



NEWS

Edition December 2023

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HERZ NEWS



Dear reader,

It's that time of year again when the Christmas lights come on and the heating kicks in - yes, the cozy heating season has started. Who hasn't experienced this: you look at the current heating costs and think to yourself, there must be something better. That's why in this issue I'm presenting products that might not necessarily be on Santa's wish list, but should be included in any project planning or renovation in building technology to keep rising heating costs in check. Because sometimes the solution lies exactly where you least

expect it - behind the wall. While HERZ Pumpfix uses a highly efficient pump to transport the heating medium from the heat source to the radiators or panel heating systems, the dynamic control set from HERZ ensures that the right amount of heat arrives exactly where it is needed. This combination ensures optimum hydronic balancing, resulting in efficient energy consumption and lower operating costs.

In case that was all a little too technical: you read HERZ News, so naturally I have exciting interviews and reference topics for you that are not only informative, but also so entertaining that you might forget you're actually reading about building technology.

With this in mind, let HERZ News accompany you through the festive season, safe in the knowledge that energy efficiency can easily be taken care of.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and happy reading.

Nurgül Akbas
Editorial HERZ News

PS: Would you like to tell us something or be included in the next issue? We look forward to any feedback, suggestions and proposals from you by e-mail at: nurguel.akbas@herz.eu

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Note: To improve readability, the masculine form is used for personal nouns, which of course refers to both the feminine and all other gender identities.

FAT YEARS, LEAN YEARS



**Dear customers and partners,
dear friends of HERZ!**

An eventful year is drawing to a close and you are holding the last issue of our HERZ News for 2023 in your hands. In a time characterized by challenges for the building technology industry that have not been experienced for a long time, we were able to manage the year 2023 reasonably well with a lot of commitment, diligence and effort. However, wars, inflation, migration from other cultures, etc. continue to pose massive challenges for the state and companies. The hope remains

that "7 fat years will not be followed by 7 lean years" as described in the Book of Genesis in the Old Testament. While the Egyptian pharaoh, on the advice of Joseph, had the storehouses filled in the good years so that the people would have enough to eat in the lean years, our leaders have largely exhausted the powder in the good years and we are in crisis with empty state coffers and high debts.

As a company, we are prepared, have invested, modernized, driven forward product developments, internationalized and believe we are also prepared for difficult times. Fortunately, the world outside Europe looks very different. In the last few weeks in particular, we have taken part in trade fairs in Kenya, Ethiopia and Libya and are continuing to expand our global presence.

The path to new markets is arduous and challenging, but we believe in success and are confident that we can successfully overcome the difficult years ahead with outstanding products and Austrian charm.

From HERZ we - the entire
HERZ team - wish you a Merry Christmas
and all the best for 2024.

Gerhard Glinzerer



Installateurball



**23. February
2024**



**Vienna City Hall
Ball room**

After a long dry spell, the Installateur Ball 2024 will once again take place in the magnificent ballroom of Vienna City Hall. For all inquiries and ticket sales, please contact the ball committee at info@installateurball.at

Band Festsaal:
Gitti & CREW 2000

Midnight interlude:
Viennese madness

Disco:
Peter SAX

From opening until midnight:
Show waiter and table magician

Photo boxes:
**At the festival staircase and
in the disco**

www.installateurball.at

// *The pressure to act very often comes from spending.*

- Norbert Suchanek

HERZ News interview with Norbert Suchanek, Managing Director of Hotel Wandl.

Photo: HERZ

HOTEL WANDL

A JOURNEY THROUGH TIME IN THE VIENNESE JEWEL

Right in the heart of the city, on the enchanting Petersplatz, sits the almost 170-year-old Wandl family hotel. Even before the official opening of the hotel, it caused quite a stir as the first hotel with an electrically operated elevator in Vienna. Today, the Hotel Wandl is not only characterized by its long history and central location, but also by its modern rooms in Viennese style and the fabulous view of Vienna's St. Peter's Church. Norbert Suchanek, the hotel's managing director, can look back on 33 years of experience in the business. During this time, he has not only learned the finer points of the hotel business from a native Wandl, but has also adopted an appreciative approach to his employees. The rising energy and heating costs also required action at Hotel Wandl, which is why HERZ balancing valves and HERZ pre-settable valves were used. In an interview with HERZ News, Norbert Suchanek talks about the effects of rising prices on the business and gives us a look behind the scenes.

The hotel already had around 47,000 visitors in the days before the official opening. They had not only come to admire the impressive rooms, but also to experience a ride in the electrically operated passenger elevator - a sensation at the time. Josef Georg Daum, the previous owner of the hotel before it was taken over by the Wandl family, came up with the idea of a state-of-the-art hotel with a French decorative style. Daum transformed a residential building into a hotel and worked with renowned architects such as Eduard Kuschée and Ludwig von Förster, the latter later also known as one of the architects of Vienna's Ringstrasse.

In 1854, Josef Wandl and his wife Helene acquired the hotel as Daum was in financial difficulties. The hotel offered nume-

rous modern amenities such as running water, exclusive bathrooms, electricity and an electric elevator powered by a 110 volt generator. In addition, the hotel had

an ice cellar for cooling food, comparable to the ice cellar in the Vienna Hofburg. These amenities contributed to the hotel's high level of comfort and reputation.



Photo: hotel-wandl.com

Josef Wandl's great-granddaughter Johanna and an employee at Hotel Wandl in the 1950s.

The flying chair

Although the exact inventor of the elevator cannot be clearly identified, the idea of the elevator is attributed to the Greek mathematician, physicist and engineer Archimedes. In 236 BC, he used the principle of the pulley block to lift or pull heavy loads. The rope is connected at one end to the load to be lifted and pulled at the other end by a person or an animal. This rope sling is guided over one or more pulleys, which distributes the weight over several rope sections and significantly reduces the force required.

