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FENNIAPRIZE 17

Fennia Prize 17 exhibition on show at Arctic Design Week

Companies that have gained success with design will be presented in **Korundi House of Culture** in Rovaniemi during **Arctic Design Week**. The companies awarded in the **Fennia Prize** design competition represent the best application of design skills in Finland.

Design Forum Finland organizes every second year the Fennia Prize design competition, aimed at companies and organizations, together with Fennia Group, Elo, and the Finnish Patent and Registration Office. In the competition companies and organizations are awarded for exemplary use of design in both designing and realizing products, services, business processes or concepts.

In 2017 the **Fennia Prize Grand Prix** of €10,000 went to **Merivaara Corporation** for its new surgical light. Merivaara Corporation, originally founded in 1901, provides operating-room systems and hospital furniture, exporting over 85 % of its products. The Fennia Prize Grand Prix was awarded for the **Q-Flow™ Surgical Light**. Several innovations in the surgical light improve the level of hygiene in the operating rooms and make the work of the personnel more effective, among other features. Merivaara's product development is based on multidisciplinary research and a thorough knowledge of the users of the product. In the awarded surgical light, the combination of high technology and design provides definite benefits for users and competitive assets and distinctiveness for the corporation.

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Five Fennia Prize **Winner** prizes of €5,000 each went to **Genelec Oy**, known for its monitor loudspeakers, **Naava** which produces air-purifying smart green walls, **Pentagon Design Oy** for a liquorice concept for Fazer, **Planmed Oy** for a new mammography unit, and the start-up company **Consair Oy** for its clean air management unit for construction sites.

Ten companies were awarded with an **Honourable Mention**: **Fiskars Finland Oy Ab**, **INTO Concept Oy**, **Jukolux Oy**, **Konecranes Global Oy**, **LINK Design and Development Oy**, **Lojer Oy**, **Nuviz Oy**, **Pomarfin Oy**, **PUF Design Market**, and **Skanska Talonrakennus Oy**.

The Finnish Patent and Registration Office also gave out the **IPR Excellence** prize for the commendable protection of intellectual property rights (IPR) to **Lojer Oy** and **Secto Design Oy**.

The awarded companies represent a wide variety in applying design. Included are business concepts, solutions making use of digitalization and IoT, productization of innovations, and user-centered product development. The prize catalogue introduces the awarded products and services and analyses the grounds for awarding. The evaluation criteria required customer orientation, comprehensive use of design, innovativeness, and, naturally, top quality of design. The prize jury consisted of representatives of design, business and the media.

The aim of the Fennia Prize competition, arranged every second year, is to promote the use of design in business and the society to enhance growth, competitiveness and internationalization. At the same time, the significance of using design, as well as companies which are applying it in their operations, are brought into the limelight. The competition was now arranged for the 13th time. The exhibition was on show in Helsinki 20 January–12 February 2017.

The partners of the exhibition in Rovaniemi are Arctic Design Week and Julius Oförsagd Company Oy.

Fennia Prize 2017 is part of the Finland 100 programme in 2017.

Fennia Prize 2017 exhibition 22 February–15 March 2017

Korundi House of Culture, Rovaniemi

Open Tue–Wed, Fri–Sun 11 am–6 pm, Thu 11 am–8 pm

Free entrance

More information:

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Press images are downloadable at: www.designforum.fi/prizes/fenniaprize/2017en

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