

# MELJAC

#### French manufacturer



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# A unique blend of functionality and elegance

A switch shouldn't just be functional, it should be attractive and sensuous. André Bousquet, Founder of Meljac.

Meljac designs and manufactures luxury electrical fittings: switches, sockets, bells, table lamps, spotlights, reading lamps, casings for thermostats and home automation systems, etc.

The brand is well known for its expertise in delivering bespoke solutions.

It offers an extensive range of models in a variety of formats and finishes, crafted from quality materials such as brass, glass and porcelain.

Expertly combining style and quality, Meljac is the brand of choice for architects, decorators, electricians and home owners.

Meljac's models, made in France in keeping with the finest traditions, are the result of skilled craftsmanship allied with cutting-edge precision tools.

Superlative quality, elegant design and a meticulous finish – the hallmarks of Meljac's creations.



#### THE COMPANY IN FIGURES

2 showrooms 2 workshops 1 US subsidiary

### €11.9 million in 2022



60 authorised dealers worldwide

Since 2012: « Origine France Garantie » label Since 2015 : "Living Heritage Company" label

43% of turnover from exports

35% of products are custom-made

5% of turnover dedicated to innovation

# limits !



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How it all began: a man with a vision

















# How it all began: a man with a vision





André BOUSQUET, Founder (1951 - 2019)

André Bousquet, born in a small village in Aveyron, decided to leave his home region and head to Paris to set up an electrical company. This led him to spot a gap in the market for lighting controls with attractive finishes. By that time Paris had captured his heart, and in 1995 he chose France's capital as the home of his new company producing luxury brass switches and outlet plates. But in a nod to his origins he chose to name the firm Meljac, after his home village.

Inspired by the art de vivre of the 1930s, embodied by the teardrop toggle switch, André Bousquet designed an exquisite product, which remains one of the company's key assets today. After the technical development of the models, their adaptation to the market and the essential compliance stage, the range expanded.

André Bousquet's innovative, attractive products soon caught the eye of architects, decorators and home owners. His aim was to combine functionality and style, drawing on traditional know-how. In addition to its standard models, the company was increasingly called upon to produce bespoke pieces, so it purchased a service treatment plant. Meljac was thus able to control the entire production chain.

A trailblazer in the field, André Bousquet embarked on an international expansion strategy in 1997, positioning his company as a market leader and offering a constant stream of new products. Today, Meljac markets its collections in 60 countries and has a subsidiary in the US.

In 2015, to secure lasting growth and lay the groundwork for the company's future, André Bousquet hired Jean-Michel Lagarde as CEO. This position was created to develop the ever-expanding company, which required a new organisational structure.

André Bousquet died prematurely in 2019, but his dynamic approach, respect for French craftsmanship and humane philosophy will leave a lasting legacy.

A homage



As a symbol of love to his home region, in 2010 André Bousquet planted 265 vines from the Aveyron on the grounds of his Villeneuve-Le-Roi workshop on the outskirts of Paris. This vineyard pays homage to the great wines of the Aveyron such as the famous "Côtes de Millau".

Every year since 2013, all of the company employees harvest the grapes together.

# 2015



Jean-Michel LAGARDE, CEO

Having previously worked for Nina Ricci Fragrances and then Paco Rabanne, Jean-Michel Lagarde was appointed Administrative and Financial Director of Barbara Bui, a family-run SME selling women's ready-to-wear garments, before later becoming its Deputy Managing Director. He worked there for 13 years before joining the Meljac adventure in 2015.

Meljac wasn't his first encounter with arts and crafts, as he came from a family of weavers in southern France. His father diversified the business to specialise in embroidered wedding veils made on Cornely sewing machines. So, Meljac was a kind of return to his roots in arts and crafts.

Over a four-year period, André Bousquet shared his love for the product and his eagerness to continue the Meljac story with him. Together with André's wife, Florence Bousquet, who owns the business, Jean-Michel Lagarde keeps the vision alive, while ensuring that passion and human values continue to form the bedrock of the company.