Based on this principle, the elevator technology was further developed over time. Even though King Louis XV had one of the first elevators for transporting people - the so-called "flying chair" - built in the Palace of Versailles so that his mistress could visit him in secret, elevators were mainly used for transporting goods due to a lack of safety. With the advancement of technology and the invention

of the steam engine in the 18th century, a further major step was taken in elevator technology, but not in terms of safety.

It was not until 1853 that Elisha Graves Otis, an American inventor, achieved a breakthrough with the first modern and safe elevator. Otis developed a safety system whereby the elevator braked automatically in the event of a cable break or rope tear, thus preventing a fall. He demonstrated his invention in New York by riding up in the "elevator" and cutting the cable.

Thanks to this safety system, elevators were increasingly used for passenger transportation and underwent rapid further development.

Today, the elevator in the Shanghai Tower holds the record as the fastest elevator in the world with a speed of 74 km/h.



Elisha Otis demonstrates his invention.

The use of metal instead of wood in the building considerably increased the hotel's fire safety compared to the buildings of the time.

The function as a hotel is secured for the future

Around 20 years ago, the historic building was transferred to a foundation so that it could retain its function as a hotel in the future. The growing number of decision-makers increased with each generation. By placing it in a foundation, potential differences of opinion in future generations could be prevented. HERZ News in an interview with the current Managing Director Norbert Suchanek:

HERZ News: How did you get your position as Managing Director at the Wandl family hotel?

Norbert Suchanek: I started here as a student on night duty. At the time, it was a part-time job for me, as I was studying business informatics and saw my professional future in IT. At that time, however, in the IT sector you had the task of optimizing existing products, but not real-

ly the opportunity to develop anything yourself. The hotel was my safe haven and I programmed as a freelancer on the side. Over the course of time, however, I have continued to develop in the hotel and I have been Managing Director for 8 years now.

HERZ News: What impressed you personally the most at Hotel Wandl?

Norbert Suchanek: The way the management treats staff and guests. I learned the structure of the hotel from a Wandl native. She was a very modest

woman and treated her employees like her own children. I was taught this spirit by her, but also by my own nature, and I still carry it on today. Towards the end of the Second World War, her grandfather offered shelter to hundreds of people in the cellar and used up his entire food supply for them.

HERZ News: As far as I know, the Hotel Wandl also offered refuge to many people during the 2020 attacks. That proves that you were able to successfully pass on this spirit to your employees.



Norbert Suchanek in a traditional room from the 19th century.

Photo: HERZ

Norbert Suchanek: One of my employees instinctively did the right thing and it is important to give employees this opportunity. As he lives our spirit, he knew very well that this would not be a problem. We have taken in around 30 people who have stayed with us free of charge. You can't think about costs at this point.

HERZ News: In the course of the conversion to district heating, HERZ balancing valves and pre-settable valves were used to enable hydronic balancing. Were the rising prices the reason for the changeover?

Norbert Suchanek: I have to admit that it is a cost factor. If my costs quadruple as a result of rising prices, then I take care of it faster than before. The pressure to act very often comes from expenses and I'm also strongly convinced that there has been a lot more insulation throughout Austria since prices have risen. I had a gas boiler with an oil backup and now I've switched to district heating.

HERZ News: Are refurbishments carried out frequently?

Norbert Suchanek: We are continuously carrying out restructuring measures without interrupting operations. However, this was not possible during the pandemic as we set aside the funds for our employees' salaries. We made a consci-



Photo: HERZ

Inner courtyard Hotel Wandl.

ous decision not to lay anyone off, as this does not fit in with our corporate philosophy. Our hotel has been a listed building for around 20 years, which makes refurbishment a particular challenge.

HERZ News: Do you also have rooms with the original furnishings from back then?

Norbert Suchanek: We have a handful of rooms that have been preserved with their original furnishings. The furniture has been faithfully restored, cupboards and frames date back to the 19th century and the murals are also original.

HERZ News: Are these rooms also made available to guests or do they serve more as a showroom?

Norbert Suchanek: Some do, some don't. For example, one room doesn't have a bathroom, so I would have to rent it out so cheaply that it wouldn't pay off because the furniture inside is too valuable.

HERZ News: In the 19th century, the house was converted into a French-style hotel. Has this style been retained or do guests expect modern rooms?

Norbert Suchanek: Our rooms are quite modern and furnished in Viennese style. At that time, the French style was particularly popular in Vienna and basically everything from France was imitated. We also use modern technology, but for me, personal communication comes first. We don't need tablets to order a cushion from reception. Not everything has to be done via non-verbal technology. A phone call or a personal exchange is worth much more than a click. Technology should serve us, not us it.

HERZ News: Finally, what would you like to tell us about the hotel industry?

Norbert Suchanek: The hotel industry is also about personal preferences. Guests prefer what they know and are prepared to pay the price for it. We always make sure that we offer good prices and try to keep our regular guests. If we manage to keep our loyal customers, we can save ourselves expensive scatter advertising. For me, targeted advertising is advertising that I direct at my existing guests in order to win their loyalty.

HERZ News: Thank you very much for the entertaining and varied interview and the opportunity to get to know this Viennese jewel better. ❤️

Special thanks go to Peter Sieber, Managing Director of SIEBER Sanitär- und Heizungstechnik GesmbH, who made this meeting with Mr. Suchanek possible for HERZ News. In the course of the conversion to district heating at Hotel Wandl, Mr. Sieber decided to use numerous HERZ presettable valves in combination with HERZ balancing valves to enable hydronic balancing. Thank you for your trust in the quality of HERZ products.



SIEBER Sanitär- und Heizungstechnik
Felsgasse 13, 1110 Wien
www.sieber.wien

WE PULL ALL PULLING TOGETHER

HERZ BALANCING VALVES

In the world of heating and cooling systems, the interaction of various components is crucial to ensure smooth and efficient operation. The multitude of pipes and valves in these systems with different consumers requires precise regulation to achieve the desired temperature and performance. The expression "we all pull together", often used to describe teamwork and unity, can also be applied to the world of HVAC systems in the truest sense of the word. Here, balancing valves are at the heart of this collaboration and play a crucial role in optimizing system performance.

