

## **PROGETTO FUOCO 2020**

**ENDS WITH 60,000 PROFESSIONAL OPERATORS, INCLUDING 30% FROM ABROAD**

**WITH THE NEW BUSINESS-ORIENTED FORMAT, THE EVENT CONFIRMS ITS  
POSITION AS THE WORLD-LEADING PLATFORM FOR THE BIOMASS HEATING  
INDUSTRY**

**Blucomb wins the first edition of the Give Me Fire - Progetto Fuoco European  
Startup Award. The Belgian Sûti Design & Utility wins the public award.**

The 12th edition of **Progetto Fuoco** ended today with **60,000 professional operators, 30% of them foreign**, and an increasing number of visitors from **France, Germany, Spain, Belgium and Russia**. This impressive result was accompanied by a high degree of satisfaction for the **800 exhibitors** at the Veronafiere trade fair centre who presented their 3,500 products. The international trade fair dedicated to plants and equipment for producing heat and energy from combustion, therefore confirms its position as a world-leading platform for business and innovation in the industry. This was made possible thanks to the undisputed quality of the offer and a conference programme that saw the main trade associations in the forefront, including AIEL - Associazione Italiana Energie Agroforestali (technical partner of the event).

*"The extremely positive result of this 12th edition of Progetto Fuoco together with Eco House Expo - commented Giovanni Mantovani, general manager of Veronafiere - confirms the decision made by Veronafiere to focus on developing sustainable business models that are in keeping with the European goals of the Green New Deal. From a business point of view, the new business-oriented format, concentrated over four days, along with training events, the promotion of startups and investments for incoming buyers in collaboration with ICE-Agency, allowing us to welcome to the trade fair more than 30% of professional operators from abroad, proved to be successful."*

**Raul Barbieri, general manager of Piemmeti - the Veronafiere subsidiary that organises Progetto Fuoco - commented, "During these four days of the trade fair event, the sector showed great vitality, providing concrete responses with regard to environmental, economic and innovative aspects while indicating that it is ready to invest in new strategies**

*for the future. In the face of the distorted visions that still affect our sector, companies have promptly provided cutting-edge solutions in line with the growing demand for increasingly sustainable and energy-efficient products and savings. Furthermore, with the first edition of the Give Me Fire - Progetto Fuoco European Startup Award, we launched an additional challenge based on researching and developing state-of-the-art projects and ideas that focus on further improvements in air quality and the performance of equipment. Finally, internationalisation, promotion, communication and business were the other four assets we worked hard on to make Progetto Fuoco, once again, the crucial platform for the sector on a global scale."*

And precisely in terms of innovation, a special focus was given to young enterprises in Europe, the protagonists of the new **Innovation Village**, which made its debut this year together with the **Give Me Fire - Progetto Fuoco European Startup Award**. This award, promoted by Progetto Fuoco and Blum, in collaboration with AIEL, saw some of the best startups compete in the field of heating and energy produced from wood. **Blucomb of Udine won first place overall with its patented pyrolytic pellet burners** that do not require electronic controls, moving mechanical parts or even electricity. They significantly reduce polluting emissions, ensuring much lower levels of CO and particulate matter than any other traditional form of combustion. The **smart stove equipped with an app, designed by the Belgian start-up Sûti Design & Utility**, won the **public award** for its user-friendliness and special design.

The next Veronafiere **Progetto Fuoco event**, promoted by Piemmeti, will be in **2022**. In the meantime, dates have already been set for **Italia Legno Energia**, scheduled to take place at **the Fiera di Arezzo from 4 - 6 February 2021**, also organised by Piemmeti.

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