**Langkampfen, 2 February 2024**

**A great honour for Nikolas Stihl**

Nikolas Stihl, Chairman of the STIHL Supervisory and Advisory Board and long-time Managing Director of STIHL Tirol, has received the Decoration of Honour in Silver for his services to the Republic of Austria. With this award, the Republic of Austria honours his commitment and achievements in and for Tyrol.

Consul General Eva Maria Ziegler presented the Decoration of Honour on behalf of Austrian President Alexander Van der Bellen. The ceremony took place on 30 January 2024 at Brand World in the STIHL Group headquarters in Waiblingen, Germany, in the presence of Sebastian Wolf, Mayor of Waiblingen, Bernhard Bachleitner, Area Director of the Austrian Business Agency, the Stihl family and the STIHL Executive Board.

“STIHL Tirol is a success story,” says Eva Maria Ziegler. “Without the tireless commitment of Nikolas Stihl and the close relationship with the Tyrolean workforce, which continues to this day, the development would not have been so successful.”

Nikolas Stihl added: “This award is a great honour. Not just for me personally, but also for the company. It underlines the positive development and the importance of Tyrol within our organisation.”

**STIHL in Tyrol: a success story**

In 1992, STIHL took over VIKING GmbH, a garden equipment specialist founded in Kufstein in 1981, which was renamed STIHL Tirol in 2018. Nikolas Stihl joined the family business in 1992 and became the Managing Director of VIKING GmbH in 1993. Under his leadership, the subsidiary increased its turnover fivefold and became an important centre of expertise for ground-based gardening tools and cordless products within the STIHL Group. In his role as Managing Director of what has now become a leading manufacturer of high-quality garden tools, Nikolas Stihl was President of the European Garden Machinery Industry Federation (EGMF) in Brussels from 2002 to 2006. In 2011, he stepped down as the Managing Director of VIKING to become the Chairman of the STIHL Holding Advisory Board and Chairman of the Supervisory Board of STIHL AG.

Information about STIHL Tirol:

STIHL Tirol GmbH is a wholly owned subsidiary of the STIHL Group and is based in Langkampfen, Austria. Cordless products are produced at this site and STIHL Tirol is also a centre of excellence for ground-based gardening tools, which are produced and developed in Langkampfen. In 2022, the company employed 799 people.

STIHL company profile:

The STIHL Group develops, manufactures and distributes motorised equipment for forestry, agriculture, landscape management, the building industry and private garden owners. The product range is supplemented with digital solutions and services. Products are generally distributed through specialist dealers – including 42 sales and marketing STIHL subsidiaries, around 120 importers and more than 55,000 specialist dealers in over 160 countries. STIHL manufactures products in seven countries worldwide: Germany, USA, Brazil, Switzerland, Austria, China and the Philippines. STIHL has been the best-selling chainsaw brand worldwide since 1971. The company was founded in 1926 and the corporate headquarters are in Waiblingen near Stuttgart, Germany. In 2022, STIHL had 20,552 employees worldwide and a turnover of 5.49 billion euros.

Image “Nikolas\_Stihl\_Decoration\_of\_Honour\_Republic\_of\_Austria.jpg”

Eva Maria Ziegler (right) presents Nikolas Stihl with the Decoration of Honour.

(Image: STIHL, reprint free of charge)