I chose Meljac both for its products that encapsulate the standards of supreme quality, creativity and aesthetic appeal that I valued in my previous roles, and its

team, a key factor that impressed me in terms of the excellent workplace environment and particularly the effort that everyone was prepared to make to develop a company whose outstanding potential was plain to see.

### Timeline

1995: Creation of the company
1998: 1st manufacturing workshop (Ivry-sur-Seine, 94)
2005: New workshop (Orly, 94)
2006: Opening of the Lyon showroom
2009: Acquisition of a surface treatment plant
2010: Construction of a custom-built factory
(Villeneuve-le-Roi, 94)
2012: "Origine France Garantie" OFG label

2015 : Recruitment of a CEO: Jean-Michel LAGARDE "Entreprise du Patrimoine Vivant" (Living Heritage Company) EPV label 2017: OFG label extended to all products 2018: 1st subsidiary: Meljac North America (USA) 2019: Death of André Bousquet, founder 2022: Renovation of the Paris showroom

# Made in France: expertise & technology



In 2015, Meljac became the first company in its sector to receive the EPV (Living Heritage Company) label, which was subsequently re-awarded in 2022.

FMeljac products are hand crafted using a combination of different skills: designing, machining, engraving, chamfering, installing inserts, stamping, polishing, surface treatment of plates and screws (baths and rinses), brushing, varnishing, assembly and packaging.

Meljac's teams draw on their <u>expertise</u> to carry out each of these stages.

The result is a standard range and huge demand for the bespoke products on which the brand has built its reputation.



Discover the secrets to Meljac's expertise in this video (YouTube):

Meljac's products are manufactured using a winning combination of high-precision tools and the irreplaceable human touch.

Transforming a product requires time, attention and care. Allowing for this, Meljac makes every effort to ensure that each creation deserves its signature.

# Two workshops



• Shipping/Purchasing/

IT R&D

Surface treatment









• Surface treatment (polishing, baths, varnishing)



### **INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

Two years after its foundation, Meljac created an Export department and started selling its products in Switzerland, Italy, Russia and Lebanon. As a result, products were designed specifically for foreign markets, many of which were created for the hotel sector. The process of obtaining local standards approvals often required several years of work.

The quality of Made in France craftsmanship, the brand's exceptional design skills and the company's strong values were genuinely appealing beyond France's borders.

Meljac therefore set up a network of authorised dealers abroad to work closely with local market players. Little by little, Meljac is expanding to new and promising markets in an ever-increasing geographic area, covering Europe, the United States and the Middle East.

The brand is currently marketed in around 60 countries by around 20 authorised dealers who ensure top-quality service, support and follow-up of orders and projects.

Meljac created its first subsidiary in 2018: Meljac North America, based in the US.

To find your nearest dealer, go to the Contact section on www.meljac.com





Ridwan PANCHBHAYA, Head of International Development

#### A controlled and sustainable expansion

To boost its ever-faster growth, Meljac has adopted a moderate and steady international development strategy.

This involves identifying new growth drivers and ensuring the brand takes advantage of them by communicating on Meljac's expertise to local market players (residential, hospitality, yachting, etc.).

The strategy also focuses on developing key accounts and helping them build a global presence .

We support the major commercial and hotel brands in their international expansion by guaranteeing them the same product quality and unmistakable elegance in all of their sites. We foster the same personalised relationship with private customers by offering them the same ease of use, regardless of the technology that they choose.

Our strength lies in our ability to successfully combine design and technology!

#### Meljac North America, our first subsidiary

After several years of indirect marketing, Meljac decided to establish a foothold in the US by setting up its first subsidiary in 2018.

Located in Los Angeles on the west coast, Meljac North America enjoys a strategic position given the region's strong potential. This direct presence allows us to better understand projects, optimise customer service and responsiveness, and thus exploit the full potential of this geographical sector.

