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### T3 Ping Pong Exports First Tables to Switzerland

British made and designed, 3-a-side ping pong tables by T3, see first export order shipped to Lausanne this week. Established in 2013, these revolutionary 3-a-side ping pong tables are designed and made here in the UK.

Not only is this an early mile stone for T3 but it also marks the re-birth of outdoor table tennis table manufacturing in the UK. The last tables to be made here were 27 years ago just before Dunlop closed its factory and shipped manufacturing to Sponeta in the then GDR - East Germany.



Dig Berry founder of T3 said 'This is a lovely achievement for us though I was a little surprised and saddened to hear that we are the only ones. Our tables have been a great success so far in the domestic market and with interest from Scandinavia, Australia, Africa and USA already, we're all looking forward to seeing the game enjoyed by thousands more players around the world.'

The unusual circular design and specially constructed net form the foundation of this unique game. It can accommodate up to 12 players at a time (i.e. 6 –a –side playing 'Chaos Theory' rules with 2 balls!). Fast and fun, 3-a-side ping pong offers players a greater range of shots increasing the scope for spectacular rallies and social interaction!

For more information on the T3 table range, or how and where to play T3, visit [www.t3pingpong.com](http://www.t3pingpong.com)

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#### **Notes to editors**

For further information on all T3 products and images please contact;

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## **More about... Wiff Waff... Gossima... Ping Pong... Table Tennis History**

- 1880s** Game originated in England as an after-dinner parlour game played by the upper-class. The sound generated in play gave the game its first name of 'wiff-waff'.
- 1901** Hamley's of Regent Street, then a sports manufacturer, was the first to manufacture a racket for wiff waff. The sound created by these hard bats gave the game its next name 'ping-pong'.
- 1902** Englishman James Gibb, brings celluloid balls to the table.
- 1903** E.C Goode puts reinforced rubber on bat handles.
- 1920** 'Table Tennis' officially used as the alternative to ping pong.
- 1921** Table Tennis Association established.
- 1926** International Table Tennis Associations established around the world.
- 1927** London holds world's first international table tennis competition.
- 1930** Table tennis banned in the Soviet Union for 30 years as it was believed to be bad for your eyes.
- 1946** ITTF (International Table Tennis Federation) established
- 1950s** S.W Hancock Ltd. introduces rubber and sponge to bats.
- 1968** The English Schools' Table Tennis Association (ETTA) was formed in 1968 to give structure to competitive school table tennis which was on the increase throughout the country.
- 1971** US team allowed to enter China, the first official Americans since the communist takeover in 1949.
- 1979** Triples Table Tennis invented by Professor Günter Arndt.
- 1980** ITTF Men's World Cup first held
- 1988** Table tennis makes Olympic Games, (Seoul, Korea).
- 1990** ITTF Para Table Tennis World Championships first held
- 1996** ITTF Women's World Cup first held
- 2000** Ball size increased from 38mm to 40mm to slow down the game.
- 2009** First Triples tournament held in Wollongong, Australia.
- 2013** First 3-a-side table designed, manufactured and launched in London by T3 Ping Pong Ltd.
- 2014** T3 SuperMini bats and tables, both specially designed for 3-6 year olds, go into UK schools
- 2014** ITTF confirms all their sanctioned and World Title events will now be played using plastic composite balls not traditional celluloid balls.
- 2014** T3 All weather table unveiled by City of London on Hampstead Heath.
- 2014** T3 played in Switzerland for the first time