

**Confare and Ernst & Young nominate top 2013 CIO's.**

**The Swiss CIO Award will honor again the top Swiss IT-Managers in 2013. Confare distributes this price in collaboration with Ernst & Young to CIO's first class service to internal stakeholders and end-users. who support reaching business objectives with a consequent IT-strategy, providing their employees perspectives and offering**

Asking for the motivation, Michael Ghezso, the initiator of the Swiss CIO Awards and founder of Confare says: "Many companies perceive IT-services only as a cost-driver, but today with the overall fast moving technologies, Social Media and Telecommunication, IT should be acknowledged as a real driver for innovation and competitive success".

Since 2013 Ernst & Young acts as a partner for the Swiss CIO Award. Andreas Toggwyler, Partner at Ernst & Young Ltd. Geneva underlines the importance of IT for the competitiveness of companies. "The perception of IT has transformed itself from a cost-center structure to a strategic success factor. The role of the CIO is not merely to operate an existing IT-environment efficiently, reliably and safely, but moreover to enable strategic business objectives with transformation projects. With the Swiss CIO Award, we like to esteem outstanding IT-Managers", he emphasizes.

In 2012 PostFinance CIO Enrico Lardelli received the Swiss CIO Award. "This award is important to positively identify the own organization and its performance evaluated by an independent third party. The self-confidence of the IT-department can therefore be considerably strengthened. With this award, not the CIO as a person, but the whole IT-organization will be assessed and awarded. Thus, the team and its performance are paramount. I am delighted to receive such an award on behalf of the whole organization, says Enrico Lardelli.

As part of the first Swiss CIO and IT-Manager Summit in November 2012, following managers were also awarded for "Top-CIO 2012": Stefan Arn, CIO UBS Switzerland, Rolf Herzog, Goldbach Group and Ernest Gmünder, Touring Club Switzerland. All award-winners convinced with special achievements in the tested categories.

The IT-Manager of the Year is selected by a distinguished committee of experts. "We evaluate how the managers acting as a leader and analyze leadership skills, internal positioning and strategic direction as well as experience in the area of process competence, innovativeness and IT-security", explains Michael Ghezso the selecting criteria.

The Swiss CIO Award 2013 takes place during the Confare CIO & IT-Manager Summit in Zurich. All relevant details and the application form are available on [www.cioaward.ch](http://www.cioaward.ch). Submission is possible to 31. July 2013.

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About Confare

Confare is a conference and education centre with its headquarter in Vienna. It was founded in 2008 by twin-brothers Alexander and Michael Ghezso, who are experts in conference, exhibition and seminar business. Confare organizes more than 60 events annually in the areas of IT, industry, real estate, marketing / sales and management. Every year Confare welcomes over 1000 participants and speakers including Chief Executive Officer of Philips, RLB Upper Austria, Mondri, Novomatic, AT & S, Polytec, CIOs of RHI, NÖM, Baumax and many managing directors and general managers. Confare builds networks. Thus, the company is active in all major social media platforms with their own groups and forums in which high-profile industry representatives discuss current issues. But networks do not end online. Confare also organizes meetings for advisory boards in the field of IT and industry. The company now has 12 employees and is expanding its range of ongoing events.

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