



# FABER-CASTELL

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## **Count von Faber-Castell received the German Order of Merit, 1st Class**

### **Award ceremony held in the Bavarian State Chancellery/ “Epitome of German brand-name quality”**

Stein, September 16, 2010 – Count Anton Wolfgang von Faber-Castell has been awarded the 1st Class Cross of the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany. The Bavarian Premier Horst Seehofer presented it in a ceremony in the Bavarian State Chancellery in Munich on Wednesday 15 September 2010.

The citation runs “Count von Faber-Castell is an extremely committed businessman: in spite of the enormous effort he puts into his own company he has always applied large amounts of time and energy to the common good. He is the eighth generation to head the highly respected family firm. For a long time this has been the epitome of German brand-name quality in the field of writing, colouring, drawing, and creative design. The company is the world’s oldest and largest manufacturer of wood-cased pencils, both black-lead and colour. Notwithstanding its international orientation it is distinguished not only by strong roots in the Nuremberg region but also comprehensive quality and environmental measures and a high degree of social and ethical responsibility. The family castle restored by Count von Faber-Castell is a listed building, also housing the company archive. It and the “Old lead factory” museum stand as monuments to our industrial and cultural heritage, accessible to the public. The nearby factory buildings represent a very modern production plant. A charitable foundation for disadvantaged children around the world, and a social charter that applies to all the company subsidiaries world-wide, round off in an impressive way the Count’s extensive work in both business and honorary capacities.”

Count Anton Wolfgang von Faber-Castell attended the presentation together with his wife Mary. “I am most gratified at the award” said the chairman of Faber-Castell AG. However, he sees his commitment to the German factories in Stein and Geroldsgrün and to world-wide quality, social, and environmental standards in his production sites around the globe as “sound business sense”. The complex at Stein near Nuremberg, headquarters of the company that will soon be 250 years old, is for him “not just an example of successful industrial and cultural history, which we have opened to the public as the ‘Faber-Castell experience’, but also a symbol of traditional quality ‘made in Germany’. Because here in Stein I still follow the maxim of my great-great-grandfather Lothar von Faber ‘to make the best that can be made in the world’. Next year we shall be celebrating our 250th anniversary, when the German sites will be the special centre of attention. This award is a further incentive for me to remain true to our basic precept of making ordinary things extraordinarily well.”

**For more information:**

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