



STJEPAN ŠAFRAN NAMED THE BEST ENTREPRENEUR IN EUROPE

Metal Product wins in final of the European Business Awards 2019 at Prestigious Award Ceremony in Warsaw

Warsaw, Poland – 04 December 2019 Stjepan Šafran from Croatia has been named **Winner of the European Entrepreneur of the Year** in the Grand Final of this year's European Business Awards, at an exclusive awards ceremony held in Warsaw, Poland.

The Judges have awarded the individual who demonstrates vision, a persevering approach to enterprise expansion, placing them at the heart of the business by identifying opportunity, understanding objectives, formulating ideas and making decisions, as well as acting as an inspiration to others to achieve greater business success. There are 7 criteria that the Judges used to score, these are: leadership, real customer focus, engaging people, creativity & innovation, ethics and results & growth.

The European Business Awards is one of the largest and longest-running business competitions with headquarters in London, UK. Over 500 successful business leaders from across Europe came together at the two day event, sponsored by RSM, with politicians, ambassadors and academics present to celebrate the remarkable business achievement of Metal Product in Europe's biggest and most prestigious business competition.

Stjepan Šafran was named the winner following a final face-to-face judging session, and Metal Product was chosen out of over 150,000 business from 33 countries who were initially considered. In the rigorous, independently judged competition, 2,753 businesses were named 'Ones to Watch' in July, and following a further detailed review, 363 companies were announced as 'National Winners' in September.

"This prestigious European award is the crown of my 55-year-long career with the support of my family, loyalty of my employees and the trust of our business partners." said Stjepan Šafran, founder of Metal Product who received the Award along with Barbara Vukovic, CFO and member of the Board and granddaughter of Mr. Šafran, and Igor Vrdoljak, CEO of Metal Product. Mr. Šafran ended his speech with an invitation to all present businesses at the

ceremony to come and invest in Croatia, where they will stimulating and friendly business environment.

Metal Product is a family-owned production company that specializes in metal processing. The core business is the production of equipment for the energy sector, but also the production of equipment for other industries. It is an internationally-oriented company with more than 80% of the revenue coming from our international partners with whom they have cooperated for over 25 years. Over the past 5 years, Metal Product has made significant investments into expanding its production capacities and the introduction of new technologies. Metal Product has 230 employees working in two locations, in Odra near Zagreb and Breznički Hum near Novi Marof.

Adrian Tripp, CEO of the European Business Awards said: "*Metal Product has reached the gold standard for business excellence by winning this Award. They are a powerful example of a business, meeting the challenges of a hugely competitive global marketplace, achieving phenomenal success, and making a positive difference to the world we live in. They deserve their success and we wish them well.*"

At the awards ceremony, Mr. Šafran was accompanied by HE Ambassador of the Republic of Croatia to Poland Mr. Tomislav Vidosević along with the representatives of the Embassy of the Republic of Croatia in Poland.

For further information about the European Business Awards please go to www.businessawardseurope.com