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Because fresh drinking water is worth its weight - in Gold

Ujeta Care: Probably the world's smallest water treatment system wins the "German Innovation Award 2018".

Berlin/Kirchheim (jm).

Around the world, Ujeta Care is helping ensure that people can obtain clean drinking water for themselves, quickly and easily. Schneider Kunststofftechnik, based in Kirchheim and the parent company of Ujeta GmbH, has now been honoured with the German Innovation Award, in recognition of its unique water filter system. Ujeta Care won the Gold Award in the "Business to Consumer" category. The Innovation Prize was being awarded for the first time in 2018. It recognises products and solutions across sectors that stand out from other solutions on the market for their user-friendliness and value-added.

"We are proud of our Gold Award, which is a fantastic affirmation of what we are doing. User-friendliness and value-added are precisely the two central ideas behind our Ujeta Care water filter system. Ujeta Care is so easy and straightforward to operate that even young children, women or the elderly are able to obtain fresh drinking water in a matter of moments. We aim to contribute to preventing anyone from dying of thirst or falling ill from life-threatening germs in developing countries, crisis regions and disaster areas, and regions with poor water infrastructure. That is pure value-added," says Drita Schneider, Managing Director of Schneider Kunststofftechnik. She also set up Ujeta GmbH, as a project close to her heart.

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The innovative water filter system from the Allgäu region has already impressively demonstrated its value-added for others. For example, ten Ujeta Care units are in use in Haiti, supplying around 300 children there daily with fresh drinking water since hurricane "Matthew" in October 2016.

Ujeta Care is probably the world's smallest water filter system, and in one minute it converts around three litres of water into clean drinking water, of freshwater quality. Operating it is child's play: and using the removable ten-litre plastic container, water can be fetched from wells, lakes, rivers or tanks. A fleece mat integrated into the plastic container pre-filters the water and removes coarse particles. Using a pump unit and a cartridge with special filters, the water is further filtered and then passes into the heart of the system: the Ujeta water filter. There, it is transformed into clean drinking water, before it bubbles through a narrow pipe into the drinking cups.

In the Ujeta Care, Schneider Kunststofftechnik has developed a patented system that removes 99.9995 per cent of all germs, bacteria and other contaminants such as heavy metals from the water. Valuable minerals, conversely, are retained in the water. Energising bio-crystals and a special turbulence technique gives the water the quality of spring water.

Thanks to its user-friendliness and its value-added, the innovation demonstrated by Schneider Kunststofftechnik carried off a "Gold" award in the "Business to **Consumer**" category at the German Innovation Awards. The new innovation prize is being awarded by an independent jury of experts from industry, business, institutions and the financial sector.

About Ujeta Care:

Ujeta stands for water (Kosovan "uje") and life (Kosovan "jeta"). The Ujeta water filter is one of the smallest and most effective water treatment systems in the world, with a filter output of up to 5,000 litres per unit. As a portable, lightweight system (weighing about 3000 grams), it is quickly ready to use and filters the water in the place where it is needed, not where it is extracted. That enables

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the Ujeta Care to deliver a lasting improvement in drinking water supply worldwide. Thanks to combined ultra-filtration using activated carbon and membrane filters (LOG 6 classification), the Ujeta Care removes 99.999 per cent of all bacteria and germs, along with heavy metals, drug residues, chlorine products and chlorine decomposition products, pesticides, organic compounds and asbestos fibres.

The high-quality "Made in Germany" activated carbon filter operates with a filter fineness of up to 0.45µm, and also exploits the high absorption effect of the activated carbon, as a pure natural product. The membrane filter, with its high-tech hollow-fibre membrane, has a filter fineness of up to 0.1µm. Bacteria, germs, moulds, metal particles and microorganisms are thus retained in the membrane filter, while valuable minerals remain intact in the water. Energising bio-crystals and a special turbulence technique gives the filtered water a spring-water quality.

The effectiveness of the Ujeta Care was confirmed by the well-known drinking-water laboratory of Dr. Staber & Kollegen. Scientific 'before and after' examinations using brackish pond water have shown that the Ujeta Care is ultra-efficient in filtering out coliform bacteria, intestinal enterococci and E. coli. Where the brackish pond water exhibited 200.5 MPN/100 ml E.coli, after filtration using the Ujeta filter this was 0 MPN/100 ml.

About the German Innovation Award:

The German Innovation Award was presented for the first time in 2018, and is being sponsored by the German Design Council (*Rat für Formgebung*). The new innovation prize is an award for products and solutions across all sectors that stand out primarily for being user-centred and for value-added compared with earlier solutions.

