

## Maras Group wins 2013 European Award

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South Australian commercial and retail property identity, Maras Group, was last night announced a winner of the 2013 European Award for Best Practices in the Gold Category by the European Society for Quality Research ("ESQR").

The ESQR, with its headquarters in Lausanne, Switzerland, recognizes and highlights outstanding business results, best practices, quality awareness and achievements by companies in regional and global markets. It is dedicated to quality improvement techniques, recognition and research.

ESQR makes a positive contribution to quality culture through its conventions and award giving ceremonies in major European cities on an annual basis. It recognizes excellence, disseminates innovation and visionary thinking, spreads knowledge, shares

conformity assessment practices and facilitates networking.

This momentous international award, which is to be presented at a gala ceremony at the historic Parkhotel Schonbrunn in Vienna, Austria, on Sunday, 8th of December 2013, is in recognition of Maras Group's outstanding commitment and results in best practices and quality management strategies.

Maras Group was selected for the award by the ESQR based on the results of the ESQR's polls, consumer opinion research and market studies. Votes were submitted by a range of sources including former ESQR award winning companies and organizations, customers, business partners and collaborating companies. In addition, votes and recommendations emanated from the ESQR's "Shared Best Practices" web section, the research of public information sources, publications, promotional campaigns and chambers of commerce.

Maras Group Managing Director and CEO, Mr Steve Maras, will attend the convention and awards ceremony in Vienna next month to represent Maras Group. Mr Maras will address the convention on the work and practices of Maras Group in South Australia and will also speak of its efforts and contributions in the development industry, the promotion and enhancement of Mainstreets and its commitment to assisting in the renewal of urban spaces and environments. Mr Maras will capitalize on this opportunity to promote and educate delegates and world leaders about South Australia.

The convention, to be held at one of Vienna's most prestigious hotels, and a former palace for the Austrian emperor's guests, will host global leaders from a broad range of companies and organizations representing different sectors from Europe, Asia, the Americas, Africa and Australia.

"Without question, this is a huge honour for our company to be recognized for our work and best practices on a global level and in the presence of some of the world's most esteemed organizations. This is testament to the passion, hard work, dedication and loyalty of everyone involved in Maras Group".

"I am immensely proud of our company and our people, and I very much consider this celebrated recognition for South Australia, and Australia for that matter", Mr Maras said.

Maras Group is one of two winners of the award from Australia. Only last month, Maras Group also was one of the top performing companies globally at The 2013 International Business Awards, held in Barcelona, Spain. They took out a total of eleven prestigious awards including a Grand Stevie Award for "Best of the IBA's", where they finished 4th in the world's Top 10 companies, the People's Choice Award for Favorite Companies (Services Category) and four Gold Stevie Awards.

Further details about the European Society for Quality Research are available at [www.esqr.org](http://www.esqr.org).