

Press release



## Focus has won the 2014 Red Dot Award! The Grappus was chosen for the extraordinary quality of its design.

**Viols-le-Fort, 2 April 2014** – The **Grappus** wood stove was selected by a team of 40 design experts from around the world, and it is a great honour to receive this sought-after label from such an esteemed international design competition. This year, 4,815 products from 53 different countries were presented to the jury, who judged them on exacting criteria concerning their aesthetic quality, functionality, originality, ergonomics, durability and environmental performance.



*'Compared to other design competitions, the number of Red Dot awards attributed is markedly lower, so winners can be proud if they are selected – it is a real recognition of their accomplishment.'*  
(Peter Zec, Red Dot founder and CEO)

The Grappus finds the perfect balance in the different elements of a closed wood fire. This model is a composition that rhythmically structures space, giving the fire the high note. The height of the hearth, counterbalanced by the offset wood rack, and the expansive glass panel put the fire in prime position. The deconstructed shape of the fire is a playful use of space.

This triple-walled stove is also a high performer: its exceptional efficiency makes it adapted to low-energy buildings. It has been awarded France's 'Flamme verte' label for compliance with the strictest European environmental regulations.

The Grappus has also been awarded the 2013 *Étoile de l'Observateur du Design* and the *Interior Innovation Award*. It was equally nominated for the 2014 *German Design Award*, an internationally renowned prize dating back 60 years that is independently attributed by the *Rat für Formgebung* (Council for Design) to promote design excellence. With the *Red Dot Award*, the Grappus now boasts four international distinctions for its design, only shortly after appearing on the market.

This model marks Focus's first collaboration with an external designer. Thibault Desombre, a long-time friend of Dominique Imbert and a respected designer for brands including Ligne Roset, Cinna, Pleyel, Arthur Bonnet and La Forge de Laguiole, designed the Grappus.



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**You can download images of the Grappus from:**

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/frn5h1mmeus1ht3/AAC89914kFlic8FQI5TKr6iba?dl=0>



### **About Focus:**

*It was in 1967 that sculptor Dominique Imbert created his first fireplace for his own personal use in his studio at the base of the Cévennes in the south of France. He then reproduced it for several enthusiastic viewers, and so began the history of Focus. Forty-five years later, with some 100 people working for Focus, and a range of more than 60 models available around the world, sales exceed 300 units per month. Focus designs have been featured in such wide-ranging settings as stylish living rooms and some of the world's most prestigious design museums (for example, the Guggenheim Museum in New York and the Museum of Modern Art in Stockholm). Over the years, Focus fireplaces have been awarded numerous international distinctions.*

*In recent years, exports from the 'Groupe Atelier Dominique Imbert' have made up nearly 50% of Focus's trading activity, including to markets outside of Europe, such as Japan, Australia, Russia and the Americas.*

*A large number of Focus models come in either wood-burning or gas versions. Proving that it is possible to be both beautiful and intelligent, Focus's closed-hearth as well as wall-integrated (built-in) models have gained France's Flamme Verte environmental performance label, which guarantees energy efficiency superior to 70%, with carbon monoxide output inferior to 0.3%.*

*Creativity and a refusal to outsource production have been key to Focus's success, and will continue to be its priorities in the future.*

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[www.focus-creation.com](http://www.focus-creation.com)

### Contact details for your readers:

Focus Fireplaces  
3, impasse Claque Patin  
Le Fort  
34380 Viols-le-Fort FRANCE  
Tel.: +33 (0)4 67 55 01 93  
Fax: +33 (0)4 67 55 77 77  
[www.focus-creation.com](http://www.focus-creation.com)

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