A slacker only performs the minimum in their area of responsibility. Sometimes attendance alone counts as sufficient performance for them. These people have to be put in their place or, as we Austrians also say, their calves have to be straightened.


This is also the situation with water in heating and cooling systems. Water always takes the path of least resistance. It therefore needs support or regulation by system components to find the desired path. A controlled heating and cooling system is essential, especially in large residential complexes with several consumers. HERZ balancing valves are used for this purpose. Ideally, these are used per line to enable precise control of the flow of heating or cooling medium in individual lines. This creates the required resistance for the water on each line, ensuring that all consumers in the system receive the required energy supply.

HERZ balancing valves

HERZ offers a wide range of balancing valves for heating and cooling systems as well as for drinking water systems. HERZ has a wide range of products from balancing valves with differential pres-

sure measurement in straight seat form to balancing valves with orifice plate and impulse line connection in angle seat form. A choice can be made between rising and non-rising stem. HERZ balancing valves are available from DN 15 to DN 500.

The perfect partner for hydraulic balancing

The balancing valve is the perfect partner for the differential pressure controller to ensure hydronic balancing. The use and precise cooperation of balancing valves together with differential pressure controllers prevents overheating or undercooling of individual rooms. The optimized distribution of heat or cooling in the rooms not only improves energy efficiency, which automatically reduces operating costs, but also prevents the problem of noise emissions. 



HERZ STRÖMAX-GN straight-seat balancing valve with measuring valves.
Order number: 1 4217 XX



HEAT IN THE RIGHT PLACE AT THE RIGHT TIME

HERZ DYNAMIC CONTROL SET

Even though the start of the winter season creates a lovely Christmas atmosphere, it also marks the official opening of the heating season. However, rising heating costs do not make us feel warm inside. When this is compounded by the problem of unevenly or even inadequately heated living spaces or noise in pipes and fittings, you can expect a lot of annoyed end users. In many cases, this annoyance is due to an improperly controlled and regulated heating system. These problems can be prevented with the dynamic control set from HERZ.

Hydraulic balancing

The medium flowing in heating systems follows the path of least resistance. System components that have a low hydraulic resistance, i.e. a low pressure loss, are supplied with more energy for purely physical reasons than system components with a higher hydraulic resistance. As a result, either one part is undersupplied or the other is oversupplied. This can be remedied by correct hydronic balancing, i.e. hydraulic adjustment of the system.

BENEFITS

- ☑ All system components are supplied with the right amount of energy.
- ☑ Comfort is ensured for all users.
- ☑ The temperature spread between flow and return corresponds to the planning.
- ☑ The flow temperature can be lowered.
- ☑ The pump output can be minimized.
- ☑ Heat pumps operate in the optimum range.
- ☑ Noise generation in pipes and fittings is avoided.
- ☑ Energy consumption is reduced.
- ☑ Operating costs are reduced.

Adjustment of underfloor heating systems

Heating systems are dynamic systems. Individual heating circuits or entire manifolds are opened or closed by controls, whereby the differential pressure on the individual heating circuit and therefore the flow rate changes each time. This means that if a room is not heated, there is no resistance in the system, which means that other parts of the system receive more flow.

However, each heating circuit must be provided with the flow rate calculated in the planning. The flow meters regulate the desired flow rate for all heating cir-

circuits at a given differential pressure.

The heating circuit pump must overcome the entire resistance at the manifold together with the heating circuits. If this is not the case, some areas will be heated unevenly or even inadequately. On the other hand, if a heating circuit receives more flow than planned or required, this leads to high costs and has a suboptimal effect on the service life of the components involved. Speed-controlled pumps cannot make a positive contribution here because the differential pressure for the heating circuit with the highest pressure loss must always be provided.

The dynamic control set from HERZ with the differential pressure controller is the tried and tested solution to these problems. It enables simple hydraulic adjustment of the underfloor heating for energy-efficient operation of the entire heating system.

The difference between theory and practice

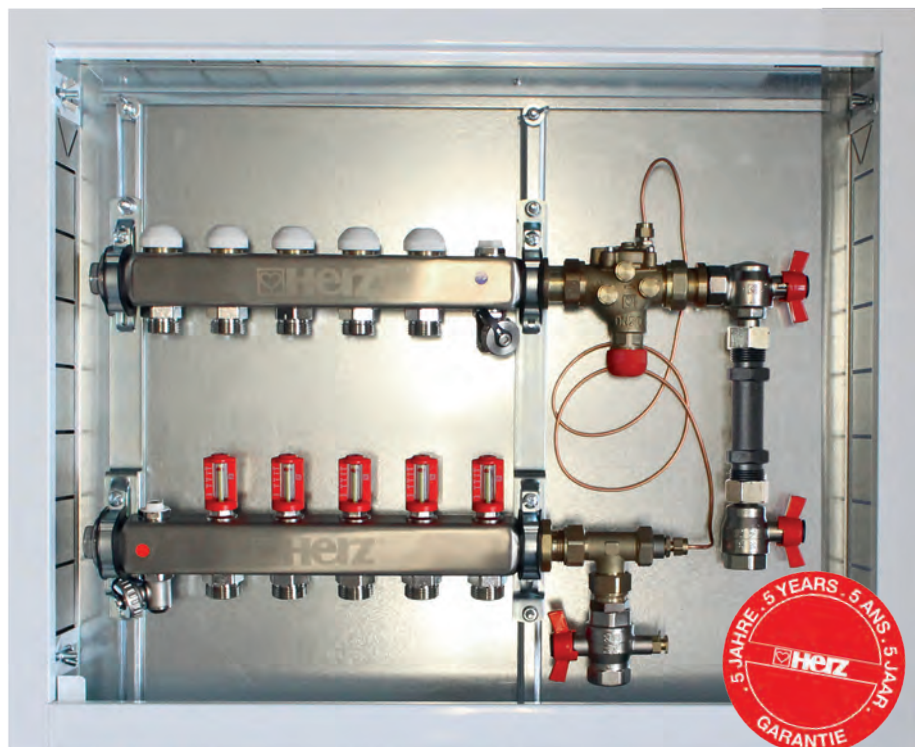
In theory, differential pressure-independent thermostatic valves keep the flow constant for each heating circuit, even if the differential pressure at the manifold changes. In practice, the precision mechanical components of these thermostatic valves react extremely sensitively to the slightest impurities in the heating water. As a result, these valves are no longer able to regulate within a very short time.

