



#EVS2016

Brussels, 20th September 2016 – Europe Unlimited is proud to announce that North Rhine-Westphalia will once again be hosting both the European Venture Contest NRW Semi-Final, taking place in Cologne on November 22, and the European Venture Summit, taking place in Düsseldorf on December 5-6.

The European Venture Contest aims to help innovative companies across Europe and NRW face strong challenges to raise investment for growth. Every year, it attracts over 800 innovative companies in the ICT, Life sciences and Clean and Energy technology sectors, which compete to be selected for one of the Semi-Finals or regional Venture Forums.

The European Venture Contest - North Rhine-Westphalia (EVC-NRW) will take place on November 22, 2016 in Cologne. The EVC – NRW will select the 30 most compelling companies active in ICT, the Life Sciences, and Clean and Green Energy from North Rhine-Westphalia to present their business to an international jury panel of top VCs and industry experts. The 20 best companies will then have the honour of pitching at the European Venture Summit in Dusseldorf – Europe's leading networking and investment event for young technology companies. The past two editions of the Summit attracted over 250 companies, with 40 NRW companies and 8 award winners from the region.

Ralf Schmelter, Managing Director of Innsystec, company winner of EVC - NRW 2015 and EVS 2015 said:

"The European Venture Contest - NRW is a great event, well-organized, a platform for numerous outstanding entrepreneurs. It is a great opportunity to pitch your idea in front of industry experts and investors and - meanwhile - build-up strategic relationships, and start the hunt for funding. We were delighted to be part of it, and present Innsystec".

For more information and to apply for presenting at EVC-NRW please visit the event's website <http://www.e-unlimited.com/EVCNRW> or contact Kameliya Stoeva at kameliya@e-unlimited.com. The application is free of charge for innovative companies and active investors.

The deadline for presenting companies to register is 30.09.2016.

The European Venture Contest's final event – the European Venture Summit (EVS) will take place on December 5-6, 2016 in Düsseldorf.

EVS 2016 is the leading event bringing together high-tech entrepreneurs, VCs, and corporate investors active in the European start-up scene. The ultimate goal of this 10th edition is to define the impact of disruptive technologies in Europe. Participants of EVS on the 5-6 December 2016 in Düsseldorf will share their ideas to grow their business across borders and engage directly with Europe's rapidly growing companies and key players from the European Investment scene. As highlighted by William Stevens, CEO and Founder of Europe Unlimited, *"This edition of the European Venture Summit will focus on the theme of disruptive technologies to debate where the key factor changes of the future economy lie. All main innovation sectors will be approached by our speakers and experts, with talks about the use of big data in earth observation to the optional recycle, just to give a few example"*. The facilitation of top tier investment and strategic partnering will also be enabled through high level networking opportunities, including One2One meetings and presentation sessions.

For more information and to register for EVS, please visit: www.e-unlimited.com/EVS or contact Annalisa Gardella at annalisa@e-unlimited.com. Registration is free of charge for active investors.

European Venture Summit Metrics

- **350 delegates**
- **100+ companies** and sector-focused presentations;
- **120 expert investors** providing feedback during company presentation sessions;
- **20 speakers** for plenary and roundtable discussion sessions;

- **Academy Master Classes** given by sector experts.
- Over **588 Million Euro raised** in the past 5 years by EVS companies

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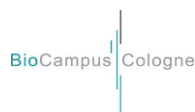


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About the European Venture Contest

The European Venture Contest finds, evaluates and awards the most promising entrepreneurs in the high technology sector by providing access to top-level international partners, advisors and financiers. The Contest is in its 10th edition, and over the years has gathered over 800 companies and 600 venture capitalist and corporate investors from all over Europe. The top 100 companies awarded at the qualifier events will present at the European Venture Summit in front of an audience of the top 150 European investors.