

Materialise Reaches the Final of the Prestigious European Business Awards

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The European Business Awards (www.businessawardseurope.com) has announced that Materialise is to represent Belgium as one of the final 100 businesses in the 2012/13 Awards programme. Materialise has been selected as a highly-coveted Ruban d'Honneur recipient in the **The UKTI Award for Innovation** and will now go on to compete in the final round of the competition, in a bid to become one of the ten overall winners to be announced at a gala event in April 2013.

Over the past two months, an esteemed panel of judges made up of European business leaders, academics and entrepreneurs has assessed the 200 companies that made it through to the National Champions stage of the awards. Having decided on the top 100, the successful Ruban d'Honneur recipients will now undertake intensive face-to-face interview sessions.

Fried Vancraen, CEO Materialise, says "We are extremely proud to reach the Ruban d'Honneur stage of the European Business Awards and to represent Belgium. The European Business Awards is widely recognised as the showcase for Europe's most dynamic companies and we are now looking forward to describing to the judges in more detail how we are achieving business success in these tough trading conditions."

This year, for the first time, entrants in the European Business Awards submitted a video case study as part of the judging process. All case studies were uploaded onto the European Business Awards website and an online public voting mechanism was introduced.

Adrian Tripp, CEO of the European Business Awards says, "The video element of the 2012/13 awards has allowed our panel of expert judges to gain a much deeper understanding of all entrants' business strategies. This has helped the judges make clear and informed decisions about the individual companies in each award category. Materialise has really impressed the judges and deserves the very best of luck in this highly competitive final round."

The European Business Awards provide an active platform to inspire debate and shape future trends in the European business community. For more information, please visit www.businessawardseurope.com.

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