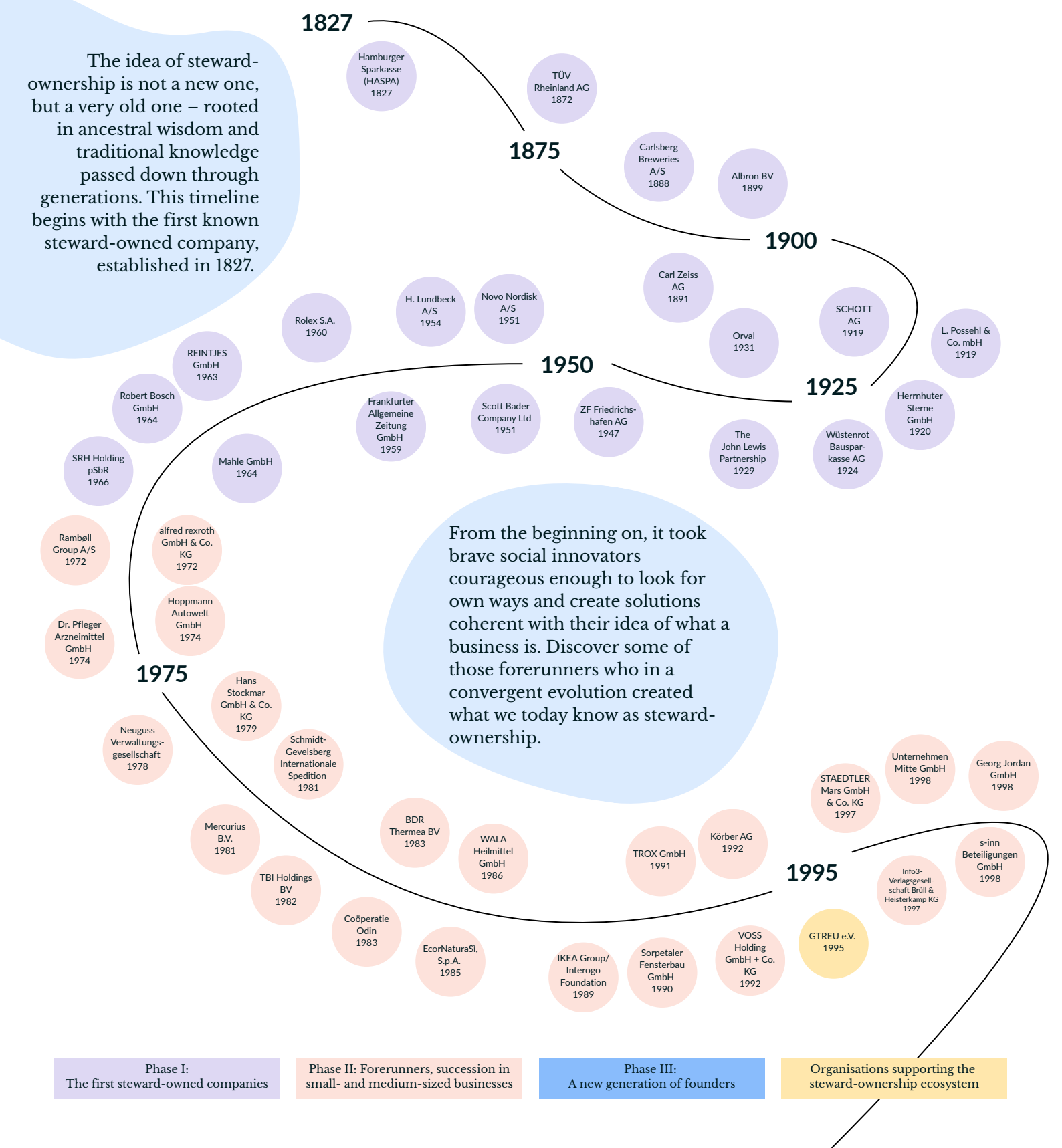
The Rise of Steward-Owned Companies: A Timeline

The idea of steward-ownership is not a new one, but a very old one – rooted in ancestral wisdom and traditional knowledge passed down through generations. This timeline begins with the first known steward-owned company, established in 1827.



From the beginning on, it took brave social innovators courageous enough to look for own ways and create solutions coherent with their idea of what a business is. Discover some of those forerunners who in a convergent evolution created what we today know as steward-ownership.

