

IMA Recognition Award Winners



The IMA-Europe Recognition Award has been created in 2006 and is awarded every two years to a body or organisation outside the mining sector. Through this initiative, the minerals sector wishes to acknowledge the efforts for promoting the industrial minerals sector through educational and/or awareness efforts or for contributing to the innovation of the sector. (<http://www.ima-europe.eu/awards.html>)

Award Winner 2010: Regione Lombardia

The Regione Lombardia, Mining Department, has won the IMA 2010 Award for its substantial efforts in increasing the awareness of the importance of the extractive industry, not only for the Lombardia region itself but taking the idea of a sustainable mining culture to national level: through an Agreement signed with the Ministry of Economic Development, the partners aim to stimulate a national planning for raw materials, develop a land planning policy to preserve the future mining areas, promote the recovery and valorisation of abandoned mine sites, and promote and develop training activities for local administrations employees. These activities are supported with initiatives of education, training, communication and research designed for mineral operators and civil servants. This successful strategy has made Lombardia a reference point for the other regions.

“We are proud to hand the 2010 IMA Recognition Award to the Mining Department of the Regione Lombardia,” says Thierry Salmons, IMA Europe President. *“Their commitment and cooperative approach between regional and central government mining policies is exemplary for Europe and perfectly in line with the EU Raw Materials Initiative.”* The Award Ceremony will take place on 9 November 2010 at the occasion of the IMA Europe 2010 Conference in Brussels.

IMA Special Award 2010: Sebastian Winkler & Countdown 2010 (IUCN)

In 2010, a Special Award is being issued to Mr Sebastian Winkler and to IUCN for the Countdown 2010 Initiative. In his capacity of project leader (Head of the Countdown 2010 Secretariat), Mr Winkler inspired many businesses to look at how they could contribute to biodiversity conservation by integrating biodiversity considerations into their operations. The Countdown 2010 Platform also allowed for a constructive dialogue between industry and NGOs. Sebastian’s inspiring leadership and vision of this project led amongst others to IMA Europe signing the Countdown 2010 Declaration in 2008. And IMA Europe could count on Countdown 2010 support, such as on the European Minerals Day 2009 event. On 9 November 2010, Mr Hans Friederich, IUCN Regional Director Pan-Europe, will reception the Special Award on behalf of IUCN, the organisation behind the Countdown 2010 project, whereas Sebastian will receive one for his personal commitment and inspiring leadership.

Award Winner 2008: Rhineland Regional Council (LVR)



The Rhineland Regional Council / Landschaftsverband Rheinland (LVR) won the IMA 2008 Award for their efforts in raising awareness about the importance of industrial minerals in their region. They produced documentary films illustrating the mining activities and its human aspects as well as how the different minerals find their application in every day products. The LVR films, which have been presented to the public, were acknowledged by the German Ministry of Education for their significant educational effects and influence. Two recent examples are: Blau brennt Gelb - Tonbergbau im Rheinland (About plastic clay mining, 2007) and Kalkstein – ein rheinischer Rohstoff (About lime).

The Award Ceremony took place on 11 September 2008 at La Bibliothèque Solvay in Brussels at the occasion of the IMA Conference Gala Dinner. Dr Jürgen Wilhelm, President of the Rhineland Regional Assembly accepted the Award out of the hands of the IMA President, Mr Claude Stenneler (see photo).

Award Winners 2006: Forum Rohstoffe & WWF Austria



The very first IMA-Europe Award was attributed to the Austrian branch of the World Wildlife Fund for Nature (WWF) and Forum Rohstoffe¹ for their joint efforts to raise awareness about industrial minerals and the biodiversity on and around rehabilitated quarries. The Award Ceremony took place on 6 September, on the eve of IMA-Europe's 2006 Conference, at the European Parliament in Strasbourg under the patronage of MEP Malcolm Harbour and in the presence of Mr Giles Chichester MEP and Chairman of the EP Industry Committee.

"The collaboration between the Austrian trade association and the Austrian World Wildlife Fund for Nature is quite unique," says Claude Stenneler, IMA President. *"The 2006 award winners worked very hard during the 9-year project to promote awareness of quarry sites and the biodiversity that can be found on them. They have co-developed educational materials for schools, and produced a TV documentary, "Trails in the Sand", on biodiversity at restored quarries which often provide new habitats for rare species. Their projects throw a different and positive light on the mining sector, and this is what we need to promote. We are therefore very proud and honoured that the first IMA Award is going to them. We hope their initiatives will inspire others."*

"Forum Rohstoffe is very honoured of having been chosen as the first IMA Award winners, and we are very pleased to receive this award together with our friends from WWF-Austria. It represents a wonderful recognition of our nine-years-old cooperation in environmental matters", Carl Hennrich adds. *"The aggregates industry is absolutely not one of the founding members of the green movement, but we try to learn daily. Our environment needs to be protected, today more than ever. A large majority of our companies is aware of the fact that we as quarry owners have the possibility to contribute to the improvement on nature conservation and are making efforts to protect nature and especially species included in the red list of endangered flora and fauna. We are convinced of having produced a win-win situation."* (see also www.ForumRohstoffe.at)



Photo 1: Claude Stenneler, Dr Hildegard Aichberger, Director WWF Austria and Thomas Kaissl, Project leader WWF Austria



Photo 2: Claude Stenneler, Dr Carl Hennrich, Secretary General Forum Rohstoffe, Mrs Ursula Huber-Wilhelm, Managing Director Welser Kieswerke Treul, Dr Manfred Asamer, Managing Director Asamer & Hufnagl Kies- und Betonwerke

¹ Forum Rohstoffe is a division of the Fachverband der Stein- und Keramischen Industrie Österreichs e.V.