

# The four whiz kids of the bourse that beat the market

A return of 124% in seven months: this was the great performance of the winners of the Unversiadi del Trading competition sponsored by Borsa Italiana Spa and **Directa**

by **Mauro Del Corno**

A return of 124% in seven months in a market that rose just 0.5%; a performance that would make the eyes of even the most experienced trader sparkle but that was achieved by four students of Germany's Augsburg Hochschule University who won the third edition of the Unversiadi del Trading competition that took place from March 12 to October 5. Overall 97 teams (58 Italian, 30 German, 6 French, 1 British, 1 Austrian, 1 Spanish) participated in the event organized by trading group **Directa** ([www.directa.it](http://www.directa.it)) and sponsored by Borsa Italiana. Each 3-5 member team was given 5000 euros, which through leverage became 25 thousand euros, to invest on the **Directa** platform markets (Borsa Italiana, NYSE, Nasdaq, CME, Eurex, Xetra and Chi-h). At the end, about half the contenders kept their returns while **Directa** booked the losses for the other half. Following the victory of the Luiss Blue Team in 2010 and Genoa University's Liguria Traders in 2011, Italian teams placed second and third. Modena University's Golden Swan, with a 65% return, came second followed by Salerno University's Triple A with a 54% performance. France's Leveraged Alpha of the IAE G.Eiffel Paris University came in fourth followed by Polito Advisor of Turin's Engineering school and Trading System of Germany's Berlin School of Economics and Law. At the official awards ceremony, which took place at the headquarters of Borsa Italiana, the four winners -- Alexander Hempfing, Tobias Brickel, Florian Meus and Dominik Gerbing -- revealed their secret. "Initially we focused on German blue-chips, but soon realized it was

not enough," team leader Alexander said. "So we took on a more aggressive strategy and, using technical analysis, bet on price falls of Italian banking shares, with excellent results," he added. The winners will use their proceeds to fund their studies. However Tobias and Dominik are thinking of opening their own hedge fund and Alexander decided to reinvest part of his share. Seeking the maximum return it takes nothing to go from a double digit gain to a loss.

## RANKING BY PERFORMANCE

1		Tfoa	Hochschule	Augsburg	124,05%
2		The golden swan	Economia	Modena	65,54%
3		TripleA team	Economia	Salerno	55,67%
4		Leveraged alpha	lae G. Eiffel	Paris	52,40%
5		Polito advisor	IV Facoltà ingegneria	Torino	49,37%
6		Tsr trading systems	Hwr	Berlin	48,71%
7		Universitaet Heidelberg		Heidelberg	46,80%
8		Wall street bulls	Giur. Parthenope	Napoli	41,29%
9		Insert coin	Giurisprudenza	Bergamo	29,62%
10		Bv Aschaffenburg	Hs	Aschaffenburg	27,44%
11		Medicina Pisa	Medicina chirurgia	Pisa	22,89%
12		Stocastical team	Unical Ingegneria	Cosenza	22,52%
13		Hbk	Wiso	Hamburg	17,86%
14		The gutsy wolves	Univ.	Heidelberg	14,49%
15		Liuc Bulls	Liuc Economia	Varese	12,32%

**A German team came in first:** with an exceptional return of 124.05%, the team from Augsburg beat everyone, but the teams put together by Italian universities should be proud. The Modena team had a 65% return followed by the one from Salerno had a 55% performance.