

Martin and Gerda Essl Privatstiftung

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The Martin and Gerda Essl Privatstiftung has been established by the Essl family, a family of entrepreneurs whose Schoemer/bauMax-Group is actively involved in the real estate, construction and do-it-yourself business in Central and South-Eastern Europe. The Essl Foundation is mainly focused on the Essl Social Prize, an international award for social achievements donated by Martin and Gerda Essl. It was created in 2007 and first awarded on 14 March, 2008. Every year, a total of €1 million is awarded to the winner of the Essl Social Prize for outstanding social entrepreneurs worldwide. Alongside the Prize, the Essl Foundation is also working in the field of creating social indicators and is starting joint activities with other Austrian foundations in order to promote the concept of venture philanthropy in Austria.