



# ORLEN star Cup with record attendance

**Elmshorn, 23 August 2023 – Never before have so many fans wanted to see THW Kiel open the season: Over 5,000 spectators attended the official opening of the THW season on Sunday (August 20<sup>th</sup>). At the ORLEN star Cup, the German record champions competed against northern rivals HSV Handball and Polish Champions League participant Wisla Płock in a round-robin match with shortened match times. A large family festival took place in front of the arena prior to the tournament.**

The ORLEN star Cup, the official start of the incumbent German champion THW Kiel, broke a record: More than 5,000 fans - more than ever before at a THW pre-season tournament - came to the home Wunderino Arena last Sunday to support their stars in their first appearance in the new season. Before the event, a large family festival on the forecourt of the arena attracted fans with music and plenty of interactive activities. On the pitch, the Kiel players ended up with a win, and a narrow defeat to finish second in the three-team tournament. The winner of the ORLEN star Cup was HSV Handball. For all the fans who were unable to be on-hand at the venue, ORLEN offered a full-length livestream of the tournament on the website [www.star.de](http://www.star.de).

‘We were very pleased that the ORLEN star Cup was so well received by the fans. We never expected to set a new audience record’, says Jarosław Marczak, CEO of ORLEN Deutschland. ‘As the tournament’s name sponsor, we were able to place our ORLEN and *star* brands very prominently, thus also meaningfully complementing our commitment to THW. It was also great to see how enthusiastically the tournament was received by our staff’.

ORLEN Deutschland, based in Elmshorn, has been the main sponsor and jersey sponsor of German handball record champion THW Kiel since 2016. As part of the company’s 20th anniversary, more than 300 ORLEN employees with their families and friends were among the over 5,000 spectators.

The winning trophy was presented to HSV captain Niklas Weller by ORLEN CEO Jarosław Marczak. The ORLEN star Cup best field player was presented to THW captain and ORLEN sponsored player Patrick Wiencek. For the last ten years, the Elmshorn-based company has donated 100 euros to the University Hospital of Schleswig-Holstein for every goal scored by the former German national player in the Handball Bundesliga. HSV keeper Jens Vortmann was named the tournament's best goalkeeper.



Image: THW captain Patrick Wiencek scores during the ORLEN star Cup.



Image: ORLEN Deutschland CEO Jarosław Marczak (l.) presents the winner's trophy to HSV Handball captain Niklas Weller.

High-res and license-free photos are available for download in our [Newsroom](#).

#### **star and ORLEN – the petrol stations of ORLEN Deutschland GmbH**

ORLEN Deutschland GmbH was founded in March 2003. It is a 100% subsidiary of the Polish multi-energy corporation PKN ORLEN S.A. and part of the international ORLEN Group. The company currently operates over 600 *star* and ORLEN petrol stations on the German market. ORLEN Deutschland GmbH, based in Elmshorn, is one of the ten largest petrol station operators in Germany and has been the main sponsor of German handball record champion THW Kiel since 2016.

*star* and ORLEN petrol stations offer quality fuels as well as their own brand products at an attractive price-performance ratio. Customers also benefit from the B2B-fleet-card and receive additional services such as car washing and parcel services at many stations. Filling stations with '*star* café' and 'stop.café' invite you to take breaks in a feel-good atmosphere and offer coffee specialities, a large selection of tasty meals and hot and cold snacks all day long.

For more information, please visit our websites [www.ornen-deutschland.de](http://www.ornen-deutschland.de) and [www.star.de](http://www.star.de)



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