for all budding stonemasons. The contest, which encourages applications from across Europe, invites the young stonemasons to create an artistic piece of work on a specific theme during the Stone+tec event. The exhibition forecourt then turns into a huge workshop that gets all visitors in the mood for the show.

Alongside institutional sponsors BIV and DNV, Stone+tec 2020 also receives support from the VfG (Association for Memorial Culture).

Stone+tec 2020 will focus on forward-looking ideas for a craft that is steeped in tradition; it is directed at all stone processors working in the segments monumental and gravestone masonry, construction or design. For more information and to register as an exhibitor please go to: **www.stone-tec.com**.

About Stone+tec

Stone+tec, the international trade fair for natural stone and stone processing is organised by NürnbergMesse. Its sponsoring institutions are the DNV (German Natural Stone Association) and BIV (Association of German Stonemasons). It also receives international support from Confindustria Marmomacchine, the Italian Association for Natural Stone Working Machinery and Equipment.

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