For this reason, the use of differential pressure controllers is recommended in practice. By keeping the differential pressure constant across the entire manifold, the set flow rate in the heating circuits is maintained, even if the differential pressures in the heating system vary. This is tried and tested and yet, or precisely because of this, good. HERZ also supplies a further development of the classic differential pressure controller precisely for underfloor heating applications.

HERZ Dynamic regulating set

The dynamic control set from HERZ provides the necessary control to ensure that the required quantity of heating water is available at the desired location at the desired time. The combined functions of differential pressure control, zone control, isolation and flow limitation ensure excellent control of the panel heating. The adjustable throttle valve is used to limit the flow and guarantees that a manifold cannot be oversupplied. The zone valve is pressure-relieved. Thermal actuators or geared motors with low actuating forces are ideally suited for mounting. This allows the supply to the manifold to be completely interrupted. This is particularly practical if the entire area supplied by the manifold, e.g. an apartment, is to be shut off.

In addition to all these functions, the insensitivity of the dynamic control set to contamination in the heating water ensures that the hydraulic control function is maintained in the long term. The dynamic control set from HERZ is available with and without a fitting for heat meters. ✓



The HERZ dynamic control set is the ideal supplement for all HERZ underfloor heating manifolds. It enables robust and simple hydraulic adjustment of a HERZ underfloor heating system for optimum energy efficiency of the entire heating system.

HERZ dynamic control set order no.: 1 8635 XX.

HERZ DYNAMIC CONTROL SET ADVANTAGES

- ✓ The integrated differential pressure controller reacts much less sensitively to contamination in the heating water than dynamic thermostatic valves.
- ✓ The dynamic control set keeps the differential pressure at the manifold and therefore also the flow rate in the heating circuits constant.
- ✓ The integrated zone valve with mounting for thermo or geared motors can be used to control or shut off the entire manifold. distributor can be controlled or shut off.
- ✓ The compact dimensions of the dynamic control set allow easy installation in manifold cabinets as little as 80 mm deep.

650 Mio
Euro annual turnover

3.500
Employees worldwide

42
Production facilities

50
Subsidiaries



Modern technology means using less energy while maintaining or increasing comfort and no need to be ashamed of having a warm home. For this reason, HERZ is continuously developing innovations and efficient product solutions so that this comfort can remain affordable for everyone.

The Austrian HERZ Group, with its focus on energy efficiency and the associated production of biomass systems, heat pumps, fittings, district heating stations, control technology and insulation materials, supplies the products required for efficient supply and is uniquely structured in this form in Europe. As an Austrian company, HERZ is present with great

success in the HVAC sector on all continents with 50 subsidiaries and 42 production sites in 12 European countries. HERZ products are considered indispensable when it comes to efficient supply and long-lasting quality. That is why they are in high demand and successfully in use worldwide, from Canada to the Fiji Islands.

JAPAN



Photo: HERZ

In Gotemba, a town approx. 100 km south-west of Tokyo, the commissioning of a HERZ firematic 35 wood chip system took place in Chichibunomiya Memorial Park. The park is dedicated to Prince Chichibu, the younger brother of Emperor Shōwa and a general in the Imperial Japanese Army. He is known as the prince who was instrumental in promoting Japanese sports culture. The centerpiece of the park is the second house where the Chichinomiya imperial family lived during and after the Second World War. With an output of 35 kW, the HERZ fire-

matic 35 provides environmentally friendly heat in a tea room and two greenhouses in the park, which are used to grow flowers. ☒

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Capital city:	Tokyo
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Language:	Japanese
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Area:	377.975 km ²
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Population:	125,7 Mio.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Currency:	YEN
		1 € = 160,11 JPY

LITHUANIA



Photo: urm.lt

In Vilnius, renovation work was carried out at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Lithuania in order to achieve an efficient heat supply. To ensure this and to reduce energy consumption and operating costs, HERZ products were used to ensure hydronic balancing. The combination of HERZ differential pressure controllers and HERZ balancing valves is essential for this. While HERZ balancing valves regulate the flow in the individual lines, HERZ differential pressure controllers automatically regulate the pressure difference between the flow

and return of the system by adjusting the flow of the heating medium in the system to the correct pressure. ☒

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Capital city:	Vilnius
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Language:	Lithuanian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Area:	65.300 km ²
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Population:	2,79 Mio.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Currency:	Euro

ROMANIA



Photo: HERZ

In the north of Bucharest, work is continuing at full speed on the completion of the Avalon Estate complex. This complex, which impresses with a restaurant reserved for residents, bars, fitness rooms, a pool, green and promenade areas and a kindergarten, is designed like a small town and offers 746 new apartments. HERZ Romania is supporting the project with, among other things, STRÖMAX balancing valves and the complete panel heating package. Numerous HERZ stainless steel manifolds, which were specially developed for the requirements

of modern panel heating systems, were used together with HERZ-LINE pipes and HERZ tackler plates including all accessories.



