

Newsletter

August / September 2012

Dear BioNova Partners & Customers,

some of the BioNova team took a bit of a vacation in August but everybody is back now and the team is getting started on new ideas and projects. We decided to publish a double Newsletter for August and September with a focus on the various possibilities of designing a Natural Swimming Pool. First, we'll start with our Project of the Month which shows you how interesting and creative NSP designs can look today. Also this month we would like to feature a special design to demonstrate the multifacetedness of BioNova NSPs and the Natural Pool.

The Natural Swimming Pool designs as diverse as the home countries of the BioNova Partners. This month, we want to introduce you to our Serbian Partner, Saša Matović. We also look forward to introducing our 3 new Partners from Bulgaria, Egypt and the USA!

We have more good news from North America! The US Partner Meeting in Boston was well attended and we'll provide a detailed report!

The Hotel Christiane is celebrating a great success early this September. Hotel Manager, Christiane Schreiner, received her second „Holly 2012“ award. A distinguished award from the tour operator „TUI“ this popular prize is presented annually. Mrs. Schreiner believes that the hotel continues to win this prize due to its beautiful BioNova Hotel pool. She told us that it is the BioNova Natural Swimming Pool that makes her small hotel so special and that she would readily invest in an NSP again.

As usual, we will feature a BioNova NSP from an older year of construction. This time we will show you a NSP from Austria built in 1993.

As you'll see, we have prepared lots of interesting topics and beautiful pictures for you again.

We hope to entertain, inform, and inspire! Enjoy reading!

Your BioNova Global Head Office Team

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



Objekt des Monats



How creative a NSP design can look is demonstrated here.

Extraordinary beautiful, this project was done by BioNova Partner Stephan Zinke of Arenshausen (Germany). This NSP captivates with clear lines and an interesting mix of materials. The combination of cool stainless steel and the natural shaped surround is very attractive! The optical margin with the stone-filled gabions on two sides is very pure - but this purity makes the design so noble.

As these pictures were taken right after finishing the NSP, the project is not yet vegetated completely. Next year this Natural Pool will develop into its full beauty!



The BioNova Family



We want to introduce our Serbian Partner Hidronova Plus to you this month. The company has worked in the design and build of traditional chlorinated swimming pools for several years in their home country. It is located in a quiet area of Belgrade. Hidronova Plus works for private customers and also in the public sector.

The head of Hidronova Plus, Saša Matović, is a mechanical engineer. He started his career in 1997 at one of the leading companies in the Serbian swimming pool industry. Over the years he was promoted to chief engineer and later to chief director. In 2005 he decided to start his own company, Hidronova Plus.

At a swimming pool trade show in Cologne (Germany) in November, 2009, Saša Matović came into contact with BioNova for the first time. He wanted to find a cheap solution for his friends to clean up their lake. Instead, he discovered a completely new world - the world of biological swimming and bathing! Mr. Matović was immediately convinced and impressed with the BioNova System and decided very quickly to become a part of the BioNova family.

The idea of biologically cleaned swimming and bathing facilities was unknown in Serbia at this time so Mr. Matović began to spread this new idea there and to surrounding regions. Of course it was difficult to do this pioneer work! Like a planted seed, this project needed time and attention to bloom. Mr. Matović represented BioNova at different trade shows, wrote professional articles for relevant magazines and passed on information to his customers every time he got the chance to. Finally in 2012, after 2 years of hard work, the company got its first project. In May 2012 they began building an NSP in one of Belgrade's most luxurious residential districts. This NSP is the first biologically cleaned facility in Serbia. The picture above shows the small but mighty green oasis in the middle of the urban jungle of Belgrade. You can find more information about this project in our July Newsletter.

At the moment Hidronova has many prospects for more projects- some of them even in the public sector. Finally those seeds are sprouting! Since the beginning of this year the employers of Hidronova Plus have realized an interesting phenomenon: The majority of their incoming requests are about biological NSPs or Natural Pools. According to Saša Matović, it's only a matter of time until the people of his region realize the purity and elegance of these biological facilities.

He and his team will give their best to benefit their company, their customers and the whole planet earth - the only planet we have!

Neue Partner

What is so special about BioNova? It's not only the quality of the BioNova NSP, but also the camaraderie of the worldwide partners that convinces many companies to join the BioNova Group. This month we want to introduce you to three new partners from Bulgaria, Egypt and the USA. A warm welcome!

