

## PRESS RELEASE

### FONDAZIONE RUSCONI AWARDS BIO-ON

**Bologna 2 October 2015** - Mayor Virginio Merola rewarded in Sala Rossa Room at the Palazzo d'Accursio the two winning companies of Rusconi Prize, intended for the companies in the following sections 'Green Economy' and 'Creative Industries'. "Two key areas for the development of our community", said the Mayor, "and for its economic and social growth."

Bio-on, the company that license a process to produce biodegradable plastic from agricultural processing waste, has been awarded by Fondazione Rusconi with € 85.000.00 for the "Green Economy" section.

The company is awarded according to the criteria included in Dr. Pietro Giacomo Rusconi's will: it showed excellent performance in terms of turnover, number of employees, exports and investments in research and development. Bio-on also stood out in its field due to its strong commitment and competence, recognized both at a national and international level.

"Bio-on is extremely happy and proud to receive this award", said Marco Astorri, President of Bio-on, "a recognition of the effort, commitment and also of the enthusiasm and passion of the people collaborating with the company with the aim of realising the big results we fixed for a environmental sustainable future of our communities".

#### Bio-on

Bio-on S.p.A. is an Intellectual Property Company based in Bologna (Italy) working in the field of modern biotechnologies applied to widely used materials. The company aims at creating 100% natural products/solutions based on renewable resources or agricultural processing waste materials by bacterial fermentation. The company also carries out applied research projects for those plastics users who would like to replace traditional plastics with biodegradable plastics, even for top-notch products.

Bio-on has developed a proprietary process for the production of PHAs (Polyhydroxyalkanoates) biopolymers starting from different agricultural processing waste materials, including sugar co-products. Bio-on's PHA, which has obtained the "bio-based product" certification by the USDA (United States Department of Agriculture), is completely naturally biodegradable in water and in soil, as certified by Vinçotte. Bio-on bio-plastic has extraordinary properties: it can replace traditional plastics (PET, PE, PP, etc.), it is suitable for injection and extrusion methods currently used in plastic production, and it may have a wide range of strategic applications, such as pharmaceuticals, automotive, design, clothing, general packaging and food packaging sector.

Since February 2015, Bio-on has also been working on the development of new innovative processes in the field of organic and sustainable chemistry. Bio-on's business strategy consists in marketing licenses for the construction of production facilities of PHAs and the related services, also based on collaborations with leading engineering companies, universities, research centres and industrial partners worldwide.

[www.bio-on.it](http://www.bio-on.it)



FONDAZIONE PERPETUA  
N.H. DOTT. PIETRO GIACOMO RUSCONI

—  
"Dal 1927 progetti  
per far crescere Bologna"



## Fondazione Rusconi Award

The award, established and funded by the Foundation "N.H Dottor Pietro Giacomo Rusconi" has been assigned by the Municipality of Bologna to two outstanding companies through a public selection. The Municipality of Bologna identified two key sectors for the economic and innovative development of local manufacturing, i.e. "Creative Industries" (fashion, design, architecture, arts and crafts, gastronomy, scenography, graphics) and "Green Economy" (environmental technologies and business activities applying sustainable and eco-friendly policies).

Since its foundation in 1927, the Foudation "N.H Dottor Pietro Giacomo Rusconi", has had a long-term vision about the local cultural, economic and productive fabric, thanks to Dottor Pietro Giacomo Rusconi's will. The Foundation statute clearly states that the aim of the organization is to award every three years projects related to restored artworks or new buildings, major classical music concerts, and new businesses or companies that have a positive impact on the city of Bologna.

[www.fondazionerusconi.com](http://www.fondazionerusconi.com)