

# **vilisto scoops German Innovation Award for Climate and the Environment**

Hamburg / Berlin, Germany – 27 March 2020

Hamburg-based [vilisto](#), the digital heat management innovator, is celebrating after winning the German Innovation Award for Climate and the Environment 2020 in the category “Using digital change for climate and environmentally friendly innovations”.

Backed by [EIT InnoEnergy](#), Europe’s largest sustainable energy accelerator, vilisto designs smart, self-learning radiator thermostats for commercial and public buildings, which have integrated presence detection, learning algorithms and room climate sensors. vilisto’s technology, together with their online platform, can save companies and municipalities up to 32% on heating costs while reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. Founded in 2016, the company launched its first beta series of thermostats with pilot customer RheinEnergie in the same year to then go to market with full scale production in 2018.

From over 140 applicants, seven companies were awarded across a range of categories. The Innovation Award is granted every two years by the Federal Ministry for Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU) and the Federation of German Industries (BDI) to solutions that demonstrate innovation and progress in the field of climate and environmental protection.

Svenja Schulze, the Federal Minister for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, Holger Lösch, Deputy Managing Director of BDI and juror Nico Peterschmidt [congratulated all laureates via video messages](#).

Due to the Corona epidemic, the award ceremony planned to be held in Berlin on March 26<sup>th</sup> had to be cancelled. Therefore, the prestigious award which comes with a price money of €25k was sent to all laureates via mail. That however did no harm to the vilisto team’s excitement leading them to organise a virtual team get-together to celebrate this outstanding recognition.

vilisto CEO, Christoph Berger, said: “We are incredibly happy and proud to be honoured with this award because it recognises the work of the entire team and underlines that we are on the right track with our climate mission. It is an absolute privilege to be recognised by BMU and BDI for the work we are doing, and our plan is to expand our technology distribution across Europe to make an even bigger impact on climate change.”

[www.innoenergy.com](http://www.innoenergy.com)



InnoEnergy is supported by the EIT,  
a body of the European Union

Christian Müller, CEO of EIT InnoEnergy Germany added: “Huge congratulations to the entire vilisto team for this outstanding recognition! Since their inception in 2016, vilisto have been true digital pioneers with their heat management solution creating both great economic and environmental impact for their customers in the building sector.”

## ENDS

### About vilisto

vilisto saves companies and municipalities up to 32% on heating costs by using fully automatic radiator thermostats, thus reducing CO2 emissions from non-residential buildings without any effort on the part of the customers. The digital heat management solution is based on thermostats with integrated presence detection, learning algorithms and room climate sensors. While the thermostats regulate the room temperature in a self-learning manner and according to demand, the connected online platform enables central and efficient management of the property portfolio. In the future, the company's climate mission will enable it to further expand its German and European business in order to create an even greater impact in the area of climate protection. vilisto GmbH was founded in 2016 and is based in Hamburg.

### About EIT InnoEnergy

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

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. InnoEnergy was established in 2010 and is supported by the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT).