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TOP 3

Our [jury](#) has made its decision: the top 3 of this first Value Network Award are (in alphabetical order):

Hofer

In spring 2013, Hofer launched “Project 2020” as a sustainability initiative designed for the active engagement of multiple partners. Customers and employees are invited to participate actively in projects while suppliers optimize their products. Together with cooperation partners, they run campaigns about subjects such as resource preservation, climate protection, health, trustworthiness and togetherness.



Jury statement: Hofer’s “Project 2020” brings together various stakeholders to establish and develop sustainable approaches and active engagement, to change perceptions and ultimately to ensure sustainable living. Its clear structure gives their approach an additional value - the ability to manage the expectations of different network partners effectively. It is an excellent example to other businesses of how to engage stakeholders around a strong vision, and how to highlight sustainability issues at a local and individual level.

Teach for Austria



The aim of “Teach for Austria” is to build a movement for educational equity. Top graduates and young professionals from different backgrounds become teachers in low-income schools for at least two years. They communicate their knowledge to children, act as role models, and inspire curiosity in various subjects, while improving academic results and opportunities for the future. In this way, the project promotes “transformational teaching”.

Jury statement: The “Teach for Austria” initiative is a unique attempt to match the needs of those with high potential with those of the socially disadvantaged. In doing so, it raises mutual understanding of constraints and conditions, pursuing an overall goal of creating new scopes of action for all participants. Its approach shows a clear understanding of how one can change dysfunctional social structures by building up and applying a value network approach. As education is one of the core values in our society, this could be an example for other communities and countries to follow.

Virtual Vehicle Research Center



The Virtual Vehicle is a research center for full vehicle system optimization that combines simulation and testing. Its “MERS-network” develops new approaches and technologies in the area of integrated safety. The overall goal is to contribute to reaching EU road traffic targets and to satisfy the demands of the end users: safe and innovative vehicles.

Jury statement: A multidisciplinary approach and a combination of different partners give this value network the potential to drive innovation based on peer-to-peer collaboration and knowledge sharing. Additionally, shared responsibility and financial involvement creates a dynamic system for innovation. Small and medium-sized organizations and companies could use this case as an example of how to combine shared expertise and co-ownership in order to create solutions for complex issues.

More information on the top 3 will be given in a poster exhibition at the [“Value Networks” congress](#) on March 20-21, 2014, in Vienna. Furthermore, the top 3 will present their submissions live on the [second day](#) of the congress. Subsequently, the audience will rank their positions.



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