

# Winemaker Gianni Zonin receives lifetime achievement award

Gianni Zonin, chairman and president of Casa Vinicola Zonin, has been awarded the prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award by Wine Enthusiast magazine. The wine publication declared the winemaker from Veneto the most influential personality of 2013 in the wine world, both for the overall contribution brought to the sector and for his extraordinary entrepreneurial intuition: bringing viticulture to the East Coast of the United States, precisely Virginia, more than 35 years ago, and being able to create from scratch a wine culture throughout the area.



The Zonin family leads one of the largest family-owned grape-growing and wine-making companies in Italy and one of the most important in Europe.

The company employs 700 people and reported sales of €150 million in 2103, with foreign markets accounting for 70% of total sales. Alongside President Gianni Zonin, his three sons, Domenico, Francesco and Michele oversee different areas of the company. Today, it is the largest private wine enterprise in Europe, producing 40 million bottles in 2013. Three fourths



of the production is exported, with the US being a primary market.