Phase I: The first steward-owned companies

Phase II: Forerunners, succession in small- and medium-sized businesses

Phase III: A new generation of founders

Organisations supporting the steward-ownership ecosystem

2000 - 2009

Victorinox AG 2000
Margarete Ostheimer GmbH 2001
Mozilla Firefox Co 2003
Wikimedia Deutschland e.V. 2004
Globus SB-Warenhaus Holding 2005
Late! 2008
Serlo Education e.V. 2009
Grupo Gaia 2009

2010 - 2019

THE PURPOSE FOUNDATION IS FOUNDED

Grünbeck Wasseraufbereitung GmbH 2010
Barthels-Feldhoff GmbH & Co. KG 2011
bio verlag GmbH 2011
Voelkel GmbH 2011
Vollmer Werke Maschinenfabrik GmbH 2013
Signal Messenger LLC 2014
Purpose Foundation gGmbH 2015
Open AI LP 2015
Storch-Ciret Holding GmbH 2016
elobau GmbH & Co. KG 2016
Purpose Ventures e.G. 2017
Universnatur GmbH 2017
Organically Grown Company 2017
The Shore C.V. 2017
Ecosia GmbH 2018
PranaHaus GmbH 2018
Banca Etica LatAm 2018
Räubersachen GmbH 2018
Sharetribe Oy 2018
Purpose US 2018
your. company GmbH 2019
Purpose LatAm 2019
Stiftung Verantwortungseigentum e.V. 2019
We Are Stewards 2019
Wildplastic GmbH 2019
IB Energiewende UG 2019
Greatherthan Collective Ltd 2019
Library of Things Ltd 2019
ARCHE Naturprodukte GmbH 2019
einhorn products GmbH 2019
nevi GmbH 2019

2020 - 2025

BuurtzorgT B.V. 2020
NN Publishing GmbH/ Neue Narrative 2020
Firebrand Artisan Breads LLC 2020
Gute Kulturen GmbH 2020
Payactive GmbH 2020
SHQUARED GmbH 2020
Somigo GmbH 2020
Climate Action Ecosia Purpose Funds GmbH 2021
Machenstiftung gGmbH 2021
Märkisches Landbrot GmbH 2021
TapTree GmbH 2021
Bord&Stift BV 2021
NIDISI gGmbH 2021
tip me Global gGmbH 2021
Alnatura Produktions- und Handels GmbH 2021
Soil Ventures GmbH 2021
Charge Horizons GmbH 2021
Pack & Satt UG 2021
Planetgroups support UG 2021
Fair Trade Power GmbH 2021
Autorenwelt GmbH 2021
Toolbike AG 2021
WoodenValley gGmbH 2021
Oktopulli GmbH 2021
Clip Film- und Fernsehproduktion GmbH 2021
Patagonia, Inc. 2022
WEtell GmbH 2022
Goldeimer gGmbH 2022
MOGLI Naturkost GmbH 2022
forward Planung und Forschung GmbH 2022
dyve GmbH 2022
Crowd Container AG
VYLD GmbH 2022
Stewards Greece 2022
AUGENHÖH Eworks GmbH 2022
BAM GmbH 2022
Moxworld Oy 2022
openPetition gGmbH 2022
Purpose Schweiz GmbH 2022
Ventu GmbH 2022
about source GmbH 2023
inoio GmbH 2023
joboo GmbH/ Stapelstein 2023
Sprinklr BV 2023
MarcCain GmbH 2023
Alkemio BV 2023
Sumthing BV 2023
Fiolet BV 2023
Flavum GmbH 2023
SIRIS Academic SL 2023
needs people GmbH 2024
Games for the Planet UG 2024
Haferkater GmbH 2024
Voys BV 2024
Habitat Weine eG 2024
greenstarter GmbH 2024
Zero Heroes GmbH 2024
PTON US 2024
Generous Ventures Aotearoa New Zealand 2024
Rootical Uganda 2024
Steward-owned Belgium 2024
Luvina coop GmbH 2024
LAAS UG 2024
French Stewards 2024
Somos Stewards Spain 2025
SO Brasil 2025
Nordic Stewards 2025
Karma Capital GmbH 2025
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A new level of momentum in the 2000's – meet some of todays companies.



We are currently working on a comprehensive overview of all steward-owned companies. Join us on **steward-ownership.com** to stay informed.