

Dear BioNova Partners
& Customers,

this September, two BioNova hotel pools have received awards, so we want to explain a little bit about the success of the BioNova system in the hotel setting, and introduce these pools and their designers in detail. Our project of the month, a much-loved private pool in Germany, demonstrates just how beautiful a NSP can be come autumn. We hope you will enjoy our small report about the German company Werner-Niemetz, which has been a member of the BioNova family since 2000. Last but not least, the BioNova Historical section features a special NSP that was rebuilt by BioNova in 1996. Enjoy reading!

Your BioNova Global Head Office Team

Rainer Grafinger, Christine Schoeck, Andrea Enseleit, Stephanie
& Jusuf Rifatov

The BioNova Hotel pool - a concept for success

This September, not just one but two BioNova hotel pools have received awards. Given the success of these pools, we want to provide you with some information about the concept of building NSPs in hotel settings.

The popularity and construction of new natural swimming pools has been generally on the increase during the last decade. More and more owners of hotels, guesthouses and campsites are choosing the chemical-free alternative. But why? The advantages may be summarised as follows:

The straight comparison of costs shows that the builder can save about 30-50% on planning, building and maintenance when he chooses to build a biologically-treated pool instead of a traditional pool. Because of the biological water treatment, there are no costs for expensive chemicals like chlorine or bromine. Nor do owners need to concern themselves with wastewater; water flows in a permanent circuit between the swimming area and the regeneration area. Operators of NSPs do have to calculate for a water loss of 6 - 8 mm/qm due to evaporation, but that loss can be balanced cost-effectively by using a backfeed from the local drinking water pipeline. With conventional, chlorinated swimming pools you have to balance out the evaporation just the same. In addition, there are high costs associated in obtaining freshwater and disposing of wastewater in the process of back-flushing filters in a traditional pool.

Saving money is not the only advantage of the biologically-treated NSP. Hotels that offer guests the chance of natural swimming and bathing really stand out from the rest. Because of innovative building methods, the design of modern BioNova NSPs is multifarious and can be matched to the individual demands of the clients and the local conditions. Also, both of the award-winning BioNova hotel pools have very unique characteristics.



The Pool at Hotel Christiane - A Vividly Geometric Design



This This 2,153 ft.2 biological hotel pool was built in 2005.

With its geometric straight lines, the pool appears to be a traditional chemical pool, but it also exudes the natural charm of a biological NSP, alive with plants and color. Stainless steel overflow gutters form an infinity-edge that gives the pool a chic touch.

The beautiful and vivid vegetation embellishes the landscape throughout the year.

In 2007, the hotel pool was awarded the Bavarian EON-environmental prize, which included prize money of 20,000 €.

In September 2011, hotel owner Christiane Schreiner gladly accepted the „Holly 2011“, an award given to top-100 hotels worldwide since 1994.

To learn more about this pool and other BioNova hotel pools, please check out our references at: www.bionova.de/pool2.htm



Biological Pool for the ECO-Resort in Australia - Natural, Sustainable & Amazingly Adaptable



We presented this NSP in our June newsletter. It's an amazing hotel pool built this past summer for an eco-resort in New South Wales, Australia. The pool is quite large - 3,552 ft², but that's not the most impressive aspect; its history of origin is very interesting: The property is located on historical ground. From this exact location, Captain Cook explored the Australian coast in 1770.

Given the historical significance of this property, the Australian government refused to give permission for building a chlorinated pool at all. After 3 years of tough negotiations the local authorities gave the go-ahead for a biological pool - but with very detailed restrictions

regarding what could be constructed. So the project has very strong „eco credentials“. The concrete used for the pool contains no cement at all – this is the first application of this kind of concrete in the world. The pool is heated by the earth with a geo-thermal system. All of the water is filtered rainwater, and all of the power comes from solar energy. All of the wood used in the project is recycled timber, and all of the rocks come from within the property.

Despite the many restrictions, the results were worth the effort. This beautiful and charming NSP allows guests to relax or play in a very natural environment.

This September the NSP was declared the “Best Pool in New South Wales” by the MASTER BUILDERS ASSOCIATION (MBA). In addition, the eco-resort received the first prize in the category of „ecological sustainability“.

We're very happy about this success, which emphasizes once again the possibilities of BioNova Natural Pools & biological Pools. And we're keeping our fingers crossed for November, when the committee of the MBA chooses the best NSP in the entire country of Australia.

Project of the month



October is a very beautiful month, especially when the vegetation glows with color in the autumn sun. And even if you can't use your NSP for swimming and bathing anymore in most regions, it still has plenty to offer. For this reason we decided to choose pictures of an NSP in autumn as our current project of the month.

