

September 18th 2020
Press release

IMT schools are the big winners of the METHA Europe 2020 competition with two laureates.

The final took place during the EVER Monaco exhibition, partner of the competition.

The Institut Mines-Télécom (IMT) graduate schools are organizing a major entrepreneurial competition in partnership with EVER Monaco, METHA Europe - Energy Management in Transport and Housing- in order to highlight the most innovative projects; this year, the organizers have chosen sustainable cities as their theme. Competitors in the METHA Europe competition can showcase their innovation at several stages of development through three categories. The 2020 edition demonstrated a wide range of initiatives, including the creation of services, software and equipment, addressing issues ranging from mobility to agriculture and energy.



Student Category

The special "Students" category demonstrated the creativity of the candidates who presented their project as part of the student entrepreneur program. **Green Pousse** at IMT Lille Douai won the prize in this category with a playful and interconnected vermicomposting system that reduces waste irrespective of whether or not you have a garden.

The winner was in competition with another project. Modrone (Mines Saint-Etienne) designed a modular drone that can operate in any type of environment without human **intervention**.

After Creation Category

The "Ante-creation" category is intended to reward an innovative idea or concept. **Vve** (Towards an Ecomobile City) developed an online self-diagnosis tool for regions that want to make the transition to ecomobility by harmoniously combining mobility and organization. The winner was in competition with two other finalists whose projects were pre-incubated at IMT Lille-Douai. In-tracks offers a software service to support regions in their energy transition. Hydrogenis is interested in the production of green hydrogen from a redox chemical reaction.

Development Category

The "Development" category is open to companies that are less than 3 years old and part of the fields involved in the competition as well as companies that meet the European definition of a SME-SMI and that are proposing an innovative project in development. Three finalists whose companies are incubated in IMT graduate schools competed.

The winner of the category, **Agrove** (Mines Saint-Etienne) facilitates urban agriculture with its technological vertical planters (apps, sensors, AI and adjustable kits).

The other METHA Europe finalists in this category are incubated at IMT Lille-Douai and IMT Atlantique respectively. Hyboo manufactures ultra-light bamboo bikes with electric assistance made in France. Athena seeks to decarbonize energy by producing hydrogen from waste (wastewater).

The finalists defended their entries before a jury of experts (Invest Corporate Finance, MonacoTech, Apave, La SMEG) chaired by Raoul Viora, Director of Monaco Sustainable Development, meeting at the Grimaldi Forum in Monaco. It assessed the projects in terms of their innovative nature, technological breakthrough, the scope covered by the innovation; the economic and technical feasibility; and the regional, national or international economic spin-off companies that are envisaged.



DR IMT Lille-Douai Les lauréats de METHA Europe 2020

About IMT www.imt.fr

Institut Mines-Télécom is a French public higher education institution under the aegis of the Ministry for the Economy, Industry and Digital Sector. It includes 8 graduate schools (**IMT Atlantique, IMT-BS, IMT Lille Douai, IMT Mines Alès, IMT Mines Albi-Carmaux Mines Saint-Etienne, Télécom Paris, Télécom SudParis**), 2 subsidiary schools (**Eurecom, Insic**) and a network of strategic affiliated partners. Its activities in the fields of engineering and digital technology contribute to training engineers and managers, developing research partnerships, promoting innovation and supporting economic development. Always attentive to the economic world, IMT combines strong academic and scientific legitimacy, close corporate relations and strategic positioning in the key transformations of the 21st century: digital technology, industry, energy and ecology, and education. IMT is a founding member of the Alliance for the Industry of the Future and cofounder of the Franco-German Academy for the Industry of the Future with Technische Universität München (TUM). It is recognized by 2 Carnot Institute certifications for the quality of its partner-based research. Each year, IMT trains over 1,200 students, concludes nearly 70 million research contracts, and hosts some 100 start-ups in its incubators.

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Companies that employ less than 250 people, have a turnover of less than or equal to €50 million and or a balance sheet of less than or equal to €43 million.