The procedure for the German Innovation Award is unique: only companies nominated by the expert committees and scouts for the German Design Council are able to take part. The German Design Council was set up by the German Bundestag (the lower house of parliament), and as an independent and

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internationally operating institution it is committed to promoting the competitiveness of companies. Since 1953, the competitions run by the German Design Council have given awards for achievements of international standing in design, branding and innovation.

About Ujeta GmbH

Ujeta GmbH is a company based in Kirchheim (Allgäu). All Ujeta products are manufactured exclusively in Germany. That ensures high-quality "Made in Germany" products, with a guarantee of best manufacturing quality, and also secures jobs in the region. Ujeta water filters are manufactured by Schneider Kunststofftechnik in Kirchheim.

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About Schneider Kunststofftechnik GmbH:

Schneider Kunststofftechnik GmbH manufactures technical plastic parts for customers in the automotive, mechanical engineering, packaging systems and sensor technology sectors. In addition to product manufacturing for customers, Schneider Kunststofftechnik also produces and assembles its own products. The strength of innovation at Schneider Kunststofftechnik is made available to all customers. From technical consultancy to developing own plastic parts to building tools and moulds, the Allgäu-based family company offers every assistance to its customers. Beyond this, Schneider Kunststofftechnik guarantees flexible products to the highest quality levels.

All products are manufactured exclusively at the company's head office in Kirchheim (in the Allgäu region). That ensures high-quality "Made in Germany"

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The family-run business is successfully DIN EN ISO 9001-, DIN EN ISO 14001- and DIN ISO 50001-certified, and is an active participant in "Umweltpaket Bayern", an agreement between the Bavarian state government and Bavarian business for cooperative environmental protection.

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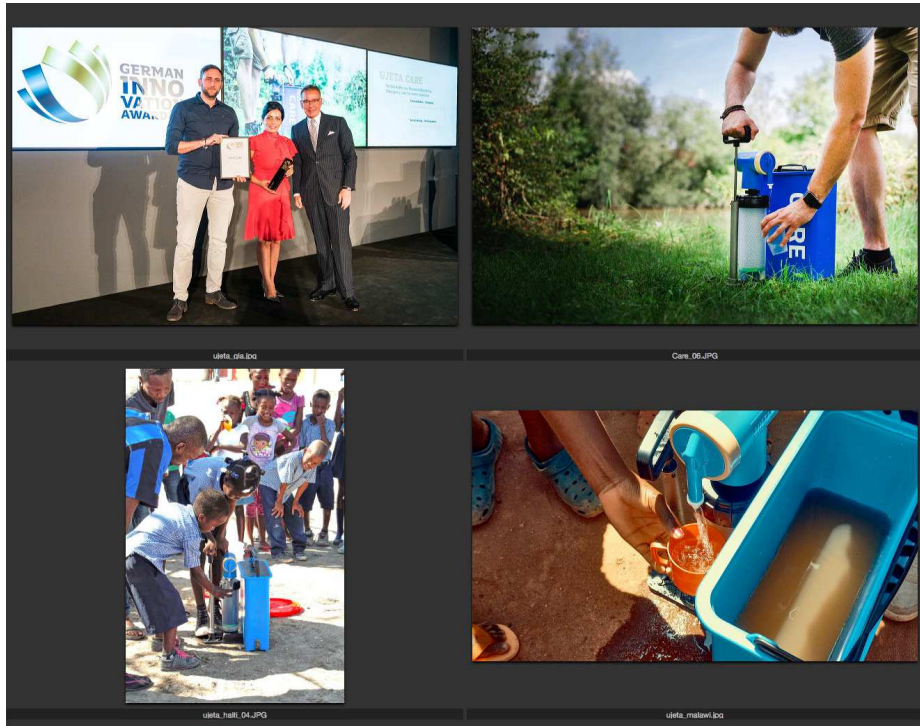
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Photo materials:



Captions to photos:

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Gold for the Ujeta Care: at the prize-giving ceremony for the German Innovation Award in Berlin, the representatives for Schneider Kunststofftechnik - Head of Marketing Peter Kirchner (left) and Managing Director Drita Schneider - celebrate with Andreij Kupetz, the General Manager of the German Design Council. Photo: Martin Diepold/German Design Council

care_06.jpg

The Ujeta Care water filter is also an ideal companion for outdoor adventurers because it can treat water from rivers and lakes. Photo: Ujeta

ujeta_haiti_04.jpg

That's delicious: these students in Haiti are drinking treated water Photo: Ujeta

ujeta_malawi.jpg

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In Malawi in south-east Africa, Ujeta Care filter systems are once again making fresh drinking water from contaminated water. Photo: Ujeta