

BACKGROUND INFORMATION



The origins of the Dornier Museum – Interview with Silvius Dornier

Question: What were the motives for building the Dornier Museum?

Silvius Dornier: 'The Dornier Museum at Friedrichshafen makes the history of Aerospace over the last 100 years visible in small developmental steps and particular technological achievements of Dornier in the context of contemporary history. It tells the background story, explains exciting facts and at the same time it is a place for cultural meetings and exchanges.

Germany is evermore dependant on technological abilities and innovative ideas. The projects in the aerospace industry, which had been developed with much dedication over the years, are exemplary in many respects. These achievements are interesting and inspiring to visitors, particularly young people, and should therefore be upheld'.

Question: How important is the awareness of tradition?

Silvius Dornier: 'The values of our society support us growing up in an ever-increasing globalisation and extensive technological changing environment today. Openness and awareness are therefore just as important as tradition. I want to make the experience, tradition, and work of my father accessible to everybody by opening the Dornier Museum. Additionally, I wanted to show my respect for the work of all who have shaped the development of air and space travel'.

Press contact:

Dornier Museum Friedrichshafen Susi Peschke, Claude-Dornier-Platz 1,
88046 Friedrichshafen, Tel.: +49-7541-487 36 14 Fax: +49 7541-7005 509
susi.peschke@dorniermuseum.de

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Question: Will the tradition of Dornier be continued?

Silvius Dornier: 'The specific Dornier tradition of values and mindset can be seen in many different ways. It is also intrinsic in Dornier's succeeding companies EADS and ASTRIUM, as well as in Medical technology and the Dornier Consulting activities, and it inspires the friends and sponsors of the Dornier Museum assembled by many former Dornier employees. It is also promoted by their families and social networks and employees.'

Question: What do you want for the future of the Museum?

Silvius Dornier: 'I hope that the Museum will be an ever growing place for cultural events and exchanges – a meeting-place for all people who want to learn about the past, whilst facing the opportunities and responsibilities of the future.'

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