RHYTHM IS THE CARRIER OF LIFE
A company portrait of WALA Heilmittel GmbH
“If one day we understand the rhythms of nature – this will be natural science in its truest form.”

Dr. Rudolf Steiner
Nature’s treasures transformed for you

WALA has been developing natural products since as far back as 1935. In the earliest days of its history, the company was a pioneering force in a society that had all but lost touch with natural products. Today, more than 75 years later, it is increasingly evident that the natural approach may be the only one that can lead us to the future. For WALA, this was always the natural choice.
WALA HEILMITTEL GMBH AT A GLANCE

Founded in Ludwigsburg in 1935 by Dr. Rudolf Hauschka (1891–1969)

Sole company location today: Bad Boll/Eckwälden near Stuttgart

Owned by the WALA Foundation since 1986

Approximately 700 employees

Develops and manufactures holistic products

Exports to 40 countries on all continents

WALA Medicines since 1935: more than 900 different remedies conforming to the anthroposophic understanding of man and nature

Dr. Hauschka Skin Care since 1967: certified natural skin care with more than 130 different products for face, body and hair as well as a range of decorative cosmetics

Dr. Hauschka Med since 2009: natural special care products crafted to meet specific needs

Biodynamic WALA medicinal herb garden complying with Demeter standards

Supports biodynamic farming projects throughout the world

Has developed an original rhythmic manufacturing process to obtain aqueous plant extracts that remain stable without the use of alcohol

Important manufacturing steps performed manually, with care and great attention to detail, e.g. the potentising process

High priority given to environmental protection, such as EMAS (eco-management and audit scheme) certification, environmental management system, hydroelectric power

Social commitment, for example to families’ and women’s needs, profit-linked bonus schemes
An answer that may well have led to the formation of a company. It was in 1924 that Viennese chemist Dr. Rudolf Hauschka (1891-1969) travelled to the Netherlands and attended the anthroposophic summer conference in Arnhem. Here, he met Dr. Rudolf Steiner (1861-1925). Hauschka had several conversations with the founder of anthroposophy and asked him what, in his opinion, life was. Steiner answered: “Study rhythms, rhythm is the carrier of life.” For many years, Hauschka dwelled on this answer and eventually applied it in his medicine research in 1929. At the time, he was working at the Clinical and Therapeutic Institute in Arlesheim, Switzerland. He had been invited here by anthroposophic physician Dr. Ita Wegman (1876-1943) with a view to developing a natural technique for manufacturing medicine, for example without the need for alcohol as a preservative. With Steiner’s answer in mind, Rudolf Hauschka integrated natural changes of polar qualities such as light/dark, warm/cold, movement/calm in an extraction process for medicinal herbs – rhythmic changes that enhanced natural preservation, thereby helping to counter the decomposition process. The idea was a winner: his aqueous extracts – initially using rose petals – kept for many years without the need to add preservatives, as was previously the case.

Together with a team of anthroposophic doctors led by Ita Wegman, Rudolf Hauschka developed a series of medicines based on these aqueous medicinal herb extracts. The doctors using the treatment were so enthusiastic about its effectiveness that Hauschka opened a laboratory in Ludwigsburg in 1935 so that he could manufacture sufficient quantities of the new medicines. He named the new company after the qualities that play a key role in the rhythmic manufacturing process: Warmth and Ashes and Light and Ashes.

Even today, employees at the WALA plant laboratory still produce medicinal herb extracts – mother tinctures – using the methods developed by Rudolf Hauschka. The technique has since been included in the Homeopathic Pharmacopoeia for German-speaking countries. The mother tinctures are used by WALA employees to produce the homeopathically potentised ingredients for WALA Medicines. Similar rhythmic processes play a role in the manufacture of essences and oil extracts that are used in WALA Medicines and Dr.Hauschka Skin Care products.

