

The Opinel roundabout

As of 2000, the city of Saint-Jean-de-Maurienne wishes to pay a tribute to Opinel by dedicating this roundabout to the brand.

This knife is exactly 20 times bigger than an Opinel N° 08. Jean-Claude Opinel volunteered to design and build the monument, spending more than 380 working hours.

The city of Saint-Jean-de-Maurienne provided the necessary tools whereas the aluminium was offered free of charge by the company Aluminium Pechiney.



Far left : Jean-Claude Opinel during the inauguration in 2002 with members of the Opinel family and the mayor of Saint-Jean-de-Maurienne.

World record !

This giant knife measures 3,83m and was registered as the world biggest Opinel knife by the Guinness World Records Book on the 22nd of November 2002.

The blade

Made in inox
2 meters long
40 cm high
1 cm wide

The handle

Made in aluminium, painted and varnished
2,20 meters long.
50 cm high
1200 welding points



The Guinness World Record Diploma

Get to know the family

Jean-Claude Opinel (1942) has always been close to the knife production. As a child, he helped his father, René, as well as his uncle, Daniel, make knives.

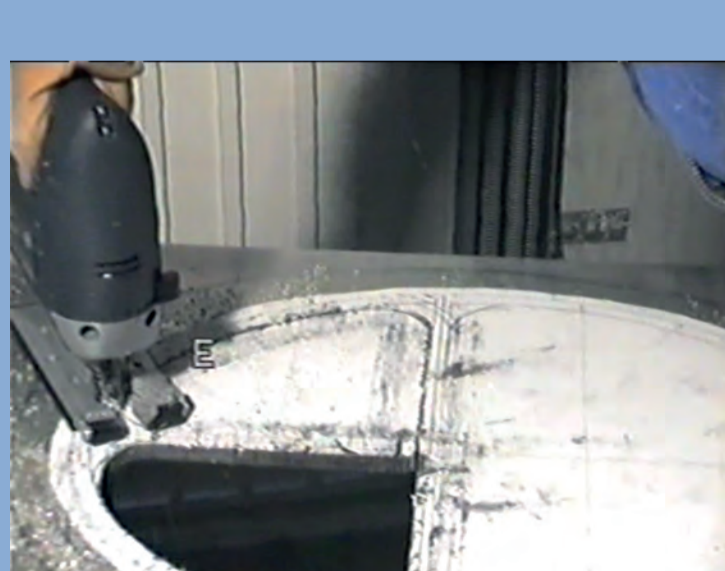
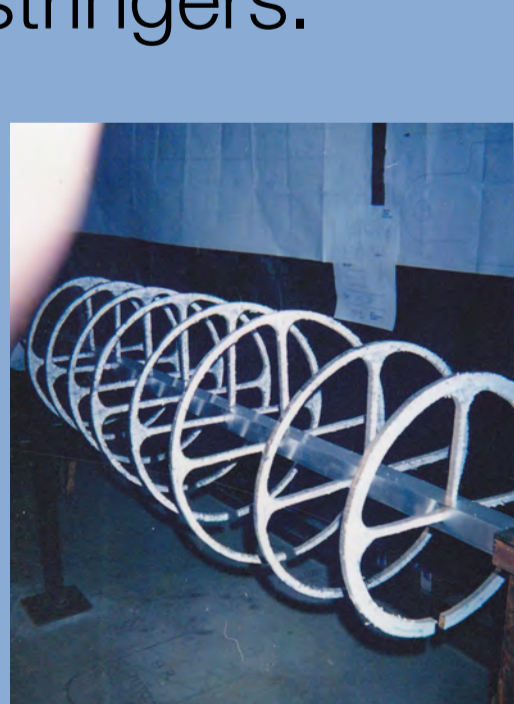
The choice of the material of the giant Opinel (aluminium) and the motif symbolise thus both his professional life, a boilermaker employed by Pechiney, and his family affiliation.

The roundabout Opinel knife was made in the original Opinel village, Gévoudaz, in Jean Opinel's (1877-1943) old house.

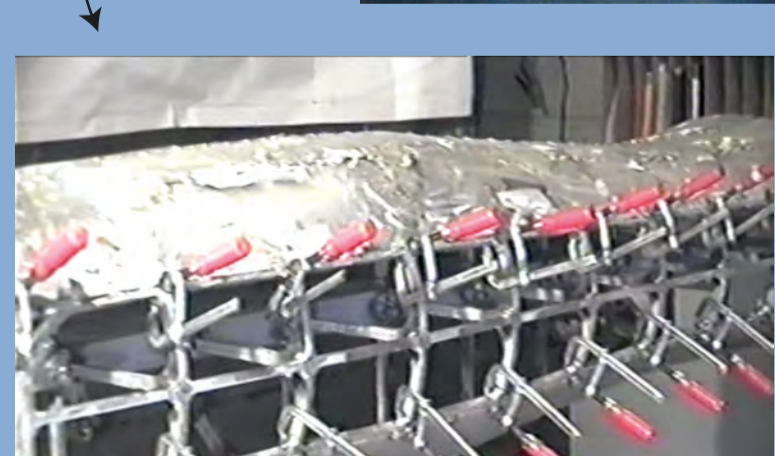


How to make a giant Opinel, step by step

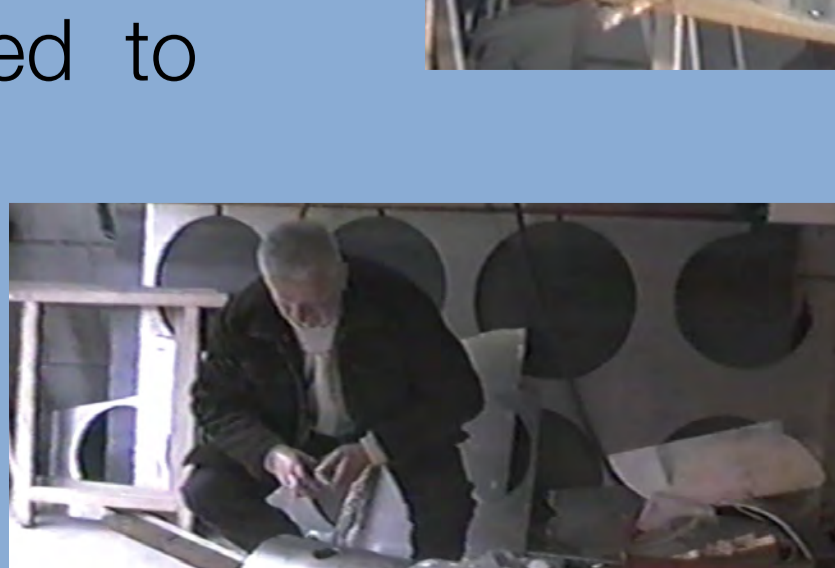
1 : A «skeleton» is assembled out of aluminium stringers.



2: « The skeleton» is then covered an aluminium layer, welded every 2-3cm. The welding points are then flattened with an angle grinder.



3: The ferrule and the blade are attached to the handle.



To see a small video of Jean-Claude working, scan the QR-code on the panel.