In 2023, the subsidiary had three employees and generated a turnover of  $\pounds 1$  million.

#### www.meljac-na.com





Jean-Luc DESCHAINE, Director of Meljac North America

I want to make Meljac one of the leaders in luxury electrical fittings in the United States. I'm convinced that the quality of our products, our expertise and our ability to produce unique bespoke details offer us an unrivalled opportunity to meet the expectations of design professionals and private customers.

#### A presence in New York with the Par Excellence collective

The brand also has a presence right in the heart of Manhattan, in the Par Excellence showroom designed by Thomas Pheasant.

The collective, founded in 2016 by Charles Jouffre, aims to help develop France's visibility and reputation in the field of artisanal craftsmanship.

It is composed of 12 French artisans with unparalleled expertise: Atelier de Ricou, Atelier Lebuisson, Ateliers Jouffre, Ateliers Lison de Caunes, Ateliers Saint Jacques, Auberlet et Laurent, Delisle, Henri Technologies, Maison Meljac, Manufacture de tapis de Bourgogne, Ozone and Souchet.



Showroom, 344 Bowery in New-York (US)

# **Proven expertise**



In 2012, Meljac was awarded the "Origine France Garantie" (OFG) label for its brass collections and its reading lamps. In 2017, this label was extended to all of its products (porcelain, glass, etc.).

By guaranteeing French craftsmanship, this accolade pays tribute to the quality of the products.

The approach ties in with the company's core values: almost the entire range is well above the required percentage.



# Prestigious partnerships

The innovation and creative developments that are central to Meljac's progress have already led to four partnerships with:

# Australian designer Marc Newson (collection Solaris)

Solaris, an elegant wavy collection made of solid brass, is produced to exacting standards of precision and is satisfying to the touch. It features a new slender, flattened toggle, a flush concave push button, contrasting finishes and a sleek design.

Marc Newson is known, inter alia, for his Orgone Lounge chair, the Nike Zvezdochka shoe and the Apple Watch.





# Architect Jean-Michel Wilmotte (collection Cannelée)

The Cannelée collection has an innovative surface texture, crafted directly from 6.5-mm-thick solid brass to create a series of regular waves. The hand-applied patinas generate unique reflections according to the ambient light.



# The Rolls-Royce Enthusiasts' Club (20th anniversary of the Goodwood plant)



Meljac was chosen by the International Club for Rolls-Royce and Bentley Enthusiasts (RREC) to feature in a book entitled "Strive for Perfection: Celebrating 20 Years of Goodwood", published to mark the 20th anniversary of the famous Rolls-Royce plant, located in the English town of Goodwood, West Sussex.

#### Jeweller Tournaire (Tournaire collection)

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The collection features five models replicating the jeweller's iconic motifs, three of which can be inlaid with precious stones. This bronze collection pushes the boundaries of interior design by transforming functional objects into real works of art.

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# Innovations

Meljac's products not only boast aesthetic appeal.

Technical research and extensive developments have also led to patents or exclusive offerings, which contribute to the company's strength.



#### **IDM** mechanisms

Numerous products are equipped with this generation of mechanisms.

Meljac is diversifying the appearance of its mechanisms with new lever and button designs, most of which can be coated with the same finish as the plates.



#### Volumes collection, solid brass

Multi-outlets and consoles are customisable with engravings and combinations of different mechanisms (sockets, USB or RJ45 ports, switches, control screen, etc.).



#### Cresnet: embedded intelligence

Meljac has multiple solutions that combine technology and design,

one of which is Cresnet: Meljac integrates Crestron smart solutions directly in its mechanisms with its own control card that simplifies connection.





