

Club of Bologna International Best PhD Prize 2012

The *Club of Bologna*, in collaboration with UNACOMA, will be awarding a prize for the best PhD theses on subjects related to agricultural machinery design and development.

Up to ten theses will be selected and the best five of these will have the chance of being presented during the annual Club of Bologna meeting that will be held from 9 to 10 November 2012, on occasion of the EIMA. The authors of the best three PhD theses will also receive a cash prize.

The winners will be guests in Bologna of UNACOMA who will cover travelling expenses and hotel accommodation for 2 nights. They will also meet farm machinery manufacturers attending the international trade fair.

The winners of the *Club of Bologna Prize 2012* will be announced here. Application forms and further information can be downloaded from the *Club of Bologna* website (<http://www.clubofbologna.org>).

Announcement

UNACOMA, the Italian Association of Agricultural Machinery Manufacturers, and the *Club of Bologna* announce an international competition for completed PhD theses in Agricultural Engineering on the topic of *Agricultural Machines and Mechanization*.

A selection of PhD theses will go forward to the final round.

Each applicant and thesis must be presented by their tutor who must be a current member of the *Club of Bologna*.

A jury will select up to 10 (ten) theses and the authors will be invited to the EIMA International Industrial Fair held at Bologna, Italy, as guests of UNACOMA. Travelling expenses and hotel accommodation in Bologna for 2 nights will be paid for by UNACOMA.

On the occasion of the *Club of Bologna International Best PhD Prize 2012* award ceremony at the annual *Club of Bologna* meeting held during EIMA, winners will receive a certificate, and the authors of the five best theses will be able to present their work to Italian agricultural machinery manufacturers.

The authors of the best three theses will also receive a cash prize (1st place, €1,200; 2nd, €800; 3rd, €500) and will be invited to write an article for publication in UNACOMA's Machinery World magazine.

UNACOMA will promote meetings or internships for all the selected applicants with agricultural machinery manufacturers specifically interested in the contents and results of their PhD research.

Requirements

Applications for selection are invited from EU and non-EU citizens who have obtained a doctorate in the field of *Agricultural Machines and Mechanization* under the following specific headings:

1. Tractors and Engines;
2. Agricultural Machines and Mechanization;
3. Components and Spare Parts;
4. Automation and Electronics.

Applicants must:

- speak excellent English;
- be under 35 years of age;
- have obtained their PhD after 1 January 2010.

Application submission and deadline

The application should be submitted by either:

- 1) E-mail to the Technical Secretary of the *Club of Bologna* (marco.fiala@unimi.it)

or

- 2) letter post to Prof Marco Fiala, Technical Secretary of the *Club of Bologna*, Dept. of Agricultural Engineering, University of Milan, via G. Celoria 2, 20133 Milano, Italy.

The application must include:

- (A) Application Form fully completed and signed by the applicant
- (B) PhD Degree Certificate
- (C) Applicant's *Curriculum Vitae*
- (D) Tutor's Applicant Presentation Form
- (E) Data Release Waiver
- (F) PhD Extended Abstract Form.

The application form and all the documents listed above can be downloaded from the *Club of Bologna* web site at <http://www.clubofbologna.org>. They must be completed in English and dispatched so as to arrive no later than 31 May 2012.

Application forms and/or attached documents arriving after this deadline will not be considered.

PDF formatted files are required for submission by E-mail.

Admission and selection

Admission to the *Club of Bologna International Best PhD Prize 2012* will be decided by a committee of judges made up of the present members of the *Club of Bologna* Management Committee and one representative of the UNACOMA Technical Service.

The judges will make their decision on the basis of the following evaluation criteria.

1. The subject must be related to the Agricultural Machinery sector and focused on:
 - 1.1 Tractors and Engines;
 - 1.2 Agricultural Machines and Mechanization;
 - 1.3 Components and Spare Parts;
 - 1.4 Automation and Electronics.
2. The degree of innovation compared with existing technologies.
3. The real possibility of transferring the equipment proposed onto the market.
4. The resulting benefits for agriculture and farmers.

The judges' decision will be made known through publication of the list of the ten applicants admitted to the final stage. This list will be made available exclusively on the *Club of Bologna* web site at: <http://www.clubofbologna.org> no later than 30 June 2012.

The judges will not enter into any personal correspondence about their decision.

Under penalty of exclusion from the final stage, winners must send an official letter of acceptance, which must arrive no later than 15 July 2012, to the following address:

Prof. Marco Fiala, Technical Secretary of the *Club of Bologna*, Department of Agricultural Engineering, University of Milan, via G. Celoria 2, 20133 Milano, Italy.