



PRESS RELEASE



15 August 2017

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEP Werke & Strasser Capital, shortlisted for Finance for the Future Awards 2017

The finalists for the Finance for the Future Awards 2017 have been announced today by the founding organisations, ICAEW and A4S, in partnership with Deloitte. The awards highlight good business practice, by recognising the role of finance in helping to embed sustainability into organisations' decision making. Now in its sixth year, the awards ceremony will take place on 12 October 2017.

This year, the Finance for the Future Awards have received a record breaking number of entries, seeing a 30% increase from last year. Entries have come from 12 countries from across the world making this a truly global programme. The awards recognise the essential role that finance plays in driving integrated thinking in decision making and in building sustainable business models. Entrants must be able to demonstrate how the role of the finance function and financing is key to building a sustainable organisation – one which delivers long-term financial performance, whilst factoring in environmental economic and social concerns, and generating long-term value for stakeholders.

MEP Werke & Strasser Capital were shortlisted in the Start-up and growing enterprises category, which recognises businesses with a turnover of less than £100m or fewer than 1,000 employees.

In 2016, MEP Werke & Strasser Capital managed to develop the first long-term financing for the German residential solar lease market, thereby offering institutional investors a participation in MEP Werke's solar lease business model through an innovative 20-year green loan. With this transaction being the first of its kind they were pioneers in providing structured finance solutions for the private energy transition significantly accelerating the growth opportunities of this market niche in Germany and Europe.

Ulrich Bogner, Director Corporate Finance and Investments at Strasser Capital said: "We are delighted to have been shortlisted as this supports our aim to create awareness for this innovative funding approach and to pave the way for future market participants and issuers of green financing products."

Richard Spencer, Head of Sustainability at ICAEW said: "The finalists have made the shortlist because of their ability to build a sustainable organisation, and keep sustainability at the heart of their operations. This shows dedication to tackling the serious environmental and social issues we face, and shows innovation in finance and accountancy when facing these challenges. The finalists not only deliver real change in their organisations, they are also encouraging others to do the same by leading the way."

Jessica Fries, Executive Chairman of A4S commented: "Finance leadership requires individuals and organisations to adopt new thinking and approaches in response to the risks and opportunities posed by major social, environmental and economic trends. The finalists have made it through a rigorous assessment process by demonstrating the kind of innovation and action necessary to position their organisation for current and future success, and to inspire others to act."

Veronica Poole, global IFRS leader and UK head of corporate reporting at Deloitte, said: "This year's shortlist demonstrates impressive strides by global organisations in achieving sustainable business models. Last year, a new category of communicating integrated thinking was introduced to the awards and attracted excellent entries. Judging and choosing the winner was a real challenge with all competitors not only telling a good integrated story but demonstrating how they live it. It is encouraging to see another year of strong finalists, once again coming from various sectors and different parts of the world."

For more information, please visit: www.financeforthefuture.org

Media enquiries:

Contact Natalie Bruce, ICAEW press office, on +44 (0)20 7920 8616, or email natalie.bruce@icaew.com

Contact Deborah McSkimming, A4S Senior Communications Adviser, on +44 (0)7391 512090, or email: deborah.mcskimming@royal.gsx.gov.uk

Contact Fern Hammond, Deloitte press office, on +44 (0)20 7303 2329, or email: fhammond@deloitte.co.uk

Notes to editors:

ICAEW

ICAEW connects over 147,000 chartered accountants worldwide, providing this community of professionals with the power to build and sustain strong economies.

Training, developing and supporting accountants throughout their career, we ensure that they have the expertise and values to meet the needs of tomorrow's businesses.

Our profession is right at the heart of the decisions that will define the future, and we contribute by sharing our knowledge, insight and capabilities with others. That way, we can be sure that we are building robust, accountable and fair economies across the globe.

ICAEW is a member of Chartered Accountants Worldwide (CAW), which brings together 11 chartered accountancy bodies, representing over 1.6m members and students globally.

The Prince of Wales's Accounting for Sustainability Project (A4S)

The Prince's Accounting for Sustainability Project (A4S) was established by HRH The Prince of Wales in 2004 to mobilize action and leadership by the finance and accounting community to address the challenges to the economy and society posed by issues such as climate change, increasing depletion of and demand for natural resources, urbanization and inequality. A4S seeks to inspire action by finance leaders to drive a fundamental shift towards resilient business models and a sustainable economy.

A4S works with the finance and accounting community to:

- Inspire finance leaders to adopt sustainable and resilient business models
- Transform financial decision making to enable an integrated approach, reflective of the opportunities and risks posed by environmental and social issues
- Scale up action across the global finance and accounting community

A4S has two global networks: the A4S Chief Financial Officers Leadership Network, a group of CFOs from leading companies seeking to transform finance and accounting; and the Accounting Bodies Network (ABN), whose members comprise approximately two thirds of the world's accountants.

www.accountingforsustainability.org

Deloitte

In this press release references to "Deloitte" are references to one or more of Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Limited ("DTTL") a UK private company limited by guarantee, and its network of member firms, each of which is a legally separate and independent entity. Please see deloitte.com/about for a detailed description of the legal structure of DTTL and its member firms.

Deloitte LLP is a subsidiary of Deloitte NWE LLP, which is a member firm of DTTL, and is among the UK's leading professional services firms.