**Mother tinctures**
Aqueous medicinal herb extracts
The basis of WALA Medicines ingredients potentised in accordance with homeopathic methods

**Essences**
Aqueous-alcoholic medicinal herb extracts for WALA Medicines, Dr.Hauschka Skin Care and Dr.Hauschka Med products that are applied externally

**Oil extracts**
Extracts from dried medicinal herbs with plant oils for WALA Medicines and Dr.Hauschka Skin Care products

**Pressed plant juices**
The juices pressed from freshly harvested medicinal plants for use in WALA Medicines and Dr.Hauschka Med products
Word soon spread about the exceptional quality of WALA Medicines. As a result, the company moved to larger premises in Dresden in 1938, five years after it was formed. In 1941, the Nazi regime brought the up-and-coming company to a temporary halt by imposing a ban on anthroposophy. When Hitler’s deputy Rudolf Hess (1894-1987) fled to England, suspicions of a revolutionary conspiracy between Hess and the anthroposophic community prompted numerous arrests. On 9 June 1941, the Gestapo arrested, among others, Dr. Rudolf Hauschka and Dr. Margarethe Stavenhagen (1896-1980), who were at the time jointly responsible for running the Kuranstalt Gnadenwald sanatorium in Austria, a branch of the anthroposophic clinic in Arlesheim. Furthermore, WALA was declared illegal. In 1946, after the Second World War, Hauschka recommenced manufacturing WALA Medicines in a temporarily converted military barracks on the grounds of the Biological Homeopathic Hospital in Munich, where he supplied the hospital with homeopathic products.

In 1950, the WALA laboratory moved to Bad Boll/Eckwälden near Stuttgart. The Healing and Educational Centre based there made room for the fledgling company, which employed seven people at the time. Today, there are five different building complexes in Eckwälden, where some 700 employees are responsible for the research and development, manufacturing and marketing of WALA products.
THE WALA FOUNDATION

Profit is a necessary basis for a company’s development. However, this basis should not become the company’s main objective, but rather remain a means of bringing its ideas to life. This was the firm belief of Rudolf Hauschka, for whom profit was solely a means to an end. The objective of the company was to provide anthroposophic medicines for the people who needed them.

This outlook begged a series of questions regarding the best approach to take for his company.

Who is the owner of the company?

How can the corporate idea be preserved in the long term?

How and to whom is the necessary operating profit distributed?

Is private ownership even compatible with the company’s mission of producing anthroposophic medicines?

Businessman Karl Kossmann and anthroposophic physician Dr. med. Heinz-Hartmut Vogel – the sole partners in WALA at the time – founded the profit-making WALA Foundation in Bad Boll/Eckwälden. The Foundation is responsible for WALA Heilmittel GmbH in its entirety and holds 100% of its shares. Accordingly, all profits of the limited company belong to the Foundation, which invests them primarily in WALA Heilmittel GmbH. The part of the profits that is not required to safeguard the future of the limited company is distributed among the employees as part of the bonus model. This is because the primary function of the Foundation is to preserve the WALA idea and to promote the continued development of WALA Heilmittel GmbH.

The advantage of this model is that the company’s equity does not belong to any single person, and that the company primarily serves the purpose of the Foundation and cannot be bought, sold or inherited.

Further information can be found at www.wala-stiftung.de/english and www.dr.hauschka-stiftung.de.

Legal forms adopted by WALA

1947-1952
Dr. Rudolf Hauschka initially runs WALA as a sole proprietorship.

1953
WALA is transformed into an unlimited company (OHG), Founder members: Dr. med. Margarethe Hauschka-Stavenhagen (1896-1980), businessman Max Kaphahn (1894-1975) and laboratory head Maja Mewes (1909-1996). These are later joined by businessman Karl Kossmann (*1927) and anthroposophic physician Dr. med. Heinz-Hartmut Vogel (1914-1995).

1979
WALA OHG is split into marketing and production company WALA Heilmittel GmbH and holding company WALA-Heilmittel Dr. Hauschka OHG.