- Capital city: Bukarest
- Language: Romanian
- Area: 238.391 km²
- Population: 19,3 Mio.
- Currency: Romanian Leu
1 € = 4,92 RON

SERBIA



Photo: HERZ

The Sava Center is a congress and cultural center in Belgrade. The facility has the largest congress space in Serbia and is known for its "Blue Hall", which can accommodate up to 3,800 people. The renovation work, which began in November 2021, has now been completed and the official opening of the facility took place in November 2023. HERZ Serbia was able to contribute to this project with customized sensor fittings from the FRESH IR mix f11 line, which work with wall power supply. As the congress center is in the process of BREEAM certifi-

cation, the water flow of the fittings was also adapted to the required savings.



- Capital city: Belgrad
- Language: Serbian
- Area: 88.361 km²
- Population: 6,9 Mio.
- Currency: Serbian Dinar
1 € = 117,22 RSD

HUNGARY



Photo: somfa-liget.hu

Following the successful completion of the previous six blocks of apartments in the Somfa Liget residential park in Budapest, the complex has now been extended with a seventh block of 144 apartments. Numerous products from the extensive HERZ product range were used for this project. From drinking water fittings to fine fittings for the bathroom and HERZ thermostatic heads, a wide range of HERZ products were used. In the foreground of the numerous HERZ products used are the HERZ line regulating valves of the STRÖMAX series in combination

with HERZ differential pressure regulators. This combination ensures hydronic balancing, which not only ensures efficient energy consumption but also low operating costs.



- Capital city: Budapest
- Language: Hungarian
- Area: 93.036 km²
- Population: 9,7 Mio.
- Currency: Forint
1 € = 400,5 HUF



From left to right: ASB Peter Kühnel (Group Commander Gr. 3), OBI Christian Navrkal (Deputy Commander), HBI Franz Zöchling (commander), Alfred Artmäger (mayor), Peter Hosek (authorized signatory HERZ), Linda Drimmel (Warehouse Manager HERZ) and FT Gerald Skarics (Head of Administration).

Photo: HERZ

A BURNING PASSION

VOLUNTARY FIRE DEPARTMENT GÜNSELSDORF

At the end of October, there was a major incident at the HERZ central warehouse in Günselsdorf. After a fire broke out, several people were reported missing. As several charging stations for forklift trucks are installed in the warehouse, the team also assumed that there was contamination from hydrofluoric acid. For firefighting in the area of the battery charging station, the hazardous materials unit was deployed. Outside, the fire was fought by the volunteer fire department using jet nozzles and a turntable ladder. Due to the size of the HERZ warehouse, the Günselsdorf fire brigade, the entire subsection I and the neighboring fire departments were alerted. A total of 18 vehicles and 99 people were deployed. But don't worry: the whole thing was only staged as part of a fire drill.

In 1988 Günselsdorf belonged to the large municipality of Steinfeld. This consisted of 4 municipalities: Blumau-Neurißhof, Günselsdorf, Tattendorf and Teesdorf, which today form the subsection of the volunteer fire department. In many cases, volunteer fire departments developed in response to the need to protect communities from fires. In 1873, for example, a major fire in Günselsdorf, in which 4 houses burned down, led to the founding of the Günselsdorf volunteer fire department. Today, however, the fire department's areas of operation are not limited to the original reason for fighting fires, but have become more diverse. With industrialization, increased traffic and advanced technology, the fire department is now also the right contact for traffic accidents, pollutant operations, stuck elevators or even rescue operations for cats in trees.

Major operation at the HERZ warehouse

Extensive fire department exercises are carried out in each village on an annual basis. These are used by new recruits to practice and by veterans to refresh their knowledge of the location or object. Du-

ring such exercises, it is relatively easy to remember the local conditions and water extraction points. "Only those who are well trained can help properly during operations," says Alfred Artmäger, Mayor of Günselsdorf since 2008. This year, the large-scale operation took place at the HERZ central warehouse. HERZ has



Operational exercise in the HERZ central warehouse.

Photo: HERZ

had its central warehouse in Günselsdorf since July 2020. The warehouse with a total area of 5,000 m² was built on an area of 14,000 m² within six months to ensure the rapid availability of articles. The Günselsdorf volunteer fire department was already involved in the preliminary discussions to provide support with the legal requirements and fire safety measures.

The fire department youth for a safe future

The young firefighters also took part in the exercise to see the drills and learn about the operations, but also to take away the children's fear of fire. You can join the youth fire department from the age of 10. The activities are introduced to the children in a playful way. If they are still interested, they can join the active volunteer fire department at the age of 15.

"The youth fire department is not only exciting, but also educational. The children learn order and discipline and are not the kind of children who will be vandalizing the community later on," says Mayor Artmäuer.

The importance of the volunteer fire department for the community

The volunteer fire department also plays an important role in the harmonious coexistence of the community. Many events are held in the new house of the Günselsdorf volunteer fire department. "The Günselsdorf volunteer fire department is very important for our community, not only because it is there for the population in the event of a disaster or fire, but also because it is a very prominent hub for cultural and social coexistence. Events such as the raising of the maypole or various anniversaries and festivals have become an integral part of social life and the community spirit of the municipality," emphasizes Mayor Artmäuer. The municipality bears almost all of the running costs for the fire department. In recent years, vehicles worth € 950,000 have been purchased for the Günselsdorf volunteer fire department.



Photo: HERZ

Operational exercise in the HERZ central warehouse.

The apple doesn't fall far from the trunk

Fire department commander Franz Zöchling has been with the Günselsdorf volunteer fire department for almost 40 years. His grandfather joined the volunteer fire department in 1942, then his father and since 1984 himself. In an interview with HERZ News, he talks about the challenges of his job and the downsides.

HERZ News: What challenges do you face as a volunteer firefighter?

