

Milan/London/Paris/Munich, 27 January 2023

## Enerbrain wins the Rolando Polli Award for sustainability launched by Ambienta and McKinsey & Company

- The first edition of the Award in memory of the long-time McKinsey Managing Director and Ambienta co-founder closed yesterday
- Ambienta and McKinsey would like to congratulate Enerbrain, winner of the first edition of the Rolando Polli Award 2023

**Ambienta SGR SpA ("Ambienta")**, one of Europe's leading and largest asset managers solely focused on environmental sustainability, and **McKinsey & Company**, global leader in strategic consulting, are happy to announce Enerbrain as the winner of the **Rolando Polli Award 2023**.

The Award, in its first edition, aims to help young Italian entrepreneurs by accelerating their ventures based on sustainable solutions. Rolando Polli was extremely passionate about both entrepreneurship and environmental sustainability, and the award intends to support companies that are poised for growth and longevity, while having a positive environmental impact.

Ambienta and McKinsey would like to thank the 25 companies that applied to the Award and to congratulate the 5 finalists invited to present at the final event held yesterday: Agricolus, Babaco Market, Cubbit, Enerbrain and Rifò. These five companies are prime examples of how much of a cross-sectional theme sustainability truly is, touching all sectors of the economy: in agriculture, Agricolus' software helps agribusinesses to use less water and chemical products; in food, Babaco Market gives a second chance to unsold produce via its e-commerce platform, reducing food waste; in IT, Cubbit reduces the energy consumption of data storage exploiting IT resources otherwise unutilized; in buildings, Enerbrain's software and hardware solutions reduce energy consumption while improving comfort; in fashion, Rifò collects discarded clothing and reuses its fibers to create new garments.

Given the relevance of the environmental issue and the potential of the business model, the jury has decided to award Enerbrain with a joint mentorship programme under which Ambienta and McKinsey will both provide their know-how and networks.

The evaluation committee has also decided to award a sixth company, Synergy Flow, with an honorable mention. The company, established in 2022, was not mature enough to participate in the Award, but it presented a particularly promising solution to commercialize energy storage based on waste materials.

The jury was composed by Nino Tronchetti Provera, Founder and Managing Partner at Ambienta; Massimo Giordano, Managing Partner at McKinsey Mediterraneo; Niccolò Polli, Rolando's son and Head of Strategy Europe for HSBC; Fabio Raghino, Partner and Head of Sustainability&Strategy at Ambienta; Gemma D'Auria, Senior Partner at McKinsey; Marco Piccitto, Senior Partner at McKinsey; Mario Greco, Group CEO at Zurich; Stefano Proverbio, Director at McKinsey; Daniele Ferrero, CEO at Venchi, and Massimo Capuano, former Senior Partner at McKinsey.

**Nino Tronchetti Provera, Founder and Managing Partner at Ambienta**, commented: "Rolando has been a mentor in my professional life and a friend in my personal one. We shared a fervent passion for entrepreneurship and the



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strong belief that sustainability is in fact the most mega of all mega trends. I am proud to be able to continue his legacy and to put Ambienta's entrepreneurial and scientific know-how at the disposal of Enerbrain. I would like to extend my congratulations to all the companies in the race, small all-Italian jewels of sustainability and entrepreneurship."

**Massimo Giordano, Managing Partner at McKinsey Mediterraneo**, added: "Sustainability is a must-have for companies and can only be a value creation tool if it is truly embedded in their vision. Looking at the excellent companies we have met over the course of this Award, it is clear that Italy has all the right cards to become a prime player in this field. I'd like to echo Nino in congratulating these promising initiatives and in the warm remembrance of our Rolando, a true entrepreneur and sustainability pioneer."

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### **Rolando Polli**

Rolando Polli, born in 1940, graduated in Economics from Bocconi University in Milan and received a Ph.D. in Business and Applied Economics from Wharton. After his doctorate, he joined McKinsey & Company, where he was Managing Director and helped open several offices in Europe. After McKinsey he embarked on an investment career, with several successful deals including Venchi, Buongiorno and Silicon Biosystems. In 2001 he co-founded IG Partners, an M&A advisory boutique, and in 2005 he helped create the investors club Atmos, making several investments in the renewables sector. In 2007 he co-founded Ambienta SGR together with Nino Tronchetti Provera.

### **Ambienta**

Ambienta is a European environmental sustainability investor across private and public markets. Operating out of Milan, London, Paris and Munich, Ambienta manages around €3.0 billion in assets with a focus on investing in private and public companies driven by environmental megatrends and whose products or services improve Resource Efficiency or Pollution Control. In private equity Ambienta has completed 60 investments to date and in public equity markets, Ambienta has pioneered one of the world's largest absolute return funds entirely focused on environmental sustainability and manages a full suite of sustainable products ranging from low-risk multi-asset funds to equity long-only. [www.ambientasgr.com](http://www.ambientasgr.com)

### **McKinsey & Company**

Founded in 1926, McKinsey & Company is an international management consulting firm committed to helping organisations accelerate their growth paths in a sustainable and inclusive way. It works with companies in the private sector - including most Fortune 1000 companies - and with institutions in the public and social sectors, to help them solve complex problems, achieve lasting improvements in performance, and train the skills necessary for the ongoing professional development of their staff so that they are able to create positive change for all their stakeholders and the communities in which they operate.

### **Contatti**

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