

European Business Awards announce 2009 Ruban d'Honneur Winners



Released on: November 28, 2008, 6:13 am

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Industry: [Media](#)

Press Release Summary: The European Business Awards have unveiled the companies and individuals selected as finalists to receive the prestigious Ruban d'Honneur in 2009

Press Release Body: **The European Business Awards** have unveiled the companies and individuals selected to receive the prestigious **Ruban d'Honneur in 2009**.

Ninety-nine leading businesspeople and organisations made it onto the winners list, which recognises excellence and innovation in European enterprise.

"This has been an eventful year for the European business community. While some might have focused on pessimistic economic forecasts, our winners have chosen to respond with a blend of inventiveness and industry that has defied the downturn," said **Adrian Tripp, Chief Executive of the [European Business Awards](#)**.

"Clearly it is not all doom and gloom out there. Despite challenging trading conditions, the European Community is home to a raft of small, medium and large business success stories."

With a combined turnover of €573billion, the 2009 **Ruban d'Honneur** winners seem set to buck the economic trend. According to statistics gathered by the European Business Awards, this year's nominees recorded an average annual profit growth of 56%.

"These awards revolve around business success, entrepreneurialism, innovation and ethics - all concepts we strongly believe in promoting. This year's entrants have demonstrated to us that the European business scene is still very much alive," said **Isidoro Unda, CEO of leading global credit insurer Atradius.**

B.G. Srinivas, Senior Vice President and Member of Executive Council at Infosys, a global leader in the next generation of IT and consulting services, added: *"The quality of entries this year despite the economic backdrop, have demonstrated a business environment in Europe that fosters talent management, gritty commercialisation and agility, that have enabled organisations to execute existing projects and in some cases completely re-engineer their business models for success."*

All ninety-nine **Ruban d'Honneur** recipients must now prepare to appear before a second judging panel of highly regarded academics, heads of state, industrialists, entrepreneurs and media commentators drawn from across the 27 member European States. The interviews will take place over two weeks between January and February 2009 at Atradius' offices in Rome and the overall winners in each of ten categories will be announced at the Awards ceremony in Rome on 7th April 2009, in front of Europe's top business leaders, politicians and media.

"The standard of entries is very high this year proving that European business is still very active and prospering. There are some remarkable companies in the running and choosing the overall winners from the final shortlist of ninety-nine is going to be an extremely difficult task for the judging panels," said **Jean Stephens, CEO of RSM International, one of the worlds largest auditing and consulting networks.**

David Hardy, International Sales and Marketing Director at [bigmouthmedia](#), Europe's largest independent digital marketing agency, added: *"This promises to be an exciting year for many companies. The new winners' list is packed with success stories from organisations of all sizes, and it is clear that European business still has a lot to shout out about."*

Full European Business Awards Winners List available from the European Business Awards website.

About The European Business Awards

The European Business Awards is a self funding venture set up and run with the support of forward thinking organisations including: Atradius; RSM International, bigmouthmedia, Infosys and The Wall Street Journal Europe. Our supporters understand the importance of promoting and endorsing business success across the European Union for our long term prosperity.

About bigmouthmedia

Founded in 1997, bigmouthmedia is Europe's largest independent [digital marketing](#) agency. With a team of over 200 staff across 13 offices in 10 countries on 3 continents, the company maximises exposure for major brands online through a variety of fully integrated digital marketing channels: PPC, [Search Engine Optimisation](#), Online Media Planning, Affiliate Marketing, Social Networking, Brand Monitoring, Online PR and Web Analytics.

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