

## Bio-on from Italy named National Champion in the European Business Awards 2016/17

BOLOGNA, ITALY, september 6, 2016 – **Bio-on has been named a National Champion for Italy in The European Business Awards, Europe’s largest business competition** set up to celebrate business excellence and best practice in the European business community. The Awards, now in its 10<sup>th</sup> year, is supported by business leaders, academics and political representatives from across Europe, and this year engaged with over 33,000 businesses from 34 countries.

Bio-on has been chosen after the first phase of judging by an independent panel. They were evaluated on the core EBA values of innovation, ethics and success.

Bio-on “Mission” is to contribute to the protection of ecosystems and natural resources management in an integrated approach, environmentally / economically / socially / technically sustainable. Bio-on has eight years of experience in research activities for the development of an innovative technology for the production of Polyhydroxyalkanoates (PHAs), a series of bioplastics, valorising different wastes, co- and by-products from both agricultural and agro-industrial productions as raw materials.

“Bio-on is very glad to be selected to represent Italy as a National Champion – says **Marco Astorri, President of Bio-on** – the European Business Awards is widely recognised as the showcase for Europe’s most dynamic companies and we are proud to be recognised at this level. This is a further acknowledgment of the commitment, enthusiasm and passion of the people collaborating with Bio-on. Now we look forward to competing in the next stages of the award process.”

The next round requires the National Champions to make a presentation video, telling their unique story and explaining their business success. The Awards’ independent judges will award the best of this group the ‘Ruban d’Honneur’ status and the selected companies will then go on to the Gala Final in 2017. Separately the videos will be hosted on the European Business Awards website, and the company who receives the most votes in their country will become the ‘National Public Champion’. Last year over 227,000 votes were cast.

Lead sponsor RSM, the sixth largest network of independent audit, tax and consulting firms worldwide has supported the European Business Awards since its inception. The Awards’ core purpose is to support the development of a stronger and more successful business community throughout Europe. Additional sponsors and partners of the Awards include UK Trade and Investment, ELITE and PR Newswire.

In the 2015/16 competition, all EU member markets were represented plus Turkey, Norway, Switzerland, Serbia and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. Their combined revenue exceeded €1.2 trillion employing over 2.5 million people.

## About Bio-on

Bio-on S.p.A., an Italian Intellectual Property Company (IPC), operates in the bio-plastic sector conducting applied research and development of modern bio-fermentation technologies in the field of eco-sustainable and completely naturally biodegradable materials. In particular, Bio-on develops industrial applications through the creation of product characterisations, components and plastic items. Since February 2015, Bio-On S.p.A. has also been operating in the development of natural and sustainable chemicals for the future.

Bio-on has developed an exclusive process for the production of a family of polymers called PHAs (polyhydroxyalkanoates) from agricultural waste (including molasses and sugar cane and sugar beet syrups). The bio-plastic produced in this way is able to replace the main families of traditional plastics in terms of performance, thermo-mechanical properties and versatility.

Bio-on PHA is a bio-plastic that can be classified as 100% natural and completely biodegradable: this has been certified in Europe by Vincotte and in the US by USDA (United States Department of Agriculture). The Issuer's strategy envisages the marketing of licenses for PHAs production and related ancillary services, the development of R&D (also through new collaborations with universities, research centres and industrial partners), as well as the realisation of industrial plants designed by Bio-On.

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For further information about the winners, the European Business Awards and RSM please go to [www.businessawardseurope.com](http://www.businessawardseurope.com) or [www.rsmi.com](http://www.rsmi.com) and follow us on twitter at [@rsmEBA](https://twitter.com/rsmEBA)

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