



An international contest promoted by Progetto Fuoco, the leading exhibition in the sector, and by Blum, in partnership with Aiel

“GIVE ME FIRE”: INNOVATE WITH ENERGY FROM WOOD THE FIRST CONTEST FOR STARTUPS IN THE FIRE SECTOR PRIZES WORTH 15 THOUSAND EUROS TO BE WON

The closing date for applications is the 7th of October: the 10 companies that reach the final will take part in the exhibition at Fiera di Verona and will be able to meet potential investors and industrial partners. At the last edition there were 71 thousand visitors from 70 countries. The general manager Raul Barbieri: “In our sector as in others, technology is redefining the market and consumption”.

Verona, 4th June 2019 – Innovation is coming to energy deriving from wood and to the new systems we use to heat our houses, schools, factories and offices. From this belief, **Give Me Fire - Progetto Fuoco European Startup Award** the first international contest aimed at innovative Italian and European companies has been created, and it intends to “light up” the future of heating and energy produced from wood.

The contest is promoted by **Progetto Fuoco**, the world’s main exhibition in the sector of systems and equipment for the production of heat and energy from the combustion of wood, and **Blum**, in partnership with **Aiel** – Associazione Italiana Energie Agroforestali.

To apply – at no cost to candidates – there is time until 18:00 hours on the **7th of October 2019**. A technical jury will select the 10 finalists, and those startups will have a free desk with which to take part in the 12th edition of Progetto Fuoco, from the 19th to the 22nd of February 2020 at Fiera di Verona. There they will find a furnished thematic area dedicated to innovation, where innovators will introduce themselves to the jury and the public and meet potential investors and industrial partners. The winning startup will receive **a prize made up of services worth 15 thousand euros**.

All companies that innovate in the sector will be able to apply: from new forms of fuel, innovations in wood supply, the latest materials for heaters and boilers, original solutions for furnaces, the containment of emissions, to contaminations via app, artificial intelligence, and new frontiers like new generation 5G networks.

“Give Me Fire will be the big news at this twelfth edition” explained **Raul Barbieri**, General Manager of Progetto Fuoco, who continued: “to be a leader it is not enough to continue to do well the things you know, you need the courage and the energy to take risks and offer something new. Even in a mature sector like Fire the scenario is always

changing, new technologies and habits continuously redefine markets and productive horizons”, he added.

“The aim of the award is to help all the new enterprises that contribute to innovation in the sector, to come quickly into contact with industrial partners able to accompany them to the market” added **Luca Barbieri** from Blum.

The rules of the contest and application forms can be found at the following link: <http://www.progettofuoco.com/givemefire/>

For further information please contact segreteria@blum.vision

- **Progetto** Fuoco is the most important exhibition of systems and equipment for the production of heat and energy from the combustion of wood, and it takes place every two years at Fiera di Verona. Over 71 thousand visitors, including 15 thousand foreigners from 70 countries, and 782 exhibiting companies of which 322 were from 40 foreign countries took part in the last edition in 2018. <https://www.progettofuoco.com/>

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