Franz Zöchling: After 40 years in the volunteer fire department, I can say that the requirements are becoming more and more specialized and diverse in terms of technology and different scenarios. You have to make decisions about what to do within seconds. However, we are living in a time that is moving towards "lone wolves", as we have seen during the pan-

dem. Fortunately, the "I-society" is not very strong in the fire department, where the "WE" is very important. There's no other way around it. In this profession, you have to rely on your comrades; it doesn't work with group formations or individual actions. However, a lot of work needs to be done with the next generation to promote this understanding. That is the challenge.

HERZ News: So the young firefighters are also taught the "WE", among other things?

Franz Zöchling: We try to make everything playful and convey the "WE" to the children as best we can. It's all about the community. For example, the province of Lower Austria organizes an annual youth camp on the first weekend in July. The focus is on group competitions to strengthen teamwork and performance awards with a prize-giving ceremony to give the whole thing a special touch.



Photo: HERZ

ASB Peter Kühnel and HBI Franz Zöchling as well as the volunteer fire departments who took part in the exercise.

HERZ News: Do the children decide to join the youth fire department themselves or does it come from their parents?

Franz Zöchling: It mainly comes from the children. If the parents are already in the volunteer fire department, then they clearly grow into it. In my case, it was the same and my son is also in the volunteer fire department. The friendship groups are also very important. We have a lot of young people from Teesdorf and Tatten-dorf because the bonds of friendship are very strong.

HERZ News: Passion plays a very important role in your work, doesn't it?

Franz Zöchling: Of course. If you are a member of the volunteer fire department and really live it, then you are always ready for action. We are also called from home when the alarm is raised and are then on site within minutes. There's no reason why we shouldn't be called out. That's where the passion comes in. It's more difficult during the day because many people are at work. You have to clarify with your employer in advance whether you can also go on a call-out during working hours. As the volunteer fire department is also deployed in disaster relief operations, you may be on duty for a few days.

HERZ News: Is there any legal relief for companies to provide an incentive?

Franz Zöchling: There are compensation payments for companies for disaster relief operations. The question is whether



Photo: HERZ

Operational exercise in the HERZ central warehouse.

this is a sufficient incentive. Anything that is ordered by law is a delicate matter. We have a dense network of volunteer fire-fighters. As it is based on volunteers, it works very well; if you had to pay for everything, it wouldn't be possible.

HERZ News: In your opinion, do people really know what to do in the event of a fire?

Franz Zöchling: No, I don't think so. The problem is that people underestimate the fumes. Panic is also involved, especially if it happens at night: It's dark, the fire is advanced, the power is out and the smoke is extremely thick - how are you supposed to get out of the house in this situation? You panic and usually take a

deeper and faster breath. This then has the opposite effect, because you breathe in the smoke fumes. Unfortunately, one breath can be too much.

HERZ News: Are the citizens sufficiently trained or informed for this?

Franz Zöchling: It is relatively difficult to educate citizens. Take car accidents, for example: There are regulations, but who sticks to them? The basic requirements should be adhered to. It's the same with fires: the attic must not be full of garbage, the building regulations must be adhered to and so on. However, plans and reality are two different things. If the plan has been approved by the building authority and complies with the guidelines, but the citizen changes something afterwards, it is in the gray area. Nevertheless, you should not be afraid to call the emergency services if something happens. The volunteer fire department is there for everyone, so it's better to call too much than too little.

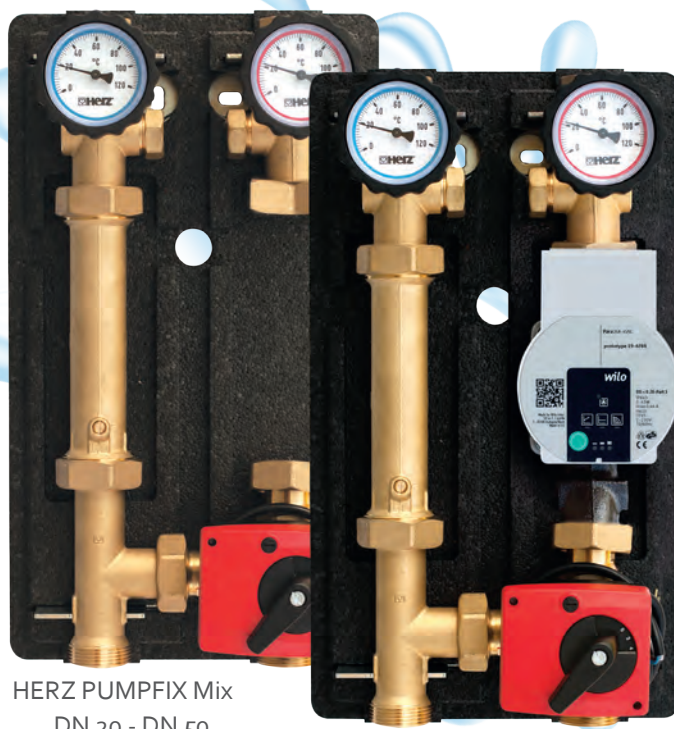
HERZ News: Finally, I would like to thank you very much for the valuable insights into your work for the community. I would also like to say a big thank you to the entire team of the volunteer fire department, who are always on hand with their full commitment when things are on fire in the truest sense of the word. ☑



Photo: HERZ

The hazardous materials unit of the volunteer fire department at the HERZ central warehouse.

WE MOVE WATER HERZ PUMPFIX



HERZ PUMPFIX Mix
DN 20 - DN 50

Pumps play a central role in heating and cooling systems. They ensure that the water is transported from the heat source to the radiators or panel heating systems. The choice of pump and optimally coordinated control contribute to the energy efficiency and performance of the system. However, to ensure smooth operation and efficient circulation, the system requires a large number of other components around the pump, such as isolation ball valves, thermometers, non-return valves, regulating valves, mixers, etc. However, planning and installing individual components requires a lot of time and space. HERZ PUMPFIX is the compact and time-saving solution for every system.


