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## Perfect start on elite level

### Best-priced Londonfly sold at Euro 150,000 at the Winter Auction

**Verden. The Verden Winter Auction in January was a truly perfect start of the Hanoverian auction year. Londonfly, sold at Euro 150,000, became top-priced dressage horse in the fully crowded Niedersachsenhalle, Cinderella was most expensive jumper and sold at Euro 130,000. Customers invested averagely Euro 17,244 in the 92 riding horses.**

"The upward tendency with the auctions continued. The result was considerably better compared to the auction in January last year," breeding and business manager Dr. Werner Schade said. The average auction sales price was Euro 2,000 higher than in 2015 when 69 horses were put up for auction. "This is by far the highest average sales price ever achieved at a Winter Auction in January," said a delighted auction manager Jörg-Wilhelm Wegener.

The big-framed and eagerly moving Londontime/Cordoba-son Londonfly (breeder: Dr. Hinni Lühns-Behnke, Verden-Borstel - exhibitor: National State Stud Celle) was the designed favourite before the auction. When he entered the Niedersachsenhalle, bids exploded. Auctioneer Bernd Hickert finally accepted the bid at Euro 150,000 and sold the futurity prospect to Switzerland. The wheel turned full circle for Londonfly as his sire, Celle state stud stallion Londontime, was the unrivalled top-priced horse at the Elite Auction in October exactly ten years ago. And he himself was born in Verden, less than 1,000 metres away from the Niedersachsenhalle.

It took less than 30 minutes until the first horse of the year 2016 left the auction ring with an auction sales price of more than Euro 100,000. Cinderella by Clinton/Calypso II

(breeder and exhibitor: Sven Graeve, Blumenthal) was celebrated by the audience when she was sold to French customers at Euro 130,000 at the telephone. The grey mare is seven years old and already earned victories and placements in jumper riding horse classes last year.

28 other auction horses will leave Germany apart from the two best-priced horses. Customers from France amassed the largest contingent with eight horses, followed by the US (six) and Switzerland (five).

The collection provided many mature horses to immediately start to ride which attracted many customers who were looking for a riding horse for themselves," said Jörg-Wilhelm Wegener. Not all potential customers had the chance to attend the auction themselves. The auction office already received many bidding offers in the run-up to the auction. "Potential customers were quite motivated this year in January," the auction manager added.

The next auction of the Hannoveraner Verband will be held on March 26. The collection of riding horses will be complemented by the first foals born in 2016. It will be a novelty that the first presentation will be on Saturday, March 19 as of 10.00 am, when interested horse enthusiasts will have the chance to not only inspect the youngsters, but to also immediately test them in the Niedersachsenhalle. Sunday will be reserved for individual training and test riding purposes. For more information, click on [www.hannoveraner.com](http://www.hannoveraner.com).