

European Venture Contest Energy 2014

After a half day venture academy and an evening reception at the Horsens Art Museum, investors and renewable energy game changers engaged in a day long pitching, idea sharing and networking spree at the Vitus Bering Innovation Park.

14 October, 2014; Brussels

The third edition of European Venture Contest Energy (EVC Energy), organised by Europe Unlimited and hosted by Insero, Invest in Denmark, and City of Aarhus, with partners, Municipality of Horsens, Vitus Bering Innovation Park, CLAEN and INCUBA took place on 8 & 9 October in Horsens, Denmark.

The contest on 9 October began with welcome notes from Søren Munk, Insero and Dorte Wiene, Europe Unlimited. During the day, attending investors and entrepreneurs engaged in investment pitching sessions where every presenter had 8 minutes to convince the investor jury of his/her business potential and the jury gave 7 minutes of strategic feedback. Together they created a strong atmosphere for discussions, and networking and idea sharing went on beyond the breakout rooms, over coffee and lunch in the atrium garden.

This year, a venture academy was introduced to the contest format to better prepare the entrepreneurs for their pitches and meetings with investors. Ulla Sparre, Vitus Bering Innovation Park welcomed participating companies and coaches for the academy afternoon where 10 coaches and 16 entrepreneurs participated in the coaching sessions. Later in the evening, Mayor of Horsens, Peter Sørensen welcomed all the investors and selected entrepreneurs at Horsens Art Museum for a networking dinner.



In total, 47 CEOs from Denmark, Germany, Great Britain, Belgium, Estonia, France, Slovakia, Poland, Finland, Italy, Serbia, Sweden, Netherlands, Norway, Switzerland, Spain, Austria and Portugal applied to pitch at the contest and 30 were invited by the selection committee of investors to present at the event. On 9 October, the jury of investors and industry experts picked the top 10 companies, Award Winners of EVC Energy. These Top 10 would get direct access to the prestigious European Venture Summit (www.e-unlimited.com/evs) on 8 & 9 December, in Dusseldorf, uniting 120 award-winning companies from Europe Unlimited 2014 events and 100+ VC's, CVC's and business angels.

The award winners of EVC Energy 2014 are:

- GreenWay Operator [SK]
- Nordic Power Converters [DK]

- Aguasol [DK]
- BioGasol ApS [DK]
- Cityntel [EE]
- ECOmove ApS [DK]
- Flatout Technologies [AT]
- Picodeon Ltd [FI]
- PumpTire AG [CH]
- Skeleton Technologies [EE]

About the Organiser

Europe Unlimited

Founded in 1998, Europe Unlimited (www.e-unlimited.com) is a private Belgium-based champion in entrepreneurship support. Europe Unlimited is the organization behind the International Venture Club (www.iventureclub.com), a global collaborative network of independent, corporate and institutional investors; the TechTour (www.techtour.com), Europe's leading platform for growth stage entrepreneurs and investors; and several other pan-European initiatives (www.e-unlimited.com/events/list-upcoming.aspx) in collaboration with regional and national development bodies and the European Commission.

About the Hosts:

Insero

Insero (en.insero.dk) is a private equity that invests in businesses, entrepreneurs and projects in the fields of energy and ICT. This is done by offering venture capital, specialised consultancy and the proper network. Among other things, Insero Horsens has invested in nine start-up companies in the fields of energy and ICT, cluster companies in the fields of IT, e-mobility, energy (from the earth and the sun) and education as well as the consulting firm Insero Business Services. In addition, Insero Horsens also invests locally in education, culture and sports.

About Invest in Denmark:

The Danish national investment promotion agency (www.investindk.com) is rooted in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as part of the Export Council and works to attract foreign investments and businesses to Denmark. The objective of Invest in Denmark is to create and preserve jobs in Denmark, in order to strengthen the globalisation of the industrial sector, create growth and enhance the competence- and knowledge-level in Denmark. Invest in Denmark has specialised employees in selected embassies, innovation centres and general consulates in Europe, Asia and North America. In order to strengthen the marketing of all of Denmark, Invest in Denmark also has a close and formalised cooperation with Danish regions about attracting foreign investments.

About the City of Aarhus:

The Municipality of Aarhus (www.aarhus.dk) is experiencing significant growth in new jobs, citizens – including new students – and the international workforce. Collaborations with organisations are important to Aarhus and for the fulfilment of their climate plan. Currently, 42 organisations are climate partners with Aarhus, among others Vestas, Rambøll, AVK and Kamstrup. With the help of these organisations, the aim is to develop solutions, which will make Aarhus reach the objectives on climate as well as strengthen the export. Furthermore, in 2014 Aarhus will be able to offer organisations, students and researchers 38.000 square metres of attractive environment with development facilities in the new centre for energy, innovation and education, Navitas.

About the Partners:

Municipality of Horsens

Horsens is a rapidly expanding municipality located in the middle of the growth path of Eastern Jutland. According to Statistics Denmark, Horsens is one of the three fastest growing cities in Denmark in the next decades. This growth rate creates a significant possibility to attract more organisations and educations to the municipality. The business strategy of Horsens especially supports innovation, entrepreneurship and sustainability, however also the development of Horsens as an international meeting and conference city has top priority. (www.horsens.dk)

VirtusBering Innovation Park

Vitus Bering Innovation Park provides the settings for growth-oriented companies and entrepreneurs. They provide well-functioning office and meeting facilities, business counselling, access to the latest knowledge as well as professional networks – with the main purpose of creating value and business development. (www.vbipark.dk)

CLEAN

CLEAN is the leading, green cluster organisation in Denmark with over 170 members from the entire cleantech sector. CLEAN is a politically and technologically neutral platform, where companies, knowledge institutions, organisations and public authorities enter into new innovative partnerships. (www.cleancluster.dk)

INCUBA

Over the years, INCUBA has positioned itself as a unique incubator for start-ups through special support initiatives. At Navitas, the start-up environment is a major success, and several start-ups benefits from the open collaboration between the academic institutions and INCUBA. (www.incuba.dk)

Ends

Note to Editors: Europe Unlimited would be delighted for editorial attendance at the European Venture Summit 2014 and next year's edition of EVC Energy – Press delegates are welcome free of charge.

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