



Public Announcement: "AGS Award for Innovation 2018"

Shaping the future with courage - the digital upheaval in economy and society

AGS, the Working Committee of the Self-employed and small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) within the Social Democratic Party of Germany, SPD, honours SMEs with the AGS Award for Innovation again this year. SMEs are reacting to the rapid changes taking place by employing innovative concepts and actively confronting the demands and needs which the digital changes evoke. They must successfully participate within a common Europe market in an outstanding manner on the highly competitive markets dominated by the economic powers China and USA. Not only current political events centering on questions like how governments are supposed to deal with refugees but also the lingering threat that international partnerships are endangered to fall victim to international trade wars make it very clear how important a united Europe is. An economic and political integration process of all European States is the solid base to guarantee one's own entrepreneurial existence. It ensures continuous economic success and stable employment which promotes globalisation and free and fair trade exchange.

On November 29, 2018, the AGS-Award for Innovation will be awarded in the Willy-Brandt-House in Berlin for the second time within the setting of the international „AGS Business Reception“. The event will be joined by policymakers, associations and enterprises. The awardees will receive a certificate and a decorative prize statue.

The AGS now hereby invites all small and medium-sized enterprises to present how they contribute to strengthening the ideal of a united, social and peaceful Europe

By granting the Award, the AGS intends to invigorate an economically dynamic, democratic and social Europe that focuses on people and their needs. It honours enterprises that have met these

demands in a responsible and exceptional way, thus contributing to European understanding and coherence.

Every year, the award has a different theme. 2018, it is "Shaping the future with courage - the digital upheaval in economy and society".

Criteria for the AGS Innovation Award

The „AGS Innovation Award“ is given on an annual basis to innovative, successful and socially responsible enterprises or organizations actively participating in their respective markets.

For the careful selection of the winners of the Award it is of utmost importance that they have proven innovative strength within their management approach or shown creativity concerning their products or services. Entrepreneurial drive and spirit, sustainable ecological work and production methods, social awareness and substantive and lasting employment are also important factors for a nomination and winning the award.

Further criteria for winning the Award besides fulfilling the annual motto are:

- Economic persistence of the business model (actual market success for a longer period of time)
- Ecological sustainability of the business model (respecting ecological and legal standards and showing a clear and visible effort to save resources in production)
- Social sustainability, adhering to demands of good work (respecting legal worker protection standards, paying adequate wages, realization of innovative flexible working hour models, creation of vocational education opportunities, and active participation of the work force in company matters).

The Winners are selected by a jury.

Application form for the AGS Innovation Award 2018

(In case of additional space needed please use additional pages)

a.) Contact details

Company: _____

Address: _____

Contact person: _____

Telephone, Fax, Email: _____

Web-Address: _____

b.) Business model

Short description of the enterprise or company and its field of business:

c.) Key figures

Founding year: _____

Number of employees: _____

Employee representation Yes/No: _____

Collective wage agreement Yes / No: _____ If yes, which one: _____

d.) Special achievements in the spirit of the announcement (Justification why your company should win the award):

Please add extra page, photos, graphs etc.

Deadline: October 31, 2018

Please address your complete application to

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Willy-Brandt-Haus
Referat Arbeitsgemeinschaften
Wilhelmstraße 141
D-10963 Berlin
Germany**

And submit it by Email: ags@spd.de / or Fax: +49-30-25991-404