



World first: **Focus presents the first suspended fireplace with a balanced-flue heat exchanger**

The Slimfocus, the latest addition to the Focus range, is a fireplace with exceptional efficiency that meets the strictest environmental standards without a single concession to style. With its innovative balanced-flue technology, Focus launches the first-ever central, suspended model compatible with low-energy buildings.

Viols-le-Fort, July 2015 – It has been almost 50 years since Focus created the world's first suspended fireplace. This model, the Gyrofocus, has since become a design classic and an icon of Focus. Now for the autumn/winter season of 2015, Focus again breaks new ground with the **Slimfocus with a balanced-flue heat exchanger** – the first suspended closed fire to feature this innovation. This technology takes in outside air at the top of the flue, so the fireplace operates independently of the air in the room. This is made possible by a system with two concentric flues, one for incoming air and the other for evacuating smoke. As a result, this model can be installed in a low-energy building without disrupting its ventilation system.



This new technology was developed in collaboration with the French fluemaker Poujoulat, the European leader in metal chimney systems. This revolution paves the way to a green future for the Focus fireplace range, thanks to our Research & Design team and the expertise of another market leader 'Made in France'.

In appearance, the closed Slimfocus is identical to the model launched at the beginning of 2015. This wood-burning fire embodies stylish minimalism. With an exterior diameter of 33 cm, it takes up little space while adding elegant refinement to a room. It is available in a fixed or pivoting version in order to meet different installation requirements: in a corner, near a wall, or in the centre of a room. There is also a version with a base, which will soon be available as a gas fire, enlarging Focus's wide range of fireplaces and stoves.

SLIMFOCUS

'Flamme verte' label: 7 stars

Closed wood-burning fireplace Ø < 33 cm

- Suspended, fixed, balanced flue (low-energy buildings)
- Suspended, pivoting or fixed, regular flue
- Fixed version with a base

Performance:

Nominal heat output: 2–6 kW

Efficiency: 85.4%

Level of CO: 0.09% at 13% of O₂

This 'periscope of flames', to use Dominique Imbert's metaphor to describe this particularly innovative model, is much more than a simple source of heat – its streamlined shape enhances the space around it. Its ultra-contemporary design earned it the *Observateur du Design* award in 2014.

End of press release



More images of the Slimfocus (on a base and suspended version):



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.

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

