

ARI GRIFFNER

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ARCHITECTURAL EXPERIENCE | PROJECTS

2005 - 2007

Project Management 'UnitedBuildings'

Building development with oriented strand board (OSB) on the basis of Egger (OSB 8000). This system contains no nails, just glue.

CEO | Founder | Owner | Manager | Technical Director
GriffnerHaus GmbH (Ltd)

<http://www.griffner.com/en/>

GriffnerHaus

GriffnerHaus AG (as it stands today) manufactures houses made of wood and glass for modern living culture. GriffnerHaus is a known quantity in the prefabricated house industry and buildings are developed, planned, produced and delivered for assembly using the most modern technology.

Vision of Living

'...In 1982 the firm's founder Ari Griffner presented the vision of living as part of nature, of houses which are light, generous and above all, healthy to live in. In the meantime, the company, located in Griffen in Kärnten, has become regarded as a specialist in innovative house designs. The know how from more than twenty years' experience is contained in the more than 3000 Griffner houses which have been built to date in Austria, Germany, Italy, Switzerland, Luxembourg and in Ireland.

"With our design oriented and ecological products we want to address a target group whose style is directed towards values such as design, comfort and quality of living," [...] This strategy seems to be bearing fruit, because in spite of a declining construction market the year 2007 was again extremely successful, with 167 houses produced. This meant that GriffnerHaus AG achieved an operating performance of around 35 million Euros.'

Philosophy

More light, more air, more freedom

According to the philosophy "Life needs light. Living needs air. Planning needs freedom", the "open space" concept, which is applicable to all product groups, was created in 1998: the static load is transferred to two supports and thus allows an almost free design of the interior space. For this reason all Griffner houses can be planned to the customer's individual requirements and needs.

All houses have in common an unmistakable sunlight-flooded architecture and their aesthetic appeal in harmony with nature. "Everything else falls in with this philosophical approach," [...], "the high degree of flexibility in the external and internal design as much as the attention to detail." Wood and glass dominate in the façade designs, in an interplay with the most varied window solutions – from large windows down to floor level catching the sun on the south sides, through to small, heat retaining windows on the north sides.

Company History

1982 - Founding of GriffnerHaus GmbH. In its first years the company works mainly in the manufacture of timber block houses, which are soon well known far beyond the country's borders.

1988 - GriffnerHaus gets a new marketing concept and a new operating location. Production is extended. Manufacture of timber framed houses and houses with mixed construction methods.

1990 – The opening up of the German market begins with the building of the first German show house in Nuremberg. The next show houses in Stuttgart and Koblenz are opened.

1995 – Ari Griffner sets himself the objective of building wooden houses for social housing. For this reason a separate project development office is established.

1996 – New building of GriffnerHaus in the Gewerbepark von Griffen. A large production shop and office building are constructed here. The central administration allows a reduction in the locations. GriffnerHaus is already one of the most successful prefabricated house manufacturers in the German speaking area.

1997 – Project Design O Sole Mio

Ari Griffner and GriffnerHaus begin cooperation with Matteo Thun. The result is the famous GriffnerHaus "O Sole Mio", which also creates a great deal of interest in the professional world. For GriffnerHaus this therefore means the launch of the "Design" product line, which today holds an important place in production as a whole. The new Open Space planning concept developed by GriffnerHaus allows even more flexibility in house construction and creates optimum living for the customer. Rooms can be individually planned and even subsequently changed.

<http://www.matteothun.com/>

<http://www.matteothun.com/index.php?/architecture/o-sole-mio/>

1998 – Capacity is expanded with the considerable extension of the production shop in Griffen and the procurement of new machines. GriffnerHaus optimizes logistics. GriffnerHaus Deutschland GmbH is founded with the objective of processing the German market more intensively. In Germany there is already a series of show houses.

1999 – GriffnerHaus opens its first sales office in Sursee in Switzerland.

2000 – Capacity is further expanded in Griffen and the machine inventory is modernised. The first professionally designed GriffnerHaus home page is awarded the Austrian State Prize for multimedia.

2001 – On 21st July 2001 the new office extension in Griffen is opened. The GriffnerHaus home page is nominated as the only Austrian product for the EuroPrix 2001 Multimedia. The new joint project between GriffnerHaus and Matteo Thun, the Design house Sole Due, is presented to the public.

2002 – GriffnerHaus changes from a GmbH [limited liability company] to an AG [joint stock company]. In this year a sales office is also opened in Italy, which works successfully towards opening up the Italian market. Griffner Coillte Ltd. is founded in Ireland, which emerges from a joint venture between GriffnerHaus and the Irish Federal Forestry.

2003 – The cooperation of GriffnerHaus AG with Griffner Coillte is intensified. Further steps to internationalise the company are in preparation. The opening ceremony of the new production location in Mullingar / Ireland is held. In summer the international artists' symposium "xyz" takes place on the company's site for the first time.

2004 – The company is modernised further. Special attention is paid to several new subsidiary companies, which are of particular importance on the way to internationalising the brand. The GriffnerHaus home page is redesigned.

2005 – In this year three new show houses are opened: in April the first show house of the new Classic pure product line is presented in Graz. In the autumn follows the presentation of the Design box in Vienna. Following the founding of GriffnerHaus Italien GmbH at the beginning of the year (company's registered office at Udine), the first show house is opened in Italy in October, an Italian variant of the Classic pure series. The new GriffnerHaus-home page goes online. GriffnerHaus wins the special prize for sustainable construction within the framework of the Steiermark timber construction prize for the project "TANNO meets GEMINI".

2005 - Sale of GriffnerHaus shares

Other

Various Technical Lectures

Forum Alpbach

Technical University Graz

University Klagenfurt

Boston

Aritec GmbH

In cooperation with Alexander Maculan

1985 - 1986

Manager & Majority Shareholder of MJB Freizeithaus GmbH
Planning and construction of a holiday resort.

EDUCATION

1976 - 1979

Building Engineer (1 year) & Architect (1 year)
Graz University of Technology, Austria

2007 - 2011

Dipl.-Ing. (MSc) Building Engineer & Architect
Graz University of Technology, Austria

AWARDS

1991

Austrian State Award for Timber Marketing

1995

Readers Selection 'Prefabricated House' (2nd in Germany)

1997

International Design Award of Baden-Wuerttemberg (O Sole Mio Design)

1998

Austrian Timber Construction/ Technology Award

1998

Event Award (O Sole Mio Opening)

1998

Maecenas | Austrian State Award for Sponsoring Art

1998

Arteco | Award for sponsoring Art

2000

Golden DM (Product of the year in Germany)

2000

Prix MultiMedia Austria | 2 State Awards:

- E-Business Solutions
- Best Web Presence

REFERENCES

Available upon request.