

## Press Release

Vorbach, February 2022

### **3,500 trees for over 8,000 square meters of forest. Novem supports Waldjugend Eschenbach youth group.**

- Corporate commitment to sustainability: Novem takes responsibility.
- Choosing tomorrow's trees today. A regional appreciation.
- Focus on Carbon neutrality.

Vorbach, Germany – As a company with international operations, Novem has set itself the goal of linking added value with responsibility for humanity and the environment. Compliance with legal, social and environmental standards is a core element of our corporate philosophy. With this in mind, management was privileged to work on a reforestation project with the city of Eschenbach.

**Günter Brenner, CEO of the Novem Group:** *"We are proud to play an active role in protecting the environment, and we look forward to seeing how this forest develops in the next few years."* The donation of some EUR 15,000 to the Waldjugend Eschenbach youth group for the reforestation of a woodland area near Eschenbach was truly a heartfelt wish for management. On an area of more than 8,000 m<sup>2</sup>, 3,500 trees were planted. Alongside Eschenbach's mayor, a few citycouncillors and many members of Waldjugend Eschenbach, CEO Günter Brenner also helped with the planting.

#### **Choosing tomorrow's trees today.**

Scientists have long warned of the sweeping impact of climate change. As in other sectors, the voices calling for a change of direction in agriculture and forestry are also getting louder. It is already clear today that shifting to sustainable planting strategies will be vital to the survival of future generations. And so the tree species used in the reforestation campaign were chosen with great care. Requirements included high diversity and a lifespan of up to 140 years. Meticulous preparations followed, based on tree species fitness tables and site data. In consultation with Martin Gottsche, a forestry official, and Dr Gregor Aas, a member of the botany faculty at the University of Bayreuth, only seedlings of tree species that will be able to withstand the climate challenges of the future were planted. The insights gained served as a basis for drawing up a balanced cultivation plan. The final choices to grace the new addition to the woods near Eschenbach were hemlock, red fir, tulip tree, chestnut, beech, common oak, downy oak, hornbeam and western red cedar.

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### Focus on Carbon neutrality.

The Novem Group is committed to reaching carbon neutrality. By using energy, water and raw materials efficiently, we aim to become carbon-neutral in Germany by 2025. We want to achieve this goal throughout Europe by 2030 and worldwide by 2035. By reaching these goals, we will be making our contribution to the decarbonisation of the economy.



Günter Brenner (2<sup>nd</sup> f.r.) handed over the cheque to Walter Seltmann. © Novem Group

### About Novem

German-headquartered Novem is a globally leading supplier of decorative interior trim parts for the premium automotive industry. Across the range of key materials such as genuine wood, aluminium, carbon and premium synthetics, the Company offers unrivalled quality, technology and innovation to a growing customer base including all major premium carmakers worldwide. Founded in Vorbach, Germany, back in 1947, the Company has continuously expanded its global footprint in Germany, Italy, Czech Republic, Slovenia, China, USA, Honduras and Mexico. Novem employs about 5,700 people at 12 locations and achieved revenues of more than €600 million in FY 2020/21.

For more information, please visit [www.novem.com](http://www.novem.com).

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