Bulgaria:

Menila Ltd.
Mr. Pavel Pavlov
Vazrazhdane 37, ent. 4, apt. 73
Varna
www.vodabg.com

Egypt:

Archer
Carmen P Keller & Ahmed Hamada
Cairo office:
72 Mossadak Street, Dokki
Suez office:
395 Jasmine Tower, 23 July Street

USA:

Om Creation Studio, LLC
Mrs. Hui Ward
2167 West 15 th Court
Eugene, OR 97402

Current news

From August 22 - 26, 2012 in Boston, Massachusetts (USA) the first BioNova Partner Training at North America had taken place. At the 5 day training program 18 people participated both from the USA and Canada. They visited the US-Partner Jesse Dutra in Nantucket to have a look at his newly finished NSP. As the sun was shining, the partners decided to test the water quality first-hand and so enjoyed swimming in the 100% biologically cleaned water of this beautiful NSP. The homeowners were gracious to host a bbq for everyone and we all had a great time! The next day, everyone visited another NSP under construction by Jesse Dutra in Cambridge, Massachusetts, which will be finished shortly.

The training itself was held by BioNova's Global Chief Rainer Grafinger and the North American Head Partner, James Robyn. In addition, the star designer Robin Templar Williams (<http://www.robinwilliams.co.uk>) from England and Anthony Archer-Wills (<http://www.archerwills.com>) each gave a guest lecture.



Great success - Hotel Christiane awarded its 2nd Holly!!



For the second time, the Hotel Christiane (Runding/Bavaria) was awarded the Holly 2012 on September 4th, 2012 by the tour operator TUI. The hotel, which has been family property since 1890, also won a Holly in 2011. The winner is chosen by TUI out of over 10,000 registered international hotels. Decision for winning this prize is based only on the satisfaction ratings of the guests. There are no classifications- no matter if it's a five-star luxury spa in Egypt or a huge holiday apartment complex in the Balearic Islands or, as in case of the Hotel Christiane, a small, family-run hotel- the only thing that counts is the rating of the guests!

The Hotel Christiane with its 50 beds is, in comparison with others, a rather small hotel.

The fact that this small family business could position itself within the 100 best worldwide hotels for the second time is a real sensation!

BioNova interviewed hotel manager Christiane Schreiner about the secret of their success. The interview is available *(in German) from the BioNova Headquarters Germany, email: info@bionova.de.



Termine 2012

September

Gardening & Landscaping Show Bamberg

April 26 - October 7, 2012, Bamberg (Germany)

BioNova Partner Rainer Bewersdorff designed a special theme garden where he presents BioNova Natural Pools at the communal gardening show at Bamberg. This will give all visitors a better understanding of Natural Swimming Pools and will show them the advantages of NSPs. To find more information please visit:
www.lgs-bamberg.de

ASLA - American Society of Landscape Architects

September 29 & 30, 2012, Phoenix, Arizona (USA)

BioNova Natural Pools (North America) will have a booth at this important Expo for landscape architects.

October

Interbad

October 09 - 12, 2012, Stuttgart (Germany)

The „Interbad“ in Stuttgart (Germany) is an international trade fair for swimming facilities, sauna, physiotherapy and wellness. BioNova bearer Rainer Grafinger will represent the BioNova Group at this event again this year.

November

PoolSpaPatio,

November 06 - 08, 2012, New Orleans (USA)

PoolSpaPatio is one of the most important trade show for the swimming pool industry in the USA. North American Partners James and Hae-Sun Robyn will be there to inform all interested attendees about BioNova NSPs. Additionally, James will be lecturing with the Genesis 3 University program.

Preview to the dates of the training events in 2013

BioNova training, German speaking partners

January 28 - February 01, 2013, Munich/Germany

The BioNova training for beginners and advanced partners in the German language will take place at the above-mentioned date in Munich (Bavaria / Germany). Please note this date! We look forward to this event and hope for many partners to come.

BioNova training, English speaking partners

February 13. - 17, 2013, Munich / Germany

All English speaking partners should make a special note on their calendars with these dates. We hope to welcome as many of you as possible to the annual BioNova partner training in English, in Munich. This training session will be for beginners and advanced partners. Save the dates and make your air reservations.

For North American Dealer Partners, contact Alan Weene for more details.

BioNova - one brand mark, thousands of possibilities

When you hear about biologically cleaned bathing facilities, what comes to your mind first? A naturally shaped pond? Are you one of those who think that all NSPs are alike? Then please let me take you to a journey to the fascinating BioNova water worlds. You will be surprised how varied the modern facilities are!

The (property) size doesn't matter any longer....

First of all, the size of an NSP or Natural Pool is unique to each project. How big/small can a biological facility be built? Since the introduction of the BioNova Two-Pot Building Method, the size of the building property plays only a minor part.

This Minipool, for example, was built for refreshing after-sauna dips on an 80 m² (approx. 860 ft²) small city garden. The swimming and regeneration area are still in one basin but the swimming zone is not planted at all. The water plants grow in a separated area. There was just enough space left for a small outdoor shower and a cozy wooden terrace.



