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A Truly **Hot** Item

At a special event held in Mainz, Schott Glas celebrated the production of the 50 millionth "Ceran" cooktop panel.



German TV chef Frank Buchholz is delighted with the gigantic cooktop panel measuring some 3.2 x 1.2 meters. It is the biggest glass-ceramic panel in the world.

► The cooktop on display was as remarkable as the number that was being celebrated. At the "Ceran" Technology Center in Mainz, Schott Glas presented a glass ceramic panel, which, with its dimensions of 3.2 x 1.2 meters, will no doubt earn the company an entry in the legendary Guinness Book of World Records.

The special model, which took ten weeks to produce, was visible proof of what Schott Board Member Dr. Udo Ungeheuer remarked in his speech. "We are celebrating a success today that is clearly the very opposite of cooking over a low flame." After all, the festivities marked the production of the 50 millionth "Ceran" panel.

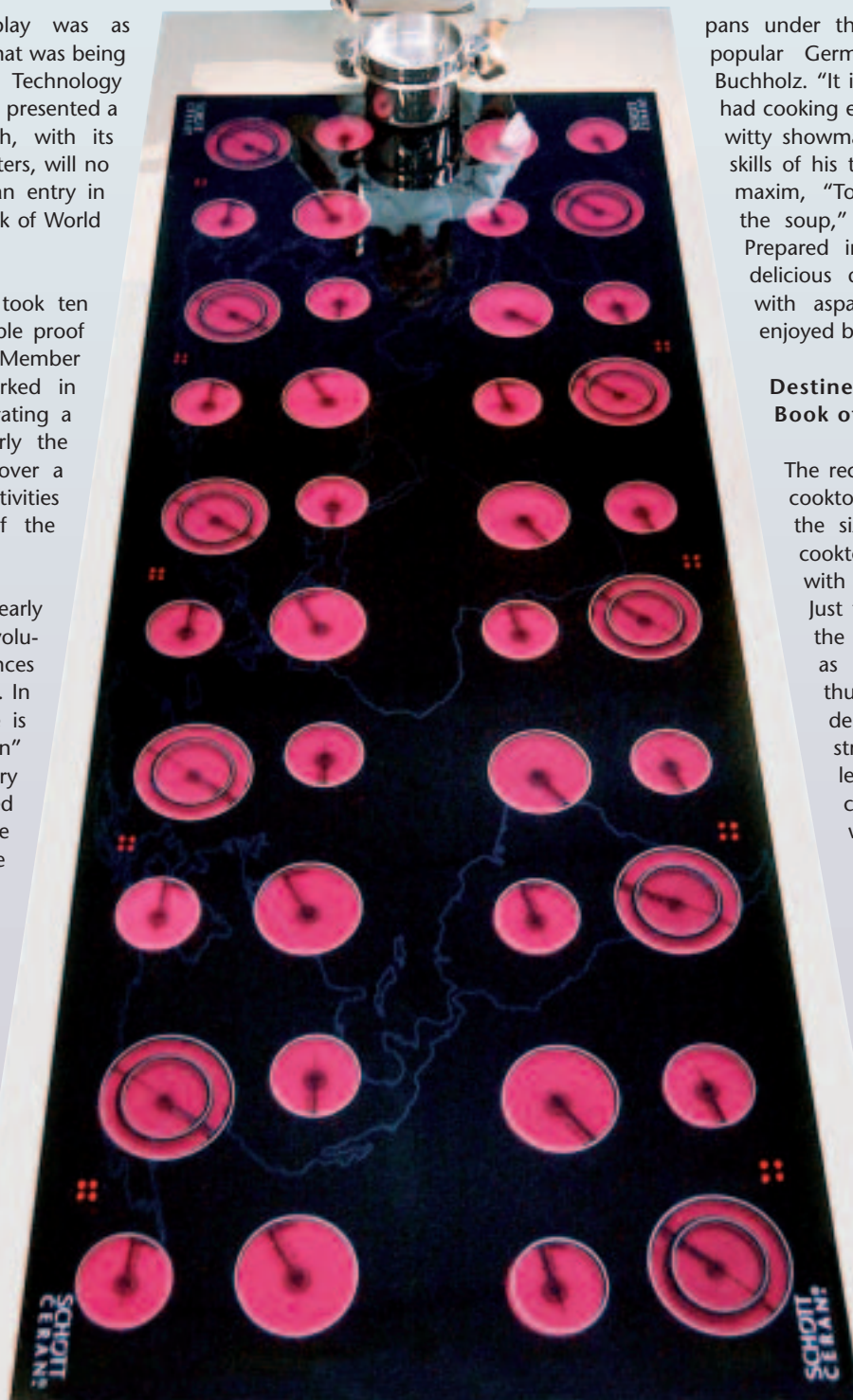
50 million – this quantity clearly shows how Schott revolutionized cooking appliances with its "Ceran" technology. In Europe every second range is now equipped with a "Ceran" panel. "An extraordinary product story that originated in Mainz and has since spread throughout the entire world," said Dr. Ungeheuer.

No wonder the record-breaking cooktop panel was chosen to mark the celebration. The hosts and guests alike had to test their ability with pots and

pans under the supervision of the popular German TV chef, Frank Buchholz. "It is easy to see who has had cooking experience," noted the witty showman about the culinary skills of his team. In this case the maxim, "Too many cooks spoil the soup," did not prove true. Prepared in a joint effort, the delicious dish – turbot served with asparagus risotto – was enjoyed by all.

Destined for the Guinness Book of Records?

The record-breaking "Ceran" cooktop panel is 14 times the size of a conventional cooktop and is equipped with 40 cooking zones. Just four millimeters thick, the panel is as pliable as a piece of paper, thus making particular demands on the base structure. Another challenge was the 65-kW connecting cable, which corresponds to the electric current consumed by a single-family house. ◀



The guests attending the celebration marking the production of the 50 millionth "Ceran" cooktop panel experienced for themselves that cooking can be fun.



A Million Fold Success

1971 Marks the beginning of the success story, when the prototype of a cooker with a "Ceran" cooktop panel was presented for the first time at the "Domotechnica" trade fair in Cologne.

1973 Schott initiates industrial-scale mass production of the glass ceramic panels.

1977 All leading German appliance manufacturers offer cookers with "Ceran" cooktop panels in their product lines.

1980 Schott produces the millionth glass ceramic panel.

1989 The 10 millionth "Ceran" cooktop panel leaves the plant.

2002 Schott reaches the magic number of 50 million. If all the "Ceran" cooktop panels produced so far were placed end to end, they would extend 30,000 kilometers, i.e. three quarters of the Earth's circumference!