1986
Karl Kossmann and Dr. med. Heinz-Hartmut Vogel transfer the company’s assets to the WALA Foundation – the successor to the unlimited company – and to the non-profit-making Dr. Hauschka Foundation.
At this morning’s staff meeting, the Managing Director will once again address the current business situation and the Technical Manager will report on the new building that has been planned. Before the meeting, the lady from Production quickly drinks another free Transfair coffee in the company cafeteria. Because she is responsible for drawing up and monitoring the budget for her area, she observes the WALA business presentation with particular interest. If the year’s financial result is a good one, she can also expect to share in the profits. After taking maternity leave, she was able to return to her old position, working part-time to begin with. She travels home by bus with the monthly ticket paid for by WALA and her son’s school fees are subsidised by the company too.

For Rudolf Hauschka, the focus was always on people. He believed that people should not work at WALA solely as a means of income, but rather out of conviction and because it allows them to take on responsibility in their everyday work. Employees receive 80% of their salary at the beginning of the month, so that they have the necessary finance for the month. Teamwork is of central importance – all employees are given responsibility and the opportunity to develop and apply their talents, which is to everyone’s benefit.

One of the key factors shaping the work structure at WALA was the social maxim formulated by Rudolf Steiner in 1905:

“The welfare of a group of people working together is all the greater when each person does not keep the fruits of his achievements for himself, i.e. when each person shares the fruits of his achievements with his colleagues, and when his own needs are not satisfied by his own achievements but by those of others.”


Employees are granted scope for independent work and decision-making within their sphere of activity
80% of salary paid at the start of the month
Regular staff meetings to provide information on objectives, important events and the financial development of the company
Profit-sharing with employees
Voluntary social benefits such as financial, income-related contributions from WALA to child assistance, kindergarten fees, school fees for employees’ children etc.
Further development and training for all employees, e.g. discussion circles, lectures, eurythmy
Flexible working hours with a “time account” recording hours worked
A recognised Equal Opportunities Company
FOCUSING ON THE ENVIRONMENT

Visitors are often taken aback to see that the toilet bowls are flushed with slightly coloured water. A notice on the wall explains that this is actually rainwater collected in a cistern system on the large roof of the company building. This is just one of many examples of WALA’s responsible use of natural resources, which is completely independent of revenue growth. Sometimes this can be seen in small details such as special sun protection blinds, which avoid a build-up of heat and reduce the strain on the air conditioning in the production rooms. Or the courses in environmentally friendly driving that are offered to all WALA employees, or the warehouse that is located so deep in the ground that the more or less constant ground temperature helps to keep the room cool. Outer air is used for cooling, waste heat from machines for heating: a sophisticated energy management system distributes recovered heat internally, thereby reducing energy consumption. Every day, WALA’s own water treatment plant cleans some eight cubic metres of process wastewater, which takes the strain off the local sewage plant. At WALA, natural resources are preserved on a large scale – 100% of the company’s power is generated hydroelectrically.

All of WALA’s environmental measures are based on four principles:
- Resource-friendly use of natural raw materials, if possible from biodynamic sources
- Responsible processing of these raw materials, recycling them wherever possible
- Use of substances or source materials from renewable raw materials
- Minimum consumption of resources, using renewable energy sources wherever possible

WALA’s environmental commitment is driven by one fundamental idea: that the Earth is a complex organism in which various cycles interconnect to form a stable system. However, it can only remain stable when human beings integrate themselves effectively. In view of this, WALA sees protecting the environment as a responsibility for preserving and healing the world for generations to come, in accordance with the beliefs of the ecological association Demeter.

Further information on this subject can be found in the WALA Environmental Statement and online at www.wala.de/english (heading: “Environment”).

