



These are the most promising Industry 4.0 start-ups from Central and Eastern Europe

The EIT Manufacturing Co-Location Center (CLC) East awarded the most promising start-ups and scale-ups from Central and Eastern Europe (CEE) with solutions for the manufacturing industry at its BoostUp! CLC East 2022 competition in Vienna.

Vienna, 2 June 2022. Already for the second year in a row, [EIT Manufacturing](#) hosted its “Manufacturing Day” within the ViennaUP, one of the largest start-up festivals in Europe, organized by the [Vienna Business Agency](#). The Manufacturing Day is an event for and with start-ups from the manufacturing industry to elaborate on new technologies, discuss latest trends and provide networking opportunities with corporates and investors. EIT Manufacturing is a knowledge and innovation community (KIC) of the [European Institute of Innovation and Technology \(EIT\)](#), a body of the European Union, that aims to foster manufacturing innovation and to bring together European manufacturing stakeholders from industry, education, and research. One important part of their mission is to support young companies in the field of manufacturing to grow and to help them develop their businesses.

The Viennese branch of EIT Manufacturing, the so-called Co-Location Center (CLC) East coordinates the KIC’s activities in twelve countries in Central and Eastern Europe. In specifically these twelve countries, the CLC East in cooperation with its network partner Vienna Business Agency launched a call for start-ups and scale-ups with solutions in the manufacturing industry. While 16 selected start-ups and scale-ups from this “Discover Vienna: Manufacturing Edition”-Call were invited to an all-expenses-paid stay in Vienna during the course of the [ViennaUP’22](#) festival, only ten of them were chosen by an expert jury to pitch their solutions at the BoostUp! CLC East 2022 competition during the “Manufacturing Day” on 1st June 2022. Almost 300 participants attended the Manufacturing Day in Vienna and online.

With its activities, EIT Manufacturing addresses the most pressing challenges of the European manufacturing industry and focuses on supporting innovations that enable green and sustainable manufacturing, circular economy, CO₂-reduction, as well as flexible production systems. Many of the start-ups and scale-ups selected to pitch in the BoostUp! 2022 CLC East competition provide solutions to particularly address these topics, using Artificial Intelligence, Robotics, Automation, Sensor Technology, IoT or Big Data. The solutions presented will help the manufacturing sector to improve industrial performance and reduce costs, to automate business processes, or to prototype and customize products. The innovations can be applied in various areas of production from fabric processing and garment production to the inspection of industrial equipment or the digitalisation of the coating industry.

Winners awarded with cash and services prizes

The five finalists in the category “SwitchOn”, EIT Manufacturing’s programme for early-stage manufacturing companies, competed for a cash prize of EUR 5,000 provided by the Vienna Business Agency. [RoboTwin](#), a start-up based in the Czech Republic, convinced the jury with their solution for automizing and digitalizing manufacturing in the coating industry. The other finalists in the category SwitchOn were [Campfire Solutions \(nista.io\)](#) from Austria, [IMM-Data](#) from Hungary, [Senseven](#) from Austria, and [Silana](#) from Austria. SwitchOn winner **Megi Mejdrechova** of RoboTwin says: “It was a pleasure to be part of Discover Vienna: Manufacturing Edition together with the other start-ups and scale-

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ups focused on Manufacturing! I very much enjoyed meeting all those inspiring people and learning from their stories, sharing common hurdles or worries on our way to entrepreneurship, and also sharing the motivation and enthusiasm to make the industry better with our innovations! We at RoboTwin are introducing motion imitating robotics and with that we automate and digitalize manufacturing in the coating industry. We are teaching robots how to spray-paint by simply showing them the movement of the painter's hand once. The highlight for us was pitching in front of the jury at the BoostUp! CLC East competition and winning the first place in the SwitchOn category."

In the category "**Supercharge**", the EIT Manufacturing programme for expanding scale-ups, [RVMagnetics](#) from Slovakia, that has developed the world's smallest custom passive sensor, stood out among the other finalists: [Adapta Robotics](#) from Romania, [Pragma-IoT](#) from Greece, [Robotiq.ai](#) from Croatia, and [SaleSqueeze](#) from Slovenia. RVMagnetics was awarded with a service package from aws Industry-Startup.Net, consisting of introductions to the aws corporate network. *"I would like to thank the jury and the organizers for the award. Winning in the category Supercharge is very rewarding, but it is also a commitment for the future. Sharing our story is possible thanks to the trust of our clients and thanks to the R&D team of RVMagnetics to bring their projects to reality."* says **Vladimir Marhefka**, Member of the Board of RVMagnetics, winner of Supercharge.

