

media release

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2017 edition of the Malta International Fireworks Festival comes to an End with a Spectacular Show in the Grand Harbour

Pyroltaly announced as 2017 winner

The 16th Edition of the Malta International Fireworks Festival drew to a close with a spectacular show in the Grand Harbour, Valletta. The overall winner of the Festival, which saw competitive performances in Xagħra and Marsaxlokk held on Saturday 22nd April and Friday 28th April, was Pyroltaly from Reggio Emilia, in Northern Italy.

In total, six fireworks factories competed for the title of 2017 champion, and these were *TemexSon Pyro Events Team* from Romania, *Makalu Fireworks* from Czech Republic, *Pyroltaly* from Italy, *Mirnovac Pirotehnika* from Croatia as well as two local firework factories, namely *Kamra tan-Nar 'Madonna Tač-Ċintura'* from Gudja and *Kamra tan-Nar Santa Marija* from Qrendi.

The Hon. Minister for Tourism, Dr Edward Zammit Lewis presented awards to Pyroltaly who came first with 262 points, *Kamra tan-Nar Santa Marija* from Qrendi who was this year's runner-up with 258 points, and *Makalu Fireworks* from Czech Republic who placed third with 239 points. Following this presentation, the Grand Finale consisted of a spectacular display by *Pyroemotions* from Italy in collaboration with last year's overall winners, the *St Mary Fireworks Factory* from Għaxaq.

The MTA CEO, Mr. Paul Bugeja said "We are very pleased with how the festival turned out. Our sincere appreciation go to all the participants, the judges, the organising committee and those who worked so hard to make this event an all-round success, including MTA's dedicated team. I would like to congratulate the winner on a truly splendid display." Mr. Bugeja concluded by saying that it is worth noting that this year, once again, one of the festival events was held in Gozo, which saw a substantial number of visitors to the sister island. Events such as the Malta International Fireworks Festival is a highlight in the Maltese annual events calendar, which keeps on growing in size and quality of events, and helps to attract tourists to the Maltese Islands throughout the year.

The Minister for Tourism Dr. Edward Zammit Lewis said: "I am satisfied that yet again this year's edition of the Malta Fireworks Festival was a true success. This spectacular event has become an integral part of the Maltese annual events calendar." The Minister continued that the festival kicks

start a delightful season offering to both Maltese and tourists a feast of colourful skies. Minister Zammit Lewis said that quality events such as this festival contribute to the diversification of our tourism industry and help to its sustainability. "It was a pleasure that such a great event had featured also in Gozo this year," stated the Minister for Tourism. Lastly, Minister Dr. Zammit Lewis lauded and thanked MTA and the organising committee for their well-done job and also congratulated the winner together with all the participants and the judges.

For more information visit www.maltafireworksfestival.com

