

## **Kurz Technology for Banknote of the Year**

### **New Zealand's new 5 Dollar Banknote using a novel security feature provided by Leonhard KURZ receives international banknote award**

Fürth/Germany, 18 May 2016: The International Bank Note Society (IBNS) has voted the new 5 Dollar bill of New Zealand, equipped with foil security from Leonhard Kurz, as Banknote of the Year 2015. Each year, the IBNS awards a banknote for artistic banknote design and the use of innovative security elements. The new 5 Dollar banknote of New Zealand convinced the jury with its color concept and a novel security feature developed by Kurz: A diffractive optically variable security foil is applied in hot stamping over a transparent area in the polymer banknote. The foil is based on the proprietary, non-holographic, vector-based KINEGRAM® technology, which Kurz offers exclusively for high-security applications on banknotes and government documents. With the transparent window and the applied KINEGRAM®, Kurz has successfully created an entirely novel security element in both optical and anti-counterfeiting characteristics, for which an entirely novel application technology had been conceived. "With this unique solution, we achieved a quantum leap for the security of banknotes," explains Peter Mühlfelder, Head of Business Area Security at Kurz. "We are delighted and proud that the Reserve Bank of New Zealand won the prestigious "Banknote of the Year" award with our security feature and an extremely well achieved design. The recognition we experienced in the past months is both an incentive and an obligation for us to continuously place our efforts in developing our KINEGRAM® technology further and pushing the boundaries of anti-counterfeiting security, in order to always be a step ahead of the criminal." Kurz had been named "Banknote and Currency Services Provider of the Year" earlier this year at the Central Banking Awards event hosted by Central Banking Publications. The jury of this award was not only impressed by Kurz's highly sophisticated and innovative optical security technology, but also admired the very close collaboration of Kurz with leading central banks around the world and the individual solutions provided to each of their specific requirements.



Pictures: Kurz/OVD Kinegram 2016

**About the company:**

KURZ is the world's leading supplier of foil-based security elements for banknotes and trusted partner of many leading central banks. Issuing authorities and banknote printers in over 80 countries have placed their trust in KINEGRAM® features from KURZ, to secure their banknotes against counterfeiting threats and enhance their optical attractiveness. In the area of banknote security, OVD Kinegram, member of the KURZ Group since 1999 and inventor of the KINEGRAM® security element, supports the technological advancement. Highly motivated experts from both companies are tirelessly devoting their efforts to constant innovation. Internationally certified high security production plants in Germany and Switzerland guarantee consistent quality in mass industrial quantities. Moreover, KURZ is the global market leader in many other areas of hot stamping technology and foil-based optically variable security features. KURZ provides complete solutions that include foil delivery, project consultancy, machine and stamping die technology. With over 4500 employees and more than 120 years of company history, KURZ continues to be family owned.

**Press Contact:**

Martina Steinhauser  
LEONHARD KURZ Stiftung & Co. KG  
Schwabacher Straße 482, 90763 Fürth  
Tel.: +49 911 71 41-97 99, Fax: +49 911 71 41-92 42  
E-Mail: [martina.steinhauser@kurz.de](mailto:martina.steinhauser@kurz.de)  
[www.kurz.de](http://www.kurz.de)