# A wide product range



**SPOTLIGHTS** 



LIMOGES



PLEXIGLASS

# Finishes – one of our brand's best assets



# **Bespoke solution**

As well as designing new product ranges, our R&D teams also take care of all requests for bespoke solutions in France and abroad. With various mechanisms, equipment combinations, casings, customisation, etc., Meljac guides its clients throughout the process and allows architects and decorators to express their creativity by customising or developing models.

#### Design & technologie

Meljac has numerous solutions to add a touch of elegance to home automation systems.

Traditional, pre

The switch is directly

connected to the

distribution panel by

the installer, or snap fitted to a module in the back box.

-wired

All the brand's collections can be adapted for use with any system on the market and can also serve as sleek, elegant casings for other devices (air conditioning control panels, access control, audio and intercom systems, lighting control, etc.).

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Clients can therefore harmonise their fittings perfectly, while remaining free to choose the technology that suits them best.



Cannelée collection for the Cheval Blanc St Tropez luxury hotel (Lutron)

#### **Control card**

For some projects, Meljac can develop an electronic home automation card that replaces the wires in the switch. The installer connects a smart interface to the card.



**Cresnet : embedded intelli-**

Meljac integrates Crestron smart solutions

directly in its mechanisms with its own

control card that simplifies connection.

Casing for a Crestron keypad

#### Casings

Our bespoke casings can house keypads and screens for all types of home automation product.



#### Casings: goodbye to plastic

Meljac allows clients to harmonise all of their fittings perfectly by producing brass casings which are tailored to the systems and mechanisms on the market: alarm keypads, air conditioning control panels, videophones, thermostats, etc.

#### Customisation

It is also possible to add LEDs, embossing or bright cut/ coloured resin engraving to make control panels easier to spot or to decorate switch plates and make them unique.



#### **Bespoke solutions**

Meljac creates products that meet the specific requirements encountered in the hotel industry, for example: card readers, room number signs and interior signage.

Meljac also produces casings for multimedia systems with a range of connectors: USB, HDMI, Bluetooth, remote activation, etc.



Outstanding pieces

Meljac is renowned for its ability to meet the most extravagant demands.



Bronze set with labradorite (unique piece)

# Notable projects

#### Incomplete list

#### LUXURY HOTELS

Alpina, Gstaadt Aman Resorts (Venice, Montenegro) Cap Eden Roc, Antibes Cheval Blanc (Paris, St Tropez, St Barth) Danieli, Venice Diaoyutai Hotel, Chine Four Seasons (Paris, Megève, Bahrain, Miami) Grand hôtel Palais Royal, Paris Grand Powers, Paris Intercontinental, Geneva Mandarin Oriental (Paris, Munich) NoMad Hotel, Los Angeles Le Meurice, Paris La Réserve (Paris, Geneva) Lutetia, Paris Roch Hôtel & Spa (Paris) Royal Mansour, Marrakech Suncani Hvar, Croatia Ultima (Courchevel, Crans Montana) Villa Maïa, Lyon etc.

#### LUXURY BRANDS

Boucheron Cartier Chanel Dolce & Gabbana Fendi Goyard Hermès Hugo Boss Louis Vuitton Moncler Prada Qela Rolex Van Cleef & Arpels ...

#### **PRESTIGIOUS VENUES**

Palace of Versailles Louvre Museum Maeght Foundation, Saint Paul de Vence, France Fondation Wilmotte, Italie Horta Museum, Belgium Palais de justice historique de Lyon, France Lyon Historic Courthousel, France, Château Cos d'Estournel in Gironde, France, Château de Balazuc in Ardèche, France etc.

#### **SPECIFIERS**

Tristan Auer Denniston Thierry W. Despont Joseph Dirand Jacques Garcia Gilles & Boissier **Olivier Lapidus** Sarah Lavoine **Christian Liaigre** Peter Marino Bruno Moinard **Stéphane Parmentier** Alberto Pinto **Pierre-Yves Rochon** Jean-Michel Wilmotte Wilson Associates **Pierre Yovanovitch** ...



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