The indispensable product of the heating system

HERZ PUMPFIX connection groups are compact system units with isolation and safety valves as well as control and regulation devices for connecting energy generators and supply circuits in building services engineering. The components in HERZ PUMPFIX are part of every system, but installing the individual parts takes a lot of time and space, both in planning and in implementation.

Circulation pump, stopcocks, temperature indicator, non-return valve, spacer, mixing valve with manual adjustment and 3-point actuator, diaphragm safety valve and air vent valves are all necessary components of a functional system. It's enough to make you lose your breath just reading about it, the assembly of the individual parts is hard to imagine. That's why HERZ offers the compact PUMPFIX system unit.

Equipped for every situation

The PUMPFIX product family consists of several members that are specially prefabricated for each heating situation. For example, **HERZ PUMPFIX Direct** is ideal for direct connections between the heat source and the radiator with an isolating valve as the connecting part. If thermostatic control of the heating circuit temperature is required, the right connection is **HERZ PUMPFIX Constant**, in which the mixing valve can be easily operated using the integrated thermostatic head with contact sensor. For modern systems

with panel heating or combined heating systems, nothing else comes into question except our **HERZ PUMPFIX Mix**. This has a mixer motor for 3-point control. This means that the system is ideally prepared for different heating conditions (full load and partial load) and works efficiently at all times. With **HERZ PUMPFIX Solar**, HERZ also offers a compact pump group for solar systems. All pump groups can be ordered with or without an electronic circulation pump. The tailor-made insulation box provides thermal insulation for all pump groups. 



HERZ PUMPFIX Direct
DN 20 - DN 50



HERZ PUMPFIX Constant
DN 25



HERZ PUMPFIX Solar
DN 20

**// The most important
players in building technology
come from Pinkafeld**
- Mag. Kurt Maczek



Photo: HERZ

PINKAFELD AS A TRAINING LOCATION **WHERE BUILDING SERVICES ENGINEERING LIVES**

Kurt Maczek has been mayor of Pinkafeld for 21 years. He cannot emphasize the importance of a good and profound education often enough. He himself taught for two decades at the HTL Pinkafeld and knows the importance of Pinkafeld as a training location very well. In the field of building services engineering, Pinkafeld offers a tertiary education course at the University of Applied Sciences. In an interview with HERZ News, Mag. Maczek explains the importance of Pinkafeld as an educational location and tells us about his last period as mayor.

Even though Austria was able to take over Burgenland as a federal state from Hungary, the city of Sopron/Ödenburg, initially intended as the capital of Burgenland, remained with Hungary. Sopron was the main centre of higher education in Burgenland. This meant that there were only general secondary schools in the eastern part of Austria, but no more vocational secondary schools. This situation continued until the mid-1960s, more than 40 years after Burgenland became part of Austria from Hungary.

"The" school of technology

It was not until the end of the 1960s that the decision was made to establish a higher technical college in Pinkafeld. It was not implemented until 1967 and the HTL Pinkafeld began operating with 147 students. Initially, a mechanical engineering department was set up, followed by an

electronics department. Over time, the number of students increased steadily and the subject areas were expanded to meet demand. It is not for nothing that HTL Pinkafeld is known as "the" school of technology: Today, HTL Pinkafeld is one of the most important HTLs in Austria with seven specializations in four departments and 1,400 pupils and students.

Pinkafeld also offers tertiary education opportunities in the field of energy and the environment. For example, students at the Burgenland University of Applied Sciences can complete their Bachelor's or Master's degree in building and energy technology as well as building technology and building management.

HERZ News: Mr. Mayor, Pinkafeld is an important training location, especially in the field of building technology, how did this come about?

Kurt Maczek: The education at the HTL Pinkafeld has a very good reputation throughout Austria. I taught at this school myself back then and had students from all over Austria. The HTL Pinkafeld was one of the first federal institutes of higher education to offer mechanical engineering. This made Pinkafeld a hotspot for building technology.

HERZ News: HTL Pinkafeld offers many specializations, has building technology always been in the foreground?

Kurt Maczek: In recent years, the focus has been more on IT due to the many developments. However, due to the energy crisis and climate targets, building services engineering has become very important again. When I talk to the director of HTL Pinkafeld, I clearly hear that building technology is booming again.

HERZ News: Has the younger generation become aware of the importance of craftsmanship?

Kurt Maczek: Good craftsmen and skilled workers are very important in our society. That's why it's good when pupils are introduced to the whole thing through excursions, as the HERZ company does. They should see the career and the opportunities.

HERZ News: Do you think that the increase in awareness of the major issues of climate and the environment in recent years is also responsible for the renewed interest?

Kurt Maczek: Climate, energy and the environment are important topics that have become increasingly important in recent years. With the HTL, we have the largest secondary school in these areas. A good, in-depth education is important and training at HTL Pinkafeld gives you top career opportunities. Above all, building services engineering is a top priority for Pinkafeld because we have a tertiary education track with the University of Applied Sciences. Many students of building services engineering at HTL Pinkafeld go on to attend the university of applied sciences.

HERZ News: Is the training bearing fruit?

Kurt Maczek: The training is bearing fruit, the graduates from Pinkafeld are recognized throughout Austria because they are well trained. The most important players in building technology come from Pinkafeld. In addition, a good HTL results in leading companies settling in Pinkafeld. We are particularly pleased and proud of this.

HERZ News: What significance do leading companies have for Pinkafeld?

Kurt Maczek: Leading companies are important for the community in order to create jobs. For the schools themselves, it is very good to have leading companies that correspond to the subject areas. The municipality of Pinkafeld has good access to all companies, especially HERZ. We made a great effort to bring the HERZ company to Pinkafeld more than 10 years ago. Not only as mayor, but also as a state politician, I am pleased that we are bringing leading companies to the state in order to make the labour market more attractive.

HERZ News: Pupils are of particular importance to HERZ. How do you see the situation with regard to cooperation: Are schools sufficiently supported by the state or do they need the support of industry?


