

Zubax Robotix announced as PowerUp! competition winner

Krakow, Poland – 21st June, 2018

<u>InnoEnergy</u>, the largest sustainable energy accelerator, announces that <u>Zubax Robotix</u> from Estonia has won this year's edition of PowerUp! the biggest competition for energy start-ups in central and eastern Europe (CEE). PowerUp! offers winners the opportunity to take part in InnoEnergy's Highway programme, that transforms business ideas into commercial reality.

Zubax Robotix presented its solution alongside 15 start-ups – selected from the winners of the country finals – at the grand final held in Prague. The competition was judged by a jury made up of corporate partners such as MOL Group, Rafako and EnerjiSA. Zubax Robotix was awarded a €30k cash prize and a chance to join the prestigious InnoEnergy Highway.

Zubax Robotix's technology allows electric vehicles (especially aircraft) to travel further using less battery energy, alleviating one of the most significant obstacles in the way of total electrification of all kinds of transport.

Jakub Miler, CEO of InnoEnergy Central Europe said: "Since our launch, we have invested heavily in novel technologies. To date, over 90 products and services have been supported and 120 startups have brought their products to market. But we're not stopping there, the quality of the innovative projects we're seeing in CEE and further afield is exciting. Zubax Robotix is just one of those technologies – that can really help to push towards a clean energy future."





Applicants to PowerUp! also participated in boot camp workshops to hone their ideas and develop skills to accelerate their businesses towards commercialisation – including professional mentoring during the competition. Runners-up include WellParko from Lithuania, who was awarded a €10,000 prize, and Neuron Soundware from Czechia, who was awarded €5,000.

Zsolt Winkler, Head of the Open Innovation Hub at MOL Group and a member of the jury, commented: "PowerUp! feeds us with fresh, crisp ideas and solutions from across the region. We are proud to be sponsoring the event for the second time. As we transform our company, engaging with start-ups through competitions like this plays an extremely important role in our strategy."

The country finals took place in Hungary, Poland, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Slovenia, Lithuania, Latvia, Serbia, Turkey, Ukraine, Estonia, Romania, Bulgaria, Croatia and Greece. The finalists were selected from 299 teams from the 24 Central European countries who applied to the competition.

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About InnoEnergy

InnoEnergy is the innovation engine for sustainable energy across Europe supported by the EIT.

We support and invest in innovation at every stage of the journey – from classroom to end-customer. With our network of partners, we build connections across Europe, bringing together inventors and industry, graduates and employers, researchers and entrepreneurs, businesses and markets.





We work in three essential areas of the innovation mix:

- Education to help create an informed and ambitious workforce that understands the demands of sustainability and the needs of industry.
- Innovation Projects to bring together ideas, inventors and industry to create commercially attractive technologies that deliver real results to customers.
- Business Creation Services to support entrepreneurs and start-ups who are expanding Europe's energy ecosystem with their innovative offerings.

Bringing these disciplines together maximises the impact of each, accelerates the development of market-ready solutions, and creates a fertile environment in which we can sell the innovative results of our work.

