



## Girsberger Remanufacturing named winner of the German Sustainability Award 2023

**Bützberg, 13 December 2022 – Each year, the German Sustainability Award Foundation (Stiftung Deutscher Nachhaltigkeitspreis e.V.) presents the German Sustainability Award in cooperation with the German Federal Government, the German Council for Sustainable Development and research institutions. The aim of this highest-ranking European award of its kind is to highlight sustainable development in the economy. The award is intended to emphasise that responsible action not only helps to resolve social and ecological problems on a global or local scale, but that it can boost profitability and competitiveness as well. The manufacturer-independent service Girsberger Remanufacturing offers updates of ageing furniture, optimises product properties, extends the service life of high-quality furniture and conserves resources. In recognition of these achievements, on 1 December this business area was honoured as a “Winner” in the Design category on the occasion of the 15<sup>th</sup> German Sustainability Day.**

International corporate groups, cultural institutions and social, municipal and ecclesiastical institutions availed themselves of the skilled craftsmanship and logistical capabilities Girsberger can offer through its own manufactories and against the backdrop of industrially organised production. Examples include Tonhalle St. Gallen, KKL Luzern, Stadtcasino Basel, Konzerthalle Bad Salzuflen and LVR Kulturzentrum Abtei Brauweiler. The award now earned thus also extends to the customers who have had the courage to set out on this resource-conserving path on behalf of sustainability, working in cooperation with Girsberger, whether directly or in conjunction with renowned architectural firms.

“We view this extraordinary award as recognition of our previous decisions and actions and, above all, as an incentive for our future efforts and the entrepreneurial development of this remanufacturing service – on behalf of the circular economy. In times of increasing scarcity of available resources, the use of existing raw materials, the preservation of existing products and transformations through upcycling are all becoming more and more important”, CEO Michael Girsberger said of the award.



Insight into the Remanufacturing operation of Girsberger GmbH in Eendingen. Highly skilled and efficient processes are the result of interdisciplinary manufactories and an industrial background.



A reference example is Kultur- und Kongresszentrum Luzern (KKL): the folding mechanism and the seat and back upholstery of the 1898 auditorium seats were completely updated in five stages. The work did not impede the day-to-day operation of the concert hall.



A special area of application is furniture in listed rooms or historic interiors. Example: Club Baur au Lac, Zurich. Interior design: Claudia Silberschmidt of atelier zürich



Girsberger Remanufacturing also updates serially produced furniture, regardless of the original brand and manufacturer. At left: a simple wooden chair; at right: a proven classic by Fritz Hansen. The grey version presented in the foreground shows the chair following updating for the LVR Kulturzentrum Abtei Brauweiler.

Photos: Girsberger. Additional, extensive documentation is available on request.

### The jury’s opinion

*“The responsible use of resources plays a major role in a more sustainable economy. With its “Remanufacturing”, Girsberger offers a manufacturer-independent service with focussing on refurbishment and upcycling of worn furniture that would otherwise be discarded. As a furniture manufacturer, Girsberger combines the craftsmanship involved in all the necessary trades, such as disassembly, carpentry, metal construction, assembly, upholstery and painting to provide all the steps involved in remanufacturing from a single source. This involves preserving high-quality basic materials such as load-bearing structures and mechanisms made of wood, metal or plastic. Only the parts that have grown unusable are replaced and disposed of properly.*”

*Extending the lifespan of furniture has a wide array of positive impacts for the climate and the environment. With its inspiring Remanufacturing offer, Girsberger not only contributes to preserving many items of furniture but also promotes rethinking in the broader society.”*

**About Girsberger:**

Founded in 1889 as a woodturning shop in Zurich, this Swiss group of companies developed into an internationally renowned manufacturer of seating furniture. Over the course of its further development, the company’s own production facilities and the special artisanal expertise in the areas of upholstery, solid wood processing and surface finishing were systematically expanded. Today, the range of services includes high-quality furniture for office, commercial and private applications, project-specific, made-to-measure furniture (Customized Furniture) and the repair and upcycling of used furniture (Remanufacturing).

From Koblenz, near the border with Germany, the solid wood trading division supplies high-quality materials to all manner of wood-processing firms. Girsberger is also present outside of Switzerland, with sales companies in several European countries. Production facilities are located in Bützberg (CH), Endingen (D) and Kraljevci (SRB). Michael Girsberger has been in charge of the international group of companies in the fourth generation since 1993.

**Girsberger has pursued climate-neutral production since 2015. Girsberger Remanufacturing was named Winner of the German Sustainability Award 2023 in the “Design” category.**

Detailed information about the company can be found at [www.girsberger.com](http://www.girsberger.com)

We welcome requests for publications. The projects we have implemented in the field of Remanufacturing are well documented. We have excellent image and information material available, ranging from the ‘making-of’ to finished projects.

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