This NSP is 1,722 ft² in total. It was built in the two-chamber building method with partially-separated regeneration. Located in Niederzwehren, it was designed and built BioNova partner Niklas Sobotta.

It is used the whole summer long by the owners, their five children and plenty of friends.

The owners don't stop enjoying their NSP when the swimming season is over, though. Situated right next to their winter garden, the NSP is close at hand for experiencing the colors of the changing seasons.

They enjoy watching the first early morning fog hang over their NSP. When then the golden October sun comes out, the vegetation and the water surface compete with the glowing blaze of colours of autumn. The first frost on the NSP will bring an experience for the senses. It covers water plants, late flowering blooms and the water surface with tiny sparkling crystals, instilling onlookers with anticipation for the peaceful beauty of winter.

The children are quite excited because as soon as the NSP freezes, they and their friends can use it to skate or play ice hockey.

The BioNova family



The landscaping company Werner-Niemetz GmbH & Co, based out of Oestrich-Winkel (Hesse / Germany) has been a member of the BioNova family since 2000.

The company itself has been established since 1984. The Werner-Niemetz GmbH & Co is also a member of the Professional Association of Gardening and Landscaping and a highly-esteemed regional training company.

The ultimate ambition of the committed, very well-educated and powerful duo (landscape architect Maria Werner-Niemetz and her husband, Axel Niemetz) is to design gardens for their customers that stimulate all the senses.

For this reason, they attach great importance to the education and further training of their staff. The company also wants to create permanent values for their clients by using expert knowledge, reliability, timeliness and skilled work.

The couple often volunteers to be on the committee for Masters and Apprenticeship Certification Exams, supplying their acquired knowledge from many years of work.

They are also active members of the FLL committee for guidelines for private natural swimming and bathing pools. Additionally, they have provided a lot of project support to our BioNova partners in the Netherlands.



Dates 2011

Training events, fairs, meetings – we've got a lot going on with the BioNova Family! Review the following to see where the next activities of the BioNova Global Head Office and the BioNova Partners will take place:

October 2011

Greenbuild

October 4-7, 2011 - Toronto (Canada)

The American partner of BioNova Natural Pools will present BioNova NSPs at this fair.

Further information: <http://www.greenbuildexpo.org/Home.aspx>

Aquanale

October 26-29, 2011 - Cologne (Germany)

As in prior years, the BioNova Global Head Office will represent the BioNova group at this international trade fair for saunas, pools. Rainer Grafinger will explain the concept of biological swimming and bathing to interested fairgoers.

Please find more information at the official website of the Aquanale:

<http://www.aquanale.de/de/aquanale/home/index.php>

ASLA, Annual Meeting and Expo

October 31-November 1, 2011 - San Diego (USA)

Every year landscape architects and interested constituents meet at this event. James & Hae-Sun Robyn will once again represent the BioNova Group at their booth.

November 2011

Pool Spa Patio

November 2-4, 2011 - Las Vegas (USA)

The BioNova Head US partner James Robyn (BioNova Natural Pools) presents BioNova NSPs at this important fair. As this segment of the pool industry is not well-established in the USA like in Germany, Austria or Switzerland, he has to do real „pioneer work“. At his booth he will inform all interested fairgoers about the basics of the BioNova System and the fully biological water treatment.

Please find further information about Pool Spa Patio under: www.poolspapatio.com

BioNova historical



Again and again BioNova partners are faced with the same misconceptions about natural pools. Customers are not sure that the functionality of NSPs is durable. They love the look of the NSPs but they're not sure if the ecological system can really be kept in balance long-term.

The essential thing for designers and builders to do in order to combat these notions is to do a very professional job on every NSP. We want to explain the importance of contacting an expert for this work through an example project.

In 1996 a stressed NSP owner contacted BioNova founder Dipl.-Ing. Rainer Grafinger. A few years ago he had signed a

contract with one of our competitors to build a NSP. Unfortunately, the builder did not do a good job. The sealant was not fitted properly, causing the pool to leak. In addition there was a huge problem with increased growth of algae.

The owner was profoundly convinced that the concept of chemical-free bathing and swimming can work with the right system. After several intensive counseling interviews he decided to rebuild his NSP according to BioNova construction practices.

This spring, BioNova experts revisited his renovated NSP and found that the customer didn't have any problems with water quality. He's very happy with his BioNova NSP.

This shows that the idea of swimming and bathing without chemicals is very viable. However, to create a functional NSP with a stable ecological system you have to observe and apply many botanic, limnological and technical rules. Therefore you should always consult a specialist. The BioNova group is the perfect go-to because each and every one of our international partners profits from the knowledge of the other partners. The BioNova system is being optimized constantly and the partners don't only look for the solutions to problems - they find them!