PRESS Release

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WORTMANN Group Detmold

Wortmann Group wins schuhkurier AWARD for "Best Manufacturer 2026"

Detmold, September 2, 2026. The Wortmann Group, based in Detmold, has been honored with the schuhkurier AWARD for "Best Manufacturer 2026." The award recognizes the company's brand strength, innovative power, and teamwork in the German-speaking footwear market. The award is one of the most prestigious in the industry and is presented annually by the trade magazine schuhkurier. The awards ceremony took place Monday evening in Düsseldorf.

In his laudatory speech, Armin Weger, CEO of Leder & Schuh AG, honoured the Wortmann Group's development since its beginnings in 1967, as well as the family-owned company's strong team spirit and entrepreneurial achievements: consistently investing, making courageous decisions, and taking on responsibility—all within a market environment increasingly characterized by dynamism and challenges. Weger particularly highlighted the company's willingness to innovate and invest in recent years—from the further development of its collections and digitalization to service and logistics: "Wortmann invested early in modern IT and logistics structures, introduced new digital ordering and service offerings, and consistently tailored its product range to the needs of the retail sector. This combination of brand strength and operational excellence was a key factor for the jury."

"There's a phrase that has guided us for many years: 'Always do a little more than the others.", says Jens Beining, CEO and managing partner of the Wortmann Group. "For us, this is about our own performance: looking more closely, staying closer to the action, making decisions faster, trying more things, and investing precisely when others become more cautious."

In focus: the people behind the brands

Wortmann places particular emphasis on the people behind the brands—employees who have been with the company for 40 years or more, as well as young talents who are recognized, given opportunities, and take on responsibility. "We open doors—but everyone has to walk through them on their own," Beining emphasizes. Under the motto "Our time is now," Wortmann is increasingly focusing on actively shaping change. After all, nothing changes unless you change yourself. In an environment full of challenges, the family-owned company sees opportunities and addresses them with a clear willingness to invest and innovate.

"I am proud of this team and deeply grateful for their dedication, passion, and the loyalty they demonstrate every day. This award belongs to all of us," the management continued. The Wortmann Group would like to thank the jury of the schuhkurier AWARD, its customers for their trust, and Sternefeld Medien GmbH for the professional organization of the evening. Wortmann also extends his heartfelt congratulations to Krohn Schuhe on being named "Best Retailer of 2026."

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About the schuhkurier AWARD
The schuhkurier AWARD is presented annually by the trade magazine schuhkurier. A panel of experts consisting of editorial staff and industry experts evaluates manufacturers and retail partners based on criteria such as brand management, product collections, service quality, innovation, and collaborative relationships with retailers. In the "Best Manufacturer" category, the award regularly recognizes companies that have a lasting impact on the footwear market and drive innovation in the industry.

Representatives of the Wortmann Group at the schuhkurier AWARD ceremony in Düsseldorf.
Photo credit: Kim Fotografie

About the Wortmann Group

The WORTMANN Group, based in Detmold, is best known for its brand Tamaris. It is one of Europe's largest shoe production and retail companies and is recognised as the market leader for fashionable women's shoes. Its collections are available in over 70 countries and more than 10,000 shoe shops all over the world. In addition to the leading brand Tamaris, the group also owns the Marco Tozzi, Caprice, Peter Kaiser and Jana brands. The Group also includes Novi Footwear International Co. Ltd. in Hong Kong, which counts numerous global brands and retail chains among its customers. The group has almost 1,000 employees worldwide. Production work for the Detmold-based company involves a global workforce of approximately 25,000 people.

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