

*PRESS RELEASE*

**MARKOS TZAMALIS, COO OF PHĀEA RESORTS, WAS THE WINNER FOR THE GROUP'S CRETAN MALIA PARK HOTEL IN CRETE OF THE EHMA SUSTAINABILITY AWARD 2022**

The EHMA Sustainability Award is given annually in co-operation with Diversey to an EHMA member who has successfully implemented innovative sustainability projects during the previous year.



**EHMA new President Panos Almyrantis collects the award on behalf of Markos Tzamalís from Frank Theis, CRO of Diversey**

*Every year, EHMA and Diversey present a Sustainability Award to the Hotel Manager member of the Association who has most successfully implemented innovative sustainability and social responsibility projects during the previous year. Throughout the award's more than 10-years history, it is evident that EHMA members have embedded sustainability deeply in their operations and culture. This year's submitted projects demonstrated again a strong commitment to sustainable development and environmental stewardship, in conjunction with social responsibility and underpinned with strong quantitative results. All applicants showed a clear focus on team work, care for the staff and care for the community in which they operate. Attention to staff training and digital communication with guests has clearly developed further during the pandemic times.*

A jury comprised of Verena Radlgruber-Forstinger (EHMA 1st Vice President), Daniel Daggett (Vice President Corporate Sustainability at Diversey) and Arjan van Rheede (Senior Research Fellow in Sustainability, Hotelschool The Hague) chose this year's winner.

All this year's applications were compelling and deserving of the award. It was a close call. Yet, the EHMA Sustainability Award 2022 goes to **Markos Tzamalís, COO of Phāea Resorts, for the group's Cretan Malia Park Hotel in Crete.**

The other selected candidates were:

- Ezio A. Indiani - Hotel Principe di Savoia, Milan, Italy
- Antonio Pellegrino - Vivosa Apulia Resort, Ugento, Lecce, Italy

- Stratos Patsakis - Minos Beach art hotel / Bluegr Hotels and Resorts, Agios Nikolaos, Crete, Greece
- Fernando Rojo - SHA Wellness Clinic, Alicante, Spain
- Stephan J.A.B. Stokkermans - Grand Hotel Huis ter Duin, The Netherlands.

The Cretan Malia Park, this year's winner, employs **local workers** wherever possible, and supports them with many different initiatives. The unique **Phāea Farmers Program** is designed to support resort staff who also farm their land, for example during the low season. Through collaborations with expert agronomists, these **farmers are trained in sustainable & organic farming methods and sustainable land use**. The program is creating more value and quality production and the resort can **source the highest quality local produce** for use in the kitchens, while providing guest food experiences that are fresh, nutritional and environmentally healthy.

### **About EHMA**

EHMA - European Hotel Managers Association was **founded in Rome in 1974** by some executives of the hotel industry of undisputed professional ethics with the objective to maintain and increase the image of the hotel heritage. It is made up of top-level hotel general managers who constantly strive **to improve their and their staff's professionalism** in luxury hospitality in order to maintain, perfect and innovate services offered to their customers. Currently the Association has nearly **400 members representing 23 European countries** of which about 300 are General Managers of luxury hotels. In figures, this represents around **300 hotels, 85,000 rooms and 65,000 employees**.

#### ***EHMA SECRETARIAT***

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