



Macael Awards mark 38 years of identity and global reach

- *Ten renowned awardees from the fields of architecture, design, construction, communication and public governance embody the spirit of The Best—the value that defines a constantly evolving industry*
- *Jesús Posadas, President of AEMA, announced a significant milestone: the long-awaited Financial Guarantees Order has been approved by both the Legal Services of the Regional Government of Andalusia and the Consultative Council, and will be submitted to the Governing Council and implemented for 2026*

Macael, 21 November 2025. – It is consolidated as one of the most prominent international gatherings centred on natural stone and innovative surfaces. The 2025 Macael Awards Gala celebrated its thirty-eighth edition on 21 November, with more than 500 attendees. The event showcased, once again, the industry’s global reach, innovative capacity, and business and sustainability leadership, recognizing ten awardees from the spheres of architecture, design, construction, communication, and exemplary public–private governance.

According to Jesús Posadas, President of the Andalusian Marble Industry Association (AEMA), the event’s organizer, “this gala is much more than an awards ceremony; it reflects an evolution. It celebrates a journey, a way of understanding our industry and of looking toward the future.” “And this year, we do so under a motto that captures our values: *The Best*,” he emphasized.

During his address, the president congratulated this year’s awardees, highlighting that their achievements demonstrate how collaboration generates meaningful and lasting impact. “You are living proof that our mission goes beyond transforming spaces: it is about creating a sustainable future, with quality employment—responsible and transparent—that drives opportunities and well-being for all.”

He also addressed the main concerns of the business community, calling for stronger social dialogue and solutions to rising labour costs, regulatory pressure, labour shortages and absenteeism—a rate that, he noted, “has become unbearable for our companies and appears to hold little political or institutional relevance.” He further stressed the importance of including the Baza motorway connection in the PITMA and reiterated the sector’s willingness to contribute to the reconstruction of the Castle of Vélez Blanco (which is currently exposed in the MET of NYC).

The gala was also the setting for an important announcement: “As stated this very morning by the Regional Minister of Industry, Energy and Mines,” Posadas noted, “the long-awaited Financial Guarantees Order has finally been approved by both the Legal Services and the Consultative Council of the Regional Government of Andalusia, and will be submitted to the Governing Council next Wednesday, the 26th, allowing its implementation in 2026.” He also highlighted the



introduction of the Dual Vocational Training programme in Natural Stone at IES Juan Rubio Ortiz, the CRECE Industry Plan, which allocates over 18.8 million euros to the sector, and TRADE's new Internationalization Incentives Order, enabling companies to compete under equal conditions in foreign markets.

Beyond the profiles of the awardees, the international scope of the event was reinforced by the participation of attendees from the International Stone Meeting, an initiative organized by Andalucía TRADE, which this year brought together prescribers and distributors from the United States, Poland, and the United Kingdom.

Also present were the 43 architecture students participating in the Promotion Programme for the Natural Stone and Innovative Surfaces Industry, funded by the Regional Ministry of Industry, Energy and Mines and carried out in collaboration with the Regional Ministry of Universities, Research and Innovation. Coming from the Universities of Seville, Granada, and Málaga, these students represent the future of the sector. As the president noted: "Today you join us as students, but we hope to welcome you soon as partners of our companies. The future of architecture—and of Macael—also lies in your hands."

The sponsors of the event received special recognition. "It is essential to acknowledge and express our deep gratitude to the sponsors. Their contribution is truly invaluable and extends far beyond the support that makes this gala possible. We are sincerely grateful for their loyalty and continuous commitment—not only edition after edition, but also in the daily life of our companies. Their support is a fundamental pillar of the success we share as a sector," the president emphasized.

This year's gala sponsors were: DIPUTACIÓN ALMERÍA · COSENTINO · TORRECID · ACCIÓN EXTERIOR · SMALGLASS-ITACA · CAJAMAR · OMAR · BBVA · COLOROBBIA · BANCO SANTANDER · SACMI · UNICAJA · HSBC · SMALTICERAM · SABADELL · ALTAPM · TENAX · NICOLAI NEST · CAIXABANK · ITALDIAMANT · BANCA MARCH · COMANDULLI · BANKINTER · VINCENT · ABANCA · EUROARCE · PUERTO DE ALMERÍA · SAINT GOBAIN · SUIMASA · TBM · FOCUS PIEDRA · VEEGOO · BRETON · PEDRINI · MASER · OLUCARPA · UAL · PROSEGUR · JAMONES TÍO EMILIO.

The gala concluded with a message rooted in identity and a vision for continued growth. "The Macael Awards symbolize the brilliance of what we have achieved and take on meaning because we continue to be both history and future. The Macael Brand travels far, carrying with it the strength of a territory that advances and reaches out to the world."