

European Venture Contest Energy 2013

After an evening reception at a 150-year old prison, investors and renewable energy game changers engaged in a day long pitching, idea sharing and networking spree at INSERO Horsens.

October 28, 2013; Brussels

The second 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, City of Horsens and the Confederation of Danish Industry (DI), took place on October 10 at INSERO, Vitus Bering Innovation Park, in Horsens, Denmark.

The day began with welcome notes from William Stevens, CEO & Founder of Europe Unlimited, and Søren Munk, Chief Investment Manager at Insero Horsens. Claus Møller, Head of Energy at Siemens A/S addressed the keynote. 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. On the earlier evening, Mayor of Horsens, Peter Sørensen welcomed all the investors and selected entrepreneurs at a rather unusual venue, FÆNGLSET Prison, for a mingle and networking dinner.

In total, 48 CEOs from Denmark, Germany, Great Britain, Ireland, Finland, Italy, Serbia, Sweden, Netherlands, Norway, Switzerland, Latvia, Hungary and the United States applied to pitch at the contest and 29 were invited by the selection committee of investors to present at the event. On October 10, the jury of investors and industry experts graded every pitch and the top 10 companies, Award Winners of EVC Energy, were announced at the closing and award ceremony. These Top 10 would get direct access to the prestigious European Venture Summit (www.e-unlimited.com/evs) on 9 & 10 December, in Dusseldorf, uniting 120 award-winning companies from Europe Unlimited 2013 events and 100+ VC's, CVC's and business angels.

The award winners of EVC Energy 2013 are:

- *Alpha Wind Energy* [DK]
- *Ascatron AB* [SE]
- *Ecoduna produktions GmbH* [AT]
- *Estibio ApS* [DK]
- *MicroShade A/S* [DK]
- *Moveo Co.* [HU]
- *Re-Turn & n-Tec* [NO]
- *Solarkiosk GmbH* [DE]
- *Sol Voltaics AB* [SE]
- *Windar Photonics A/S* [DK]

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.

In 2012, 850+ applications were reviewed online by investors, 500+ start-ups pitched and 130 made it to the Final of the European Venture Contest and the European Venture Summit 2012. To date, Europe Unlimited helped SMEs raise more than Euro €1.5 billion and promoted more than 2,500 entrepreneurs.

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:

City 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)

The Confederation of Danish Industry:

The Confederation of Danish Industry DI (energi.di.dk), contributes to an open and wealthy society in growth and balance. Their mission is to make Denmark one of the world's most attractive countries to locate organisations – with the best working conditions to operate in and from. When an organisation in Denmark wins, everybody in Denmark wins.

Every day, DI helps organisations in Denmark to win. Among other things, they help on foreign markets, at political improvements and with services and qualifications, which will strengthen the competitiveness of each company member.

Ends

Note to Editors: Europe Unlimited would be delighted for editorial attendance at the European Venture Summit 2013 and next year's edition of EVC Energy – Press are welcome free of charge.

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