In contrast is the public NSP in Sweden. It is the first biological public pool in the Scandinavian region and for sure the most spectacular public NSP built according to the BioNova system. The so called Midgårdsbadet at Sigtuna has a total swimming water area of 2,800 m². Four days after the opening, a sensational 14,500 bathers had visited the facility- without a loss in water quality!



Natural shapes - beautiful, but no longer a must!

The times of unique naturally shaped NSPs has long since passed. If you like you can surely still choose natural shapes, but now there are a lot of other possibilities too!

This picture shows a classic natural shaped NSP in Germany. Doesn't it seem like a small idyllic lake? A private lake in your own garden- that's just the thing for real lovers of nature! The change of vegetation in the water creates diversity throughout the whole year so that you can experience nature each day afresh.



This NSP in Germany had to be designed space efficient. According to the BioNova Two-Pot Building Method, up to 2 walls can be built vertical - so we did that here. For building these walls we use mostly concrete. The design, apart from that, is dominated by natural shapes.



Purely geometric with 4 vertical walls is this BioNova Natural Pool. It looks pretty much like a conventional, chemically treated swimming pool and is perfect for all those who want to combine the advances of biological bathing with traditional swimming pool design. Note: The Natural Pool in this picture was especially designed for a historical manor in Southern France.



The agony of choice - which material do you prefer?

Which materials are perfect for my NSP and which other materials might complement it? Let the following examples of accomplished combinations inspire you to play with materials...

This Natural Pool in Turkey was sealed with a liner. Based on the color of the liner, the skimmers were chosen in different shades of green and blue. For this project a jade-green liner was used, which matches the overflow gutters made out of Turkish marble perfectly. The regeneration area encloses the basin so that you are swimming surrounded by natural plants.



Not only noble looking, but also extremely easy to clean, is the use of granite. This natural stone embodies multiple good qualities. It's easy to clean, not slippery, and as the stone absorbs the heat of the sun it keeps your water warm! Granite is often used for stepping stones, separation walls and stairs - as it was in the Swiss NSP in the picture shown.



This Natural Pool was built using concrete, geometric forms in a French passive house estate. This construction was then coated with a specially coordinated two-components-cover in a light green color. In combination with the wooden sun terrace the designed turned out very well. The naturally planted soil filter was located directly bordering the swimming basin.



Image source: BioNova et MCP

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Many different kinds of natural stones are often used in building NSPs. This picture, for example, shows a NSP in Nantucket (USA). The curved walls are made out of natural stone. They fit perfectly with the plants of the regeneration area. A country-style NSP that provides for a tranquil lifestyle.



As you have already seen in the pictures of the Project of the Month, stainless steel is a fascinating building element for NSPs or Natural Pools. The swimming area of this BioNova Minipool in Montreal (Canada) was also built into a stainless steel basin which forms an interesting contrast with the plants! The regeneration area is designed as a small ornamental pond and so additionally embellishes the optics of the garden.



Wooden decks are often used to cover the overflow gutters or the technical equipment. Of course all wood have to be especially prepared before you can install it near the water. Wooden terraces, entrances, ponds or planks are also a popular design element. Even in Germany, you can arrange some palms (as at the NSP in the picture) and you get that special Mediterranean feel without leaving your garden at all!



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The planner of this Minipool in Austria was playing with contrasts. While the liner-sealed swimming area is designed strictly geometrical, the regeneration area is shaped completely natural. This allows his children to frolic around the water freely while the water plants are safe in their own area. The regeneration zone adds a very decorative element to the garden as well.



This picture shows a very interesting design idea of our French partner. He covered this NSP in Southern France with tile!



We've tried to show you a multitude of different facilities to give you an idea of the range of possibilities in designing an NSP. The limit is actually your fantasy- and of course the creativity of the planner of your NSP.

As the BioNova Group has partners all over the world, people from different gardening cultures meet at the BioNova events which are very exiting and inspiring for everyone. You too can benefit from our knowledge! Contact the next BioNova Partner in your vicinity and let the dream of your personal NSP or Natural Pool come true!

BioNova historisch



This time we want to feature a historical project from 1993. The founder of BioNova, Gerhard Brandlmaier, then planned this NSP for a private client in Wels (Austria).

The NSP was built in the One-Pot Building Method and has a total area of 200 m².

The overflows, which skim the water surface, were installed downwind from the prevailing wind direction. Pumps bring the pre-purified water to the circulating regeneration area. The gravel filter is planted with water and marshland plants.

In conjunction with microorganisms and bacteria, they clean up the water without the help of any chemicals. The facility is surrounded by beautiful trees and shrubs. As you can see in the picture, the NSP satisfied its owners even then with its crystal-clear water.