WALA’s commitment to the environment

Regular EMAS certification since 1999 (EMAS: eco-management and audit scheme)
First place in the Environment Award for Companies 2002 (Industrial Section) from the Baden-Württemberg Ministry of Environment and Transport
Certified by the German Bicycle Federation (ADFC) as a “bicycle-friendly company”
Organic Quality

Nature’s treasures transformed for you. More than just the motto of WALA, this is an expression of the entire company culture and its fundamental approach to all its products—be it WALA Medicines, Dr. Hauschka Skin Care or Dr. Hauschka Med. Fine vegetable oils such as almond oil, avocado oil or olive oil. Natural waxes such as jojoba wax, beeswax, candelilla wax or rose petal wax. Medicinal herbs such as kidney vetch, eyebright or ribwort. Natural essential oils such as lavender oil, rose oil or lemon oil. This is just a small selection of the many ingredients used by WALA Medicines, Dr. Hauschka Skin Care and Dr. Hauschka Med products which are central to their unmistakable quality.

Producing medicines and cosmetics based on natural ingredients is quite a challenge, particularly given that consistently high quality and availability must be ensured at all times. Renewable raw materials require far-sighted planning and thorough quality control.

Many of the medicinal herbs required are grown by gardeners in WALA’s own biodynamic garden. All components sourced externally by WALA are subject to strict quality control by the company’s internal analytical and microbiological control laboratories. Wherever possible, these are grown biodynamically, organically or harvested in the wild.

By means of cultivation projects all over the world, WALA ensures sufficient supplies of high-quality ingredients for its products. In this way, the company promotes biodynamic agriculture and allows people in countries with less developed infrastructures to shape their own future. Two examples are shea butter from the African nation of Burkina Faso and castor oil from India.

Further information can be found at www.wala.de/english (heading: “Quality”).
What is meant by biodynamical farming?
This method, which was invented by Dr. Rudolf Steiner in 1924, views the garden as a largely closed cycle. For the most part, seeds, compost and sowing soil are produced internally. The gardeners use a variety of natural preparations to aid the compost rotting process and to render the plants more resistant to pests and diseases.

At WALA, working by hand is essential when growing plants. When sowing and harvesting, the WALA gardeners work in tandem with the rhythms of nature. This leads to healthy plants – the basis for WALA Medicines, Dr.Hauschka Skin Care products and Dr.Hauschka Med products.

Further information can be found at www.wala.de/english (heading: “Quality”).

WALA’S MEDICINAL HERB GARDEN

A medicinal herb garden on the heavy, loamy soil at the edge of the Swabian Alb? More than a few eyebrows were raised in Eckwälden’s farming community when WALA began to seek out a piece of land for its new project at the end of the 1950s. Rudolf Hauschka acquired a marshy meadow right behind the site for the new company building, which the gardeners have tended with biodynamic methods ever since. After many years of intensive maintenance, the soil became fine and crumbly – ideal for its intended purpose. Today, more than 150 different medicinal herbs for manufacturing WALA products are grown in the company’s gardens, which are now 4.5 hectares in size. The water lily pond, stream, bee hives, woods and flowery meadows are home to many dragonflies, toads and spotted salamanders.

“The soil does not bring forth the plant – the plant brings forth the soil.”
Albrecht von Herzeele
The Origin of Organic Substances, 1879

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At one with nature’s rhythms
QUALITY CONTROL
FROM THE SOIL TO THE FINAL PRODUCT

Product development and manufacturing in accordance with anthroposophic principles
Responsibility towards people and the environment by integrating an anthroposophical understanding of man and nature
Use of high-quality natural substances, from biodynamic sources wherever possible
Special manufacturing process based on the rhythms of nature
Manufacturing in accordance with international pharmaceutical manufacturing standards (GMP – Good Manufacturing Practice) with regard to medicines and cosmetics
Extensive quality and environmental management system
Training to enhance quality awareness among employees
Careful selection and support of suppliers and trading partners with a view to reaching the quality targets together

A transporter with attar of roses from Bulgaria drives up. WALA employees unpack the containers with the valuable produce and a quality control employee takes a sample of the oil. With the aid of modern analysis techniques such as gas chromatography, the specialists in the company’s own analytical control laboratory will test the attar of roses for identity and purity. If the Bulgarian oil passes these tests, it is approved and can be used to manufacture WALA Medicine and Dr. Hauschka Skin Care products.