Apart from the prizes provided by the BoostUp! supporters Vienna Business Agency and aws Industry-Startup.Net, the winners of both categories get a fast-track ticket to EIT Manufacturing's business creation services and deal flow for funding of up to 300,000 Euro in addition to access-to-market-support for more than 12 months from the EIT Manufacturing Business Creation experts.

"We saw a great variety of innovative solutions for the manufacturing sector, from new technologies for energy efficiency and connectivity to user-friendly education of workers executing complex tasks. The teams coming from all across Central and Eastern Europe showed a high level of quality, so I want to congratulate not only the winners, but also all other teams that pitched in the competition" says **Jasmina Popovska**, Senior Business Creation Manager at EIT Manufacturing CLC East and Initiator and Programme Coordinator of Discover Vienna: Manufacturing Edition and BoostUp! CLC East. *"Our goal is to promote and to create an environment that enables open innovation in the manufacturing sector in Europe. With our programmes, we try to build bridges between corporates and start-ups and help them bring their innovations faster to the market,"* she elaborates further.

While the winners of the pitching competition BoostUp! 2022 CLC East got awarded with special prizes, all 16 participating teams of the Discover Vienna: Manufacturing Edition 2022 programme will continue to receive support from EIT Manufacturing and the Vienna Business Agency. To facilitate fast access to the Austrian market, networking events and introduction sessions with the supporters of the programme, among others A1 Group, B&C Holding, Concircle, Factory Hub, K-Businesscom, Tele Haase, TTTech Industrial, and voestalpine High Performance Metals, were already organized during their stay in Vienna.

Background Information EIT Manufacturing

The [European Institute of Innovation and Technology \(EIT\)](#) strengthens Europe's ability to innovate by powering solutions to pressing global challenges and by nurturing entrepreneurial talent to create sustainable growth and skilled jobs in Europe. The EIT is an EU body which is an integral part of Horizon Europe, the EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation. The Institute supports the

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development of dynamic pan-European partnerships – EIT Knowledge and Innovation Communities – among leading companies, research labs and universities.

[EIT Manufacturing](#) is supported by the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT), a body of the European Union. It is one of eight innovation communities within EIT. EIT Manufacturing's main goal is to bring European stakeholders focused on manufacturing together in innovation ecosystems that add unique value to European products, processes and services and inspire the creation of globally competitive and sustainable manufacturing. EIT Manufacturing brings together more than [70 organizations](#) (universities, research institutes and business).

[EIT Manufacturing East GmbH](#) is one of the five Co-Location Centers (CLC) of EIT Manufacturing, located in the Technology Center Seestadt in Vienna, Austria. CLC East serves twelve countries in Central and Eastern Europe: Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Greece, Hungary, North Macedonia, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, and Slovenia, of which eleven are EIT RIS eligible countries, being considered modest and moderate innovators according to the European Innovation Scoreboard. Therefore, the Regional Innovation Scheme (RIS) Pillar Leadership and its eight local Hubs in the CLC East Region are strongly involved in the CLC East network and its activities. CLC East works in close cooperation with its ten full members from industry, research and academia: Atos, the Czech Technical University in Prague, Industry Innovation Cluster (IIC), Joanneum Research, Jožef Stefan Institute, LMS – Laboratory for Manufacturing Systems & Automation, Magna, the Slovak University of Technology in Bratislava, the Technical University Vienna, and voestalpine High Performance Metals, and its network partners AM-Austria, EuroCC Austria, Platform Industry 4.0 Austria, Vestbee and the Vienna Business Agency. EIT Manufacturing CLC East is additionally supported by three Austrian Ministries (Federal Ministry Digital and Economic Affairs; Federal Ministry Climate Action, Environment, Energy, Mobility, Innovation and Technology; Federal Ministry Education, Science and Research) as well as the Austrian Research Promotion Agency (FFG).

EIT Manufacturing — Making Innovation Happen!

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