



NOVATOP's unique gallery of wooden spheres pays tribute to the partners behind its success

Thirty handmade wooden spheres, thirty personalities and thirty unique stories. This led to the creation of an unusual project in 2022, which was intended as a thank you to those who helped NOVATOP grow into a respected brand in the international woodworking industry. The wooden spheres are gradually returning as original artifacts bearing deep symbolism of partnership that transcends ordinary business boundaries.

The NOVATOP sphere gallery, which we installed here in Plumlov, is gradually filling up. On these premises, it is more than symbolic – we have been continuing the tradition of the Liechtenstein family since 1865.

Each of the spheres underwent a unique creative process. Some have minimalist lines, others have vibrant colours, engravings or personal symbols. And there are also pieces that have become proof of playfulness and courage to conduct experiments. The originally smooth wooden spheres have become a gallery of approaches, personal messages, and views of wood as a material with emotion. The project, which was created as a token of appreciation to partners, has naturally transformed into a unique collection that offers a colourful cross-section of the creative world of personalities in the woodworking industry in Czechia and Europe.

„The return of the spheres has strong symbolism for us. It reminds us that architecture is not just a technical discipline, but the courage to create unusual things from wood. And that long-term partnership is not just a phrase, but the foundation of everything that pushes us towards a truly sustainable future,” says Jiří Oslizlo, CEO of AGROP NOVA, the manufacturer of the NOVATOP system.





The spheres were first displayed at a trade fair in Prague in February 2022.

The impulse that transformed wood into a gallery



The project began in 2022, when the company celebrated thirty years since it began manufacturing multilayer panels in Ptení – a material that became the basis for the NOVATOP system used by architects and builders around the world. The anniversary celebration was not meant to be formal. From the outset, it was a gesture of respect for the people who work with the system and for the industry they are driving forward together.

A limited edition of thirty wooden spheres with a diameter of thirty centimetres was created, designed to highlight the structure of cross-laminated wood – the essence of all NOVATOP products. The spheres were first exhibited at a trade fair in Prague, where their simplicity and purity attracted the attention of both the lay and professional public. Shortly afterwards, they were „rolled out“ to selected personalities who were invited to create their own original work on their surface – they could paint, write, carve, create.

„A wooden sphere is a special object for an architect – it has no edges that can be drawn and no planes that can be constructed. It is the pure essence of the material, which forces you to think in a different manner. When you start creating on it, you realize that working with wood is not just a technique, but a dialogue with a living material,“ emphasizes one of the French architects. The idea of dialogue with the material is also developed by architect Pavel Horák in his message relating to the authorial sphere: *„I reveal in depth what we could have overlooked on the path to perfection – and certainly have overlooked. Technology alone cannot be a philosophy. It would then be like a person without a soul.“*

Wooden spheres as bearers of stories

The spheres gradually return
– not as ordinary objects,
but as bearers of stories.
Each one reflects the approach
of its author, their relationship
to wood and to the
collaboration itself.



Radek Oslizlo (CTO) received the sphere from Studio Perspektiv.



The first sphere was handed over to Jiří Oslizlo (CEO)
by architect Marek Pavlas.

„Relationships are what make our field unique. Like wood, our collaboration is alive and authentic. The most valuable thing I can pass on to the next generation is not machines or production halls, but business partners with who we often share more than just business – genuine, long-term friendships,” concludes Jiří Oslizlo, who today runs the Czech family business together with his two sons – Radek and Jiří Jr.



The handover of the authorial sphere by architect Pavel Horák from Prodesi/Domesi took place symbolically at the international conference Wooden Buildings in Volyně.



„Green—a color that embodies freshness, nature, and vitality—not only reflects the beauty of our environment but also symbolizes the successful partnership and strong cooperation with NOVATOP. Inspired by this harmonious color, the limited edition of the NOVATOP wooden sphere perfectly combines the values and the branding of Habisreutinger.“



We also personally accepted a sphere from Franz Tschumperlin, a Swiss expert on wooden structures.



The 3AE team decided not to perceive the object merely as a symbol: they transformed one half into a chandelier – a functional element that illuminates the space while reminding us that architecture is born of cooperation, trust, and a shared process.

Unique gallery of NOVATOP wooden spheres

The gallery features works by prominent figures in the woodworking industry, including Hermann Blumer, Katharina Lehmann, Rolland Brunner and Franz Tschümperlin, as well as long-term domestic and foreign business partners – Kuratle Group, J. u. A. Frischeis, Carl Götz, Hirsch & Sohn, JOKA, Habisreutinger, A2 Timber, 3AE, Dřevostavby MC, Domesi, Taros Nova or the Polish company Modus House.

The collection also includes works by renowned architects and architectural studios, such as Helen & Hard, Snorre Stinessen Architecture, Studio Perspektiv, Marek Pavlas, Aleš Makový, Nicola Spinetto Architectes, Atelier Ordinaire, Scoop Atelier, Bernard Vaudaux-Ruth Architecte, Atelier d'Architecture Delsinne, Gayet Architectes, Benc Architectes and Pascal Flammer. Some spheres are still on their way to us.



[J. u. A. Frischeis](#)



[Founders of the company](#)



[Modus House](#)



[Centrum Stolarskie Dunajec](#)



[Ing. arch. Marek Pavlas](#)



[Blumer-Lehmann](#)



[Hirsch & Sohn](#)



[prodesi / domesi](#)



[Franz Habisreutinger](#)



[Nicola Spinetto Architectes](#)



[Atelier d'Architecture Delsinne](#)



[n&bo Architectes Associés](#)



[Kuratle Group](#)

The symbol on the sphere underlines the strength of a 25-year partnership that has grown into a true friendship.



[Hermann Blumer](#)

The iconic skier Edy on Hermann Blumer's sphere is proof of his words: „Whenever I need a non-standard structural solution, I know I can trust NOVATOP to provide it.“



[Franz Tschümperlin](#)



[A2 Timber](#)



[Dřevostavby MC](#)



[Carl Götz](#)



[Studio Perspektiv](#)



[3AE](#)

What's next? Five spheres every five years

The sphere return project is coming to an end, but its idea lives on. NOVATOP plans to create and send out another five spheres every five years – as a reminder of the values on which the woodworking industry is based: respect for materials, craftsmanship, cooperation, and partnership.



Author of the spheres: Petr Raška, www.azby.cz



AGROP NOVA a.s. is a Czech manufacturing company specializing in the production of three-layer panels and a comprehensive system under the NOVATOP brand. The history of production dates back to 1992.

The company's long-term strategy is based on high quality, flexibility, and a partnership approach to individual customer needs, thanks to which it has built a position as a respected partner not only in the Czech Republic, but also on the international market.

Nowadays, three men are the driving force of the success of this strong family business – a father and his two sons: Jiří Oslizlo (CEO), Jiří Oslizlo Jr. (COO) and Radek Oslizlo (CTO).

