

Athens, 10 October 2022



Eight winners announced as future of manufacturing goes on display at BoostUp! Grand Final

The future of sustainable manufacturing was on display last Friday as 20 startups pitched innovations that expanded the perception of what is possible, with eight winning ideas sharing in €160,000 in cash prizes, at the EIT Manufacturing BoostUp! 2022 Grand Final in Athens.

The 20 finalists were chosen as the most promising and potentially impactful from a field of 50+ applicants, with innovations designed to make manufacturing more competitive, efficient and environmentally sustainable. Driving this kind of innovation in European manufacturing is the goal of the BoostUp! organisers, [EIT Manufacturing](#), a Knowledge and Innovation Community within the [European Institute of Innovation and Technology \(EIT\)](#), a body of the European Union.

Startups in BoostUp! 2022 offered solutions that fall within one of EIT Manufacturing's four flagship areas for supporting sustainable, circular, and digital manufacturing solutions:

- Flexible Production Systems for Competitive Manufacturing
- Low Environmental Footprint Systems & Circular Economy for Green Manufacturing
- Digital & Collaborative Solutions for Innovative Manufacturing Ecosystems
- Human-Machine Co-Working for Socially Sustainable Manufacturing

The competitors were all working on pilot or proof-of-concept projects designed to demonstrate the validity of their technology, in cooperation with a large manufacturing corporation. Finalists were chosen based on their solution's relevance and impact to a manufacturer's specific use case and challenges, overall uniqueness and competitiveness of the solution, and scalability. Evaluators also considered the team's expertise and entrepreneurial drive and the general impression of the application.

During today's Grand Final in Athens, each participant had three minutes to present their project, followed by three minutes of questions from the jury, made up of independent industrial experts and investors.

The event was also an opportunity for the startups and investors to network throughout the day and during the informal evening gathering that followed the awarding of prizes.

"We were really pleased with the exciting and creative ideas presented at this year's BoostUp! competition. These startups will be at the forefront of delivering real innovation for the European manufacturing ecosystem," said **Klaus Beetz, CEO of EIT Manufacturing**.

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The winners

The winning startups, each awarded a €20,000 cash prize and Business Creation support services, were:

- [PurCity](#), Denmark
- [Ellure](#), Sweden
- [Neurality](#), Italy
- [Invanta](#), Czech Republic
- [QSEE](#), Israel
- [Embedded ocean](#), Germany
- [Stryza](#), Germany
- [YK-Robotics](#), Italy

An additional prize of €5,000 was given to Ellure for being the top-ranked startup led by a woman and Neurality for being the top-ranked startup from a RIS country.

Hosted by a new CLC, just after InnovEIT

The BoostUp! 2022 Grand Final was the first BoostUp! competition to take place in person in two years, as the last three were online due to the pandemic. The event was held in Athens, as part of three days of events to launch EIT Manufacturing's new innovation hub in the city, Co-Location Center South-East (CLC SE), serving eight countries in South-East Europe: Albania, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Greece, Moldova, North Macedonia, Romania and Turkey. Like other CLCs in the EIT Manufacturing network, the Athens hub will aim at accelerating cross-national synergies among the different players of the regional manufacturing ecosystems, including start-ups, scale-ups, manufacturing companies, solution providers, small and mid-sized companies (SMEs), universities, and research institutes.

The day before the BoostUp! Grand Final, the new CLC hosted the manufacturing event of the InnovEIT series. Starting 15 September, [InnovEIT](#) has toured Europe with nine events looking at innovation and policy from a range of perspectives – sustainable production, health care, education and regional growth, to name a few. On 6 October, InnovEIT was in Athens, looking at employing digital production and AI to empower stronger and more sustainable manufacturing in Europe. The meeting brought together top experts and high-level stakeholders from the EC, the Greek Government, EIT and EIT Manufacturing. EIT organised InnovEIT to take advantage of the lessons learned during EIT's first decade of operation.

About EIT

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

About EIT Manufacturing

[EIT Manufacturing](#) is supported by the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT), a body of the European Union, and it is one of nine innovation communities within EIT. EIT Manufacturing's main goal is to bring European stakeholders focused on

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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 80 members (universities, research institutes and business).

About Business Creation programmes at EIT Manufacturing

BoostUp! Bridge is one of the [Business Creation](#) programmes at EIT Manufacturing. EIT Manufacturing's Business Creation programmes bring together innovative startups, SMEs and corporates in the manufacturing sector, to foster joint commercial activities. The startups are supported in realising their unique ambitions with expertise, investment and other types of financial assistance. Corporates and SMEs can access innovative technologies across Europe, receive open-innovation support for challenges they face, join consortia to co-fund projects and find new business opportunities. [Find out more here.](#)

EIT Manufacturing — Making Innovation Happen!

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