



**27 October 2015**

**Berlin, Germany**

### **The Business Booster: Collaboration, innovation and success**

*KIC InnoEnergy brings industry and innovation together to prepare for the future*

Last week, KIC InnoEnergy, the innovation engine for Europe's energy industry, brought together big-name energy corporations, start-ups and venture capitalists during The Business Booster (TBB) in Berlin, from 21<sup>st</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2015. 18 countries were represented across 104 exhibitors, 215 delegates and attendees from key industry players including ABB, Alliander, EDF, RWE, Stedin and Total.

The event saw three start-ups receive awards for their innovations. Third and second place was awarded to EcoDryer systems, a low energy tumble dryer technology, and Gradis, a complete optimisation and control outdoor lighting system company, respectively. Each of the runners up received €3,000.

The top prize of €10,000, went to [Pro-Drone](#), a company using drones to revolutionise the way inspections on wind turbines are carried out.

"Many congratulations to all our winners and thank you to all who took part, it was an honour to hear from and be inspired by our ventures," says Diego Pavia, CEO at KIC InnoEnergy.

"This year we have been astounded by the quality, ingenuity and creativity that entrepreneurs are applying to solving real-world, big energy industry challenges. One of the main focuses of TBB was the need for collaboration between the industry and start-ups. Those who participated in the awards personify that spirit of collaboration and demonstrate just why it is so important."

The event also saw a number of presentations and panel discussions. During the 'Innovation in the field' panel, heads from RWE, EDF and Cornis, a start-up supported by EDF, agreed that collaboration between big business and innovators is key to a successful energy transition. In addition, they highlighted that using a common language in initial discussions and agreements could overcome hurdles moving projects forward.

In a second panel discussion David Arfin, Founder and CEO of First Energy Finance; Professor Ad van Wijk, Professor of Future Energy Systems, TU Delft; Jean-Luc Dormoy, Energy and IT Innovation and Anil Srivestava, CEO of Leclanché, discussed the innovations that will transform the European energy system. One of the key areas of agreement for the panel was that



changing the mindsets and actions of consumers is a key factor in the development of a sustainable energy system.

### Ends

Access more information and images on the event here:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/851v4z2y6g369uu/AAD3JmjSxR6eQ2nII7gH7sdIa?dl=0>

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### About KIC InnoEnergy ([www.kic-innoenergy.com](http://www.kic-innoenergy.com))

KIC InnoEnergy is the European company dedicated to promoting innovation, entrepreneurship and education in the sustainable energy field by bringing together academics, business and research institutes. KIC InnoEnergy's goal is to make a positive impact on sustainable energy in Europe, by creating future game changers with a different mind-set, and bringing innovative products, services and successful companies to life.

With its headquarters in the Netherlands, KIC InnoEnergy develops its activities across a network of offices located in Belgium, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Spain, Portugal, Poland and Sweden. More than 150 partners contribute to KIC InnoEnergy's activities, forming a first class and dynamic network that is always open to new entrants. The company's 27 shareholders are committed to a 7 year industrial plan in which they pledge to mobilise €700 million of resources during the period 2011-2015 alone.

KIC InnoEnergy is financially supported by the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) and, while a profit-oriented company, has a "not for dividend" financial strategy, reinvesting all its profits back into the organisation's activities.