

"Entrepreneur Of The Year": Grand Final with eight nominees

Entrepreneur Award Already for the third time, the "Entrepreneur Of The Year" award is being granted in Liechtenstein. On the 18th October 2013 things will get exciting for the eight nominees: on the award night, the winner will be selected from their ranks.



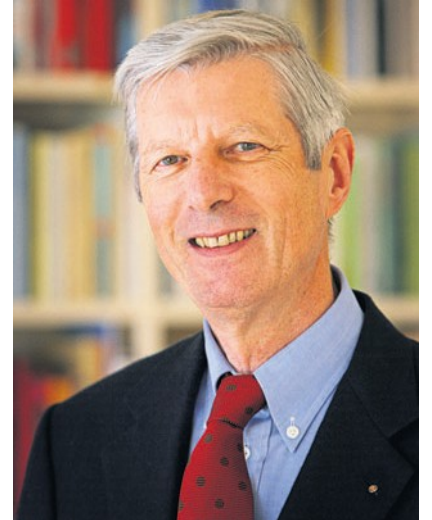
Markus Kaiser, Kaiser AG. (Photo: ZVG)



Christoph Wille, Innoforce Est.



Reinhard Marxer, Invest-Bau AG.



Fritz Ospelt, Ospelt Haustechnik AG.



Martin Risch und Lorenz Risch, Labormedizinisches Zentrum Dr. Risch.



Horst Büchel, Liechtensteiner Business-Center AG.



Patrick Spieldiener, Intamin Transportation Ltd.



Susanna und Reinhard Franck, Kenda AG.

The start signal for the third edition of this successful competition was given with its announcement on 1 February 2013. Following a selection process lasting several months, the nominees have now been chosen. The highlight will then be the grand gala with an awards ceremony in the SAL in Schaan.

Entrepreneurship as a driver

The internationally networked prize for entrepreneurs "Entrepreneur Of The Year" rewards top entrepreneurial achievements and is awarded in Liechtenstein by a prominent jury. This prize with its high public value is awarded by the government of the Principality of Liechtenstein, the University of Liechtenstein and Ernst & Young AG. "Liechtenstein owes its impressive economic growth over recent decades to entrepreneurs with innovative strength, vision and a personal willingness to take risks. In future too, this recipe for success will not change at all", says Thomas Zwiefelhofer, Deputy Prime Minister and Economics Minister. "It is precisely for that reason that the Entrepreneur Of The Year competition is particularly worthwhile, since it represents an internationally recognised acknowledgement of top entrepreneurial achievements in Liechtenstein and thus provides entrepreneurs from Liechtenstein with access to valuable national and international network and know-how platforms every year". The first Entrepreneur Of The Year Liechtenstein, in 2009, was Harti Weirather. He is the owner and managing director of the sports marketing agency Weirather-Wenzel

& Partner AG (WPP AG) with its headquarters in Gamprin. In 2011 the the award for Entrepreneur Of The Year went to Schaan: The second edition of the competition saw Anton and Christoph Frommelt (Frommelt Zimmerei und Ing. Holzbau AG) convince the jury and receive the coveted prize.

International networking

"The Entrepreneur Of The Year Liechtenstein award recognises outstanding entrepreneurial achievements in all sectors and provides for adequate public attention and recognition primarily for top entrepreneurial achievements", says Urs Baldegger of the Institute for Entrepreneurship of the University of Liechtenstein. The promotion of entrepreneurship as well as the development and consolidation of networks are key elements of the competition. This year, for example, a number of different regional and

events are taking place in Liechtenstein in relation to the Entrepreneur Of The Year campaign, in which entrepreneurs from Liechtenstein and all over Europe are networking with each other. The Liechtenstein competition forms part of the quest for top entrepreneurial achievements undertaken by Ernst & Young worldwide. The search for the "Entrepreneur Of The Year" takes place annually in over 50 countries with 10,000 candidates taking part. As a special highlight, each national winner, and therefore the winner from Liechtenstein 2013, is offered the opportunity to participate in the "World Entrepreneur Of The Year" competition in Monte Carlo in the spring of the following year. At the third edition of the competition too, the jury did not find the decision easy, says Heinrich Christen from Ernst & Young: "Extensive documentation about the candidates us studied,

intensive interviews are held with them locally and the candidates are discussed at length. At the end of this elaborate process, however, a persuasive decision is reached. (ikr/hf)

The jury

Great commitment

By means of a selection process lasting several months, a competent and independent jury selects the candidates for the award night and the Entrepreneur Of The Year 2013 in Liechtenstein. The jury, which is not paid for its professional work, consists of the following prominent people:

- Holger Dahmen, CEO of Wolford AG
- Ulrich Dörnhaus, CEO of Ulrich Dörnhaus Consulting GmbH
- Anton Frommelt, co-owner of Frommelt Zimmerei und Ing. Holzbau AG
- Peter Germer, CEO of Heating Technology, Hoval Group
- Reto Gurtner, President/Chairman of Weisse Arena Group
- Katharina Lehmann, owner of Blumer-Lehmann AG
- Klaus Risch, Head of Global HR Hilti AG
- Magnus Tuor, Managing Director of Messtechnik AG

The nominees

Eight entrepreneurs compete for title

The following eight nominees are being honoured for their exceptional entrepreneurial achievements and innovative skills. The winner of the competition will be selected from them.

- Horst Büchel, Liechtensteiner Business-Center AG
- Susanna und Reinhard Franck, Kenda AG

- Markus Kaiser, Kaiser AG
- Reinhard Marxer, Invest-Bau AG
- Fritz Ospelt, Ospelt Haustechnik AG
- Martin Risch und Lorenz Risch, Labormedizinisches Zentrum Dr. Risch
- Patrick Spieldiener, Intamin Transportation Ltd.
- Christoph Wille, Innoforce Est.