Waxes, oils, plant materials: all incoming ingredients for manufacturing WALA products are subjected to a variety of tests such as microbiological studies, purity and identity tests with thin-layer chromatography or content determination e.g. with HPLC (high-performance liquid chromatography).

Needless to say, the quality control does not end here. During the entire manufacturing process, employees monitor critical parameters such as pH values and consistency. In addition, a quality control employee visits each WALA manufacturing area every day and takes samples of all finished products. Whether globuli velati, ointments, bath essences or mascara mass – they must all pass microbiological, sensory and analytical tests before being sold. These extensive controls are in line with the international pharmaceutical manufacturing standards and are applied by WALA not just for medicines but also for cosmetics.
WALA Medicines

What exactly was it about WALA Medicines that elicited such enthusiasm among doctors as far back as 1935? Without a doubt, it was the rhythmic manufacturing process used to prepare the medicinal herbs. Of equal importance is the fact that each individual product is carefully composed of natural substances. WALA Medicines were developed by a committed group of doctors – initially led by Dr. med. Ita Wegman, and later by Dr. med. Margarethe Hauschka. Given their involvement in anthroposophy, they took a different approach to that of conventional medicine: the aim of the final composition was to help the organism to heal itself, thereby allowing the body, soul and spirit to recover. Studies have confirmed the intrinsic value of this approach and the effectiveness of anthroposophic medicine. Today, over 110 million people in Europe put their trust in complementary medicine. Today, the WALA range of medicines contains some 900 different remedies for both acute and chronic ailments, including many self-medication products.

What is anthroposophic medicine?

Anthroposophic medicine is a holistic and integrative addition to conventional medicine. It uses modern diagnosis methods and therapies and supplements them with medicines, artistic therapy, counselling and physiotherapy. This type of therapy was founded almost a century ago by Dr. Rudolf Steiner (1861-1925) and Dr. Ita Wegman (1876-1943). Anthroposophic medicines are modern remedies made from natural substances, either in the form of individual remedies or compositions. Through heating, rhythmising and potentiating processes, they are prepared in such a way that they approximate human processes and acquire healing powers.

Further information can be found at www.walaarzneimittel.de/english.
In 2009, drawing on over 75 years of experience in developing its products, WALA launched the Dr.Hauschka Med range of natural special care products crafted to meet specific needs. With their soothing and balancing properties, Dr.Hauschka Med products go a step beyond normal care and help to maintain healthy skin, lips and teeth.

At the heart of these products are natural oils and medicinal herbs that have been meticulously developed in co-operation with dermatologists, estheticians, dentists, universities and independent testing laboratories in accordance with the latest scientific findings with a view to producing precise and effective compositions.

The medicinal herbs used in these cosmetic products are not only selected on the basis of their active substances – also of great importance is their holistic effect on the human body. Wherever possible, the medicinal herbs used are sourced from WALA’s own biodynamic herb garden or from certified organic biodynamic cultivation or are harvested in the wild. All components are subject to strict quality control.

Further information:
www.dr.hauschka-med.de/english
www.kontrollierte-naturkosmetik.de
www.natrue.org

Launched in 2009, natural special care products crafted to meet specific needs
Dr.Hauschka Med Skin: care for very dry and hypersensitive skin
Dr.Hauschka Med Lips: soothes tight, tingling lips
Dr.Hauschka Med Teeth: strengthens teeth for natural caries prevention
free from synthetic dyes, fragrances and preservatives
bear the international NATRUE quality label for natural and organic cosmetics
A SKIN CARE RANGE GOES ITS OWN WAY

“Since receiving your letter I have been in love with you.”
This could be the start of a love story.

