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German Ecodesign Award 2023 for the BIOTEXFUTURE project GOLD

**WINT Design Lab and the BIOTEXFUTURE project "GOLD"
have been selected as eco-design award winner in the category "Concept"
of the German Ecodesign Award**

The WINT Design Lab has won this year's German Ecodesign Award for the GOLD textile research project. As part of a research initiative, the GOLD project investigated the usability of goldbeater's skin for textile applications. Goldbeater's skin is part of the outermost layer of skin from the intestines of cattle, which is valued for its elasticity and tear resistance. A lightweight rain jacket that illustrates the properties of this multifunctional, recyclable mono-material was selected for this year's Ecodesign Award in the "Concept" category.

GOLD" plays with the properties of goldbeater's skin, a fabric made from the stomach of a cow. As an alternative to petroleum-based materials, it is a biodegradable and therefore very attractive material. The demonstrator with which it was presented is a lightweight, water-repellent outdoor jacket with a wonderfully clean design. Gold is innovative, relevant and well designed," explained Prof. em. Anna

Berkenbusch in her laudatory speech on the GOLD project, highlighting the perfect synthesis of innovation and design as a remarkable feature of the textile research project on a rather unknown but very traditional material.



Gold beater's skin - The term derives from its traditional use as a resistant layer between the gold leaves in the production of goldbeating. At the same time, this elastic membrane has a long and varied history: During the First World War, it was used on an industrial scale to produce gas cells for German naval zeppelins. Today, the extraction of goldbeater's skin as a by-product of meat production is not suitable for textile production, both because of the large quantities required for industrial production and for ethical reasons.

The aim of the project was to analyze the goldbeater's skin mechanically, structurally and genetically down to the molecular level to demonstrate the potential use of biosynthetic collagen fibers for stretchable, elastic functional textiles. Based on these findings and natural tissue samples that the research team analyzed, they created their first demonstrator, a "windbreaker", to illustrate their ideas for further research activities. Now this very special lightweight jacket has been awarded the German Ecodesign Award 2023!

Please find further information on the project on our website: [Gold – Biotextfuture](#)

The BIOTEXFUTURE team congratulates the WINT Design Lab, especially Felix Rasehorn and Robin Hoske, on this outstanding achievement and looks forward to supporting further research activities!

Background: German Ecodesign Award

The German Ecodesign Award is the highest state award for ecological design in Germany and honours outstanding sustainable products, services and concepts. The aim of the award is to promote environmentally friendly changes in development and production as well as in consumer behaviour. The prize has been awarded annually since 2012 by the Federal Ministry for the Environment (BMUV) and the Federal Environment Agency (UBA) in cooperation with the International Design Center Berlin (IDZ).

Further information

Website: Bundespreis Ökodesign: <https://bundespreis-ecodesign.de/en>

Website: Wint Design Lab: <https://www.wintdesignlab.de/>

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Photos: WINT Design Lab