

A folding, wooden pendant lamp wins Red Dot Design Award

The Adilo pendant lamp, designed by Ilkka Kauppinen for Finnish manufacturer Secto Design, has received the Red Dot Design Award in the Product Design category. The design combines minimal material use with a foldable structure, reinterpreting a traditional material in a contemporary context.

The Red Dot Design Award is among the most established international design competitions, where an independent jury of design professionals evaluates entries in person, placing emphasis on the quality of design, functionality, and innovation. According to the jury, Adilo's design "combines aesthetic sophistication with environmental awareness and demonstrates how traditional materials can be reinterpreted."

Manufactured from ultra-thin birch veneer slats, the lamp is delivered flat as a circular disc, reducing volume in transport and storage. It opens into its three-dimensional form in a single movement, requiring no tools or assembly.

"I wanted to design a foldable lamp that would address logistical challenges without compromising aesthetics," says Ilkka Kauppinen.

Relentless reinterpretation

Founded in 1995 by Tuula Jusélius, Secto Design is a family-owned company known for its wooden luminaires made in Finland. Production takes place at the company's factory in Heinola using certified local birch, with products exported to over 50 countries.

For Ilkka Kauppinen, a wood artisan and industrial designer born in 1988, the field of lighting design is new. While Adilo is the first lamp he has created, its concept dates back over a decade. Exploring how a flat wooden element can transform into a spatial structure required years of trial and error. For the designer, seeing the lamp in production is rewarding in itself.

As part of its recognition, Adilo will be exhibited at the Red Dot Design Museum in Essen, Germany, for one year. Located at the Zollverein UNESCO World Heritage Site, the museum attracts more than 160,000 visitors annually, allowing them to engage directly with many of the objects on display.

Further information

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