Rather, these words – addressed by Dr. Rudolf Hauschka to Elisabeth Sigmund (*1914) – signified the beginning of Dr. Hauschka Skin Care. The year was 1962. Viennese doctor Rudolf Hauschka wanted to extend the WALA product range by adding an exceptional type of cosmetic that reflected the ideas of the company and enhanced the health of the skin – the body’s largest organ. He wrote a letter of inquiry to cosmetologist Elisabeth Sigmund, also a native of Vienna. Hauschka was so enthusiastic about her reply – which was filled with exceptional ideas about new approaches to cosmetics – that he invited her to Eckwälden.

Unconventional ideas for exceptional skin care products
Elisabeth Sigmund lost no time in packing her bags and leaving Stockholm, where she was living at the time, and making her way to Eckwälden. In a phase of intensive work, the new “WALA” skin care range was developed by a diverse team consisting of pharmacists, chemists, anthroposophical doctors and cosmetologist Elisabeth Sigmund.

In 1967, the basic range came onto the market, originally sold under the name “Kosmetik-Präparate nach Elisabeth Sigmund” – Cosmetic Preparations by Elisabeth Sigmund – and later as Dr. Hauschka Skin Care. In 1998, the entire range was modernised with a uniform brand profile. Since then, a distinctive coloured band on a white background has ensured worldwide success for the products. The avant-garde natural skin care range now extends to over 130 products: from face and body care products to body wash and bath oils, lipstick, make-up and much more besides. What they all have in common is that they are made of high-grade natural ingredients with medicinal herbs that stimulate the skin’s natural activity. All Dr. Hauschka Skin Care products carry the “natural product” seal of German industrial association BDIH and/or bear the NATRUE quality label.

Further information
www.dr.hauschka.de/english
www.kontrollierte-naturkosmetik.de
www.natrue.org

Above: Dr. Hauschka Rose Day Cream
Right: Elisabeth Sigmund in 1954 in her Swedish beauty salon, historical packaging
Elisabeth Sigmund, the mother of Dr. Hauschka Skin Care, not only provided the basic recipes and ideas for Dr. Hauschka Skin Care products, but developed a whole new kind of cosmetic treatment in her Stockholm beauty salon. She was well aware of the importance of touch in her treatment. Because of this, lymphatic stimulation – performed with fine brushes and gentle hand movements – continues to be the cornerstone of her treatment. This activates the fluid processes in the tissues, enhances regeneration and improves general health; cleansing the tissues and removing waste products. Dr. Hauschka Estheticians begin their classic facial treatment with a fragrant foot bath, banishing the day’s stress with a combination of warmth and care. With rhythmic ‘breathing’ and flowing movements, the Esthetician administers the treatment with the utmost care. Needless to say, the treatment includes facial cleansing and care with natural Dr. Hauschka Skin Care products as well as extensive skin care consulting for men and women alike.

The Classic Dr. Hauschka Treatment is extremely relaxing, leaving a feeling of inner balance and vitality – from head to toe. The Dr. Hauschka Holistic Body Treatment is the perfect complement to the Classic Treatment, as both are based on natural rhythm. During the treatment, which lasts roughly an hour and a half, the Esthetician massages the entire body. The rhythmic ‘breathing’ quality of touch and the flowing movements create a conscious, stimulating experience. The treatment boosts the fortifying vitality, stimulating the lymph current and enhancing regeneration and general health.

For addresses of Dr. Hauschka Estheticians and further information, please see www.dr.hauschka.de/english, under the heading “Cosmetic Treatment.”
If you are interested in seeing WALA Heilmittel GmbH at first hand, you can go on a tour of the company. Information on this can be found online at www.wala.de/english under the heading "Service". WALA Medicines can be obtained through any pharmacy in Germany. Dr.Hauschka Skin Care products and Dr.Hauschka Med products are available from authorized retailers, including natural food stores, natural beauty shops, department stores, pharmacies and Dr.Hauschka Estheticians.

The WALA Customer Service Team can be contacted from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. from Monday to Friday at + 49 (0) 7164 930 - 181 and will be pleased to give you the names of suppliers in your region or answer any other questions you may have.

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The addresses of all international sales partners can be found online at www.wala.de/english under "International".

CONTACT