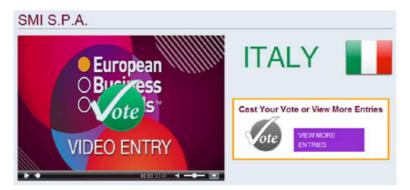


## SMI needs Your Help to Become a National Champion for Italy in the European Business Awards



SMI has been selected among 30 Italian finalists in the European Business Awards 2012/13!

Now the second phase of the judging process is starting and it consists in a new online public voting system. The company video with the highest number of votes for Italy will automatically get through to the next round of voting and become a National Champion.

## The public vote takes place between 6th September and 17th October 2012. This is the time you can help SMI!

All National Finalists from Italy have produced a video submission, which has been uploaded onto the European Business Awards website (www.businessawardseurope.com). We hope that you will enjoy watching SMI video and vote for us. In addition to the public vote, a panel of expert judges will be viewing the videos and will award National Champion status to between 5 and 20 other organizations from Italy. The voting of the National Finalists will take place from 6th September with National Champions being announced in November 2012.

Adrian Tripp, CEO of the European Business Awards says, "This new process provides a greater opportunity for companies to engage with supporters in their own country as well as presenting their achievements to a wider audience across Europe. These videos show some of the most successful and sustainable companies in Europe and we hope that anyone interested in business will take some time to watch the videos, either from their own country or from other countries and then vote for their favourites".

**Between November 2012** and **January 2013**, the National Champions will be reassessed by a **third panel of judges** made up of Europe-wide business leaders, academics and entrepreneurs who **will award the top 110 organisations the coveted Ruban d'Honneur status**. Finally, after face-to-face presentations, the Ruban d'Honneur recipients will be honoured and the names of the **overall winners will be revealed at a Gala awards ceremony in April 2013.** 

For more information on the European Business Awards, please visit www.businessawardseurope.com.

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