

# "J.M. JURAN" Romanian Quality Award

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## **Abstract**

In 2000, the <Joseph M. Juran> Romanian Quality Award was launched in Bucharest, under the administration of the "<Joseph M. Juran> Romanian Quality Award" Foundation (established formally in February 1999, through a project developed by the author and financed by EC). The aim of the Romanian Quality Award is to recognise Romania's best performing organisations, whether private, public or non-profit. Giving his name to their Quality Award, Romanians decided to pay tribute to Dr. Joseph Moses Juran, a worldwide famous American citizen (born in 1904, in Braila, Romania and dead in 2008, in Rye, USA).

In February 2001, the first winners of <Joseph M. Juran> Romanian Quality Award were presented to the public. All winners received also a message signed by Joseph M. Juran. The <Joseph M. Juran> Romanian Quality Award – whose criteria are representing the Romanian Model for Excellence – was intended to represent the highest Romania's recognition, at national level, of managerial competence. It is based on the former EFQM European Model for Excellence, i.e. on the European Quality Award criteria, applied in Europe till 1999, as the European model of Total Quality Management (TQM). There are actually, in Romania, over 600,000 registered companies. Between years 2000-2008, only 32 organizations (mainly companies) got the <finalist> statute of the <Joseph M. Juran> Romanian Quality Award. This paper introduces - from historical and professional insider's perspective - the most important facts, challenges, issues and outcomes of this important and unique initiative.