

## The top 4 Companies in Geothermal Innovation of 2015

### Endorsed Nominations for the European Geothermal Innovation Award Announced.

The four endorsed nominations for the European Geothermal Innovation Award 2015 are, in alphabetical order:

- **Comacchio s.r.l.** (IT), for their innovative GEO 909 GT drilling rig allowing faster installation of borehole heat exchangers for shallow geothermal applications.
- **gec-co GmbH** (DE), for their controllable, downhole pressure retention valve for hydrogeothermal installations in aquifers with dissolved minerals and gases.
- **Green Energy Group SA** (NO), for their innovative business model and global technology approach for small-scale geothermal power plants in high enthalpy zones.
- **Mijn Water B.V.** (NL), for their intelligent hybrid energy infrastructure for sustainable heating and cooling, based on geothermal buffers (e.g. abandoned mines).

Nominations for the award are assessed on grounds of originality, innovation, reliability, reduction of emissions, and improvements in energy output. The Jury selected the shortlist from twelve entries and will now deliberate to select an overall winner which will be announced on 5<sup>th</sup> March.

Designed as an opportunity for industry peers to acknowledge innovation, and for the most exciting ideas to be widely publicised, the European Geothermal Innovation Award is the seal of excellence applied to the most intelligent and important ideas in research and industry which will play a key role in the future development of geothermal energy.

“Despite the large variety of entries, ranging from shallow to deep and from heat pumps to power generation, the jurors decided almost unanimously on the four entries eventually selected for the shortlist” said Dr Burkhard Sanner, President of EGEC and member of the Jury. “As in 2014, there was some discussion on the possible fifth slot, and again the decision was to restrict the list to just four. We thought this the best in order to be fair with a number of entries that could not make it onto the list. On behalf of the Jury I would like to thank everyone who entered the competition for the 2015 award”.

The jury for 2015 is composed of Jonas Ketilsson (Iceland), Adele Manzella (Italy), Ladislaus Rybach (Switzerland), Burkhard Sanner (EGEC), and Sandra Kircher (Messe Offenburg).

The European Geothermal Innovation Award 2015 is an initiative from The European Geothermal Energy Council in collaboration with Messe Offenburg, organisers of the GeoTHERM fair and congress.

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