Kurt Maczek: Cooperation with schools is very important and works very well here in Pinkafeld. Our directors in all educational institutions are very open and encourage cooperation with the companies.

HERZ News: What else is planned in Pinkafeld?

Kurt Maczek: The campus of the university of applied sciences is currently being expanded, with more than 40 million euros being invested. Completion is planned for 2026. A sports campus is to be built in the sports area. The whole thing is still in the development process at the moment.

HERZ News: Do you already have plans for how you will spend your well-earned retirement?

Kurt Maczek: I'm quite active in sports and will expand on this in retirement. Retirement will also offer many opportunities for other activities.

HERZ News: You still have plenty of time to choose your activities. I already wish you an exciting but also relaxing retirement. Thank you for your time and the pleasant interview. 



www.herz-energie.at

HERZ ENERGIETECHNIK IN PINKAFELD

HERZ Energietechnik, based in Pinkafeld, Herzstraße 1, is the full-service provider for renewable energy systems. The modern pellet and wood chip heating systems as well as wood gasification boilers and heat pumps from HERZ Energietechnik enable efficient and environmentally friendly heating of single-family homes through to entire districts.



Hannes Morocutti guides the students of the Graz 4 vocational school through the Brennpunkt° heating museum.

Photo: HERZ

A HOT TRIP

GRAZ 4 VOCATIONAL SCHOOL ON A 2-DAY EXCURSION WITH HERZ

The route is created: Graz - Vienna - Neustift an der Lafnitz - Pinkafeld - Kemeten. The students of the Graz 4 vocational school specializing in installation and building technology went on a 2-day excursion with HERZ in the new school year. The trip took them from the Brennpunkt° heating museum in Vienna to training courses and factory tours at the HERZ production facilities and a delicious dinner at Rabenbräu in Neustift an der Lafnitz. It was an instructive, varied and exciting trip for the students.

As part of a 2-day excursion, the pupils of the 4a-IGT vocational school in Graz 4 took a trip from Styria to Vienna and Burgenland. With the aim of gaining an insight behind the scenes of building technology and the future world of work, as well as receiving training on hydraulic balancing from experts, 18 pupils set off on the trip together with the head of the class, engineer Walter Knaus, and BS Graz 4 director, engineer Gerald Winkelbauer.

The hottest museum in Vienna

After arriving at Brennpunkt° - Museum der Heizkultur Wien, the students were given a guided tour of the heating museum by Hannes Morocutti. The heating museum was opened in 1984 as a display depot by engineers Beer and Peters-Engl. Since the early 1980s, the two engineers had been collecting old heating systems from municipal buildings that were no longer needed due to the switch to district heating and natural gas. The Brennpunkt°

heating museum in the 12th district is now open to visitors by appointment by telephone (+43 1 4000 34 100) or in writing (office@brennpunkt.wien.at).

HERZ production facilities

HERZ has 5 production sites throughout Austria, and the number has risen to 42 throughout Europe. With its factory in the 23rd district of Vienna, HERZ is one of the few industrial companies in Austria that, in addition to state-of-the-art ro-



Robot system with image recognition system at HERZ Armaturen in Vienna.



Modern laser system for processing structural steel, stainless steel and aluminum at HERZ Energietechnik in Pinkafeld.



CNC machine for precise machining and production of individual parts at HERZ Armaturen in Kemeten.

bot-equipped manufacturing machines and production, also offers the experience of manual brass chill casting. During the guided tour of the production facility, which specializes in the manufacture of fittings and valves, the students of BS Graz 4 experienced the steps from the production of casting moulds and the manufacture of cores from pressed sand to the manual casting of fittings, their processing and nickel plating.

// *Exciting to see where the origins of my profession lie. Interesting to see how fittings that I deal with every day are manufactured.*

- Students of the 4a-IGT

After arriving at HERZ Energietechnik in Pinkafeld, Mayor Kurt Maczek welcomed the students. HERZ Energietechnik is the


full-service provider for renewable energy systems. In 2022, HERZ Energietechnik doubled its production capacity by expanding its warehouse and production areas. During a guided tour, the students were able to marvel at the production chain of HERZ biomass systems and heat pumps, from prototype construction to final assembly and final testing.

The two-day excursion concluded with a tour of the HERZ production facility in Kemetten. This is equipped with state-of-the-art machinery for the production of heating and drinking water fittings as well as home transfer stations. In addition, the housing parts for biomass boilers and heat pumps from HERZ Energietechnik are manufactured in the sheet metal processing area. A state-of-the-art pipe bending machine is also used to ensure

precisely fitting pipes within the compact HERZ home transfer stations. Numerous CNC (Computerized Numerical Control) machines ensure precise machining and production of the individual parts through computer-aided machine control.

// *It was an interesting tour. The best part was the explanation of the solid fuel boilers in Pinkafeld, as we learned and saw things that we don't often see and hear about. I learned a lot on our trip that I will need later on.*

- Students of the 4a-IGT

HERZ is delighted with the feedback from the students and once again proves the importance of cooperation and support from educational institutions. 



Walter Knaus (head of the 4a-IGT class) with the students of the Graz 4 vocational school on a visit to HERZ.



HERZ FAIRS CALENDAR 2024

AUSTRIA



Vienna
EXPO Frauenthal
24. – 26. January 2024

Wels
WEBUILD Energiesparmesse
06. – 10. March 2024

NETHERLANDS



Utrecht
VSK
06. – 09. February 2024

ITALY



Milan
MCE Mostra Convegno
12. – 15. March 2024

GERMANY



Essen
SHK Essen
19. – 22. March 2024

Nuremberg
IFH Intherm
23. – 26. April 2024

Hamburg
GET NORD
21. – 23. November 2024

SWEDEN



Stockholm
Nordbygg
23. – 26. April 2024



Merry Christmas and
a successful New Year.



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