



Terna Award Press Conference – Tuesday, July 1, 2008 - MAXXI

Address given by Luigi Roth, Terna's Chairman

Honorable Minister, Authorities, Ladies and Gentlemen,

we are here gathered for circumstances that are quite unusual for us. I must say that it is wonderful to be in a Contemporary Art Gallery with people that deal with art and it is even more wonderful, almost strange, that the feeling we perceive by being here is that of ...already being projected into the future!

As we can see, this is not an Open Museum: it is still a creative building yard and I believe that today this element already represents an important sign. It underlines Terna's wish to be where things happen and are transformed, also supporting such an ambitious and important cultural project.

Perhaps not everyone knows about Terna. I would briefly like to talk about our company.

Terna is a large **grid operator for transporting electricity.**

Since 2005, it has been the operator of the National transmission grid, **provider** of an essential service: safely managing, 365 days a year, 24 hours a day, the electricity flow on the high voltage grid in Italy. Terna is a company that is listed in the Stock Exchange and is oriented towards economic results and to creating value for shareholders.

Terna's objective is to promote **the right balance between electricity needs and protecting the environment and the territory**, for ensuring the country with the electricity it needs based on the best reliability, costs and **sustainability** conditions.

We plan and build large electricity infrastructures: pylons, stations and lines. As part of our reality, in particular, we believe that **sustainability** must be a guiding criteria. Development is sustainable if it meets the needs of the present generations without compromising the possibility for future generations to do the same. **However, sustainability must not only be an abstract concept**, but a type of firm and tangible approach that involves being committed to **creating value for the civil society.**

This is the case for the Award we are presenting today: Terna **supports important cultural projects**, for creating a virtuous circle involving both well known artists and emerging ones in developing ideas and new sources of inspiration on the transmission theme. Our important underlying theme.

Terna's mission – **transmitting energy** – regards the general interest, in addition to profits. Our work involves a high degree of responsibility. For this reason we believe that it is necessary to focus on the public utility service while also considering the ethical and sustainability aspects as an essential element for the success of our work.

Our commitment towards sustainability has already received International recognition from the stock market indexes that list the companies that have stood out at the European level for sustainable development.

We would all take great pride if also the Terna Award were to receive special recognition for the network it will create with the fundamental contribution of contemporary artists: a richness for the art world and for all of us.