



PRESS RELEASE

Innovative start-ups in circular economy, materials processing, and industry 4.0 to convene in Ghent and showcase the best high-tech investment opportunities in Europe at the European Materials and Industry Venture Forum

Brussels, 24 January, 2017 – The European Materials and Industry Venture Forum is taking place in Ghent on the 8-9 of February, 2017. The Forum will convene **30 emerging companies** and **6 European success story companies** in 3 sectors: materials and materials processing, circular economy, and industry 4.0.

The Forum is proudly supported by [Finindus](#), [EIT RawMaterials](#), [PMV](#), [Capricorn Venture Partners](#), [City of Ghent](#), [Ghent University](#), [Flanders Investment and Trade](#), [VITO](#), [Arcelor Mittal](#), [Gent BC](#), [FCA](#), [Vlaio](#) and [EEN](#).

Presenting CEOs will have the opportunity to participate in a Growth Academy to dry-run their pitches and receive feedback from an expert panel of coaches made up of industry experts and investors, before presenting their companies to top European VCs and international corporate investors the following day.

The top 30 companies, selected from over 200 nominations and representing 10 countries across Europe, are:

Selected Presenting Companies

Aaltra	BE	Greenkote	GB
Aito	NL	HERTRON	DE
ANTECY	NL	Infinite Fiber Company	FI
Applied Nano Surfaces	SE	InOpSys NV	BE
Cajo Technologies Oy	FI	KREATIZE	DE
Cevotec	DE	Kriya materials	NL
Circularise	NL	Nanto Protective Coating	IT
CommSolid	DE	Orange Fiber	IT
Econic Technologies	GB	Paptic	FI
Enerpaper	IT	Personal Factory	IT
Enprove	BE	Pozyx	BE
Eurekite	NL	SENSAFOS Technologies	BE
Expanite A/S	DK	SP Nano	IL
Fibersail	PT	Spinnova	FI
GFBiochemicals	NL	Voltea	NL
		Wuvio Chemicals Int.	NL

The Forum also welcomes the following confirmed panellists and speakers:

- Sven Vandeputte, General Manager of FINOCAS, a joint venture between ArcelorMittal Belgium and the Flemish Region, and Managing Director of OCAS, Finindus and I-SenS



- Carl De Maré, Vice-President of ArcelorMittal Group, CTO and Head of Technology Strategy and Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors of Finindus
- Mathias de Clercq, Deputy Mayor of the City of Ghent
- Claire Tillekaerts, CEO of Flanders Investment and Trade, presenting a keynote on "Investment climate and regional strategy for the Materials and Manufacturing sectors in Flanders and Ghent"
- Prof. Luc Moens, former Vice rector at Ghent University, Vice Chairman of the Board at EIT RawMaterials
- Dr. Karen Hanghøj, CEO of EIT RawMaterials
- Arij Vanberkel, Research Director at Lux Research, presenting on "Selecting the most promising technology start-ups: the case of circular economy"

The Forum is a proven and tested format by Tech Tour that has been connecting innovative entrepreneurs with venture capital and corporate investors since 1998. The European Materials and Industry Venture Forum 2017 is a unique opportunity for participants to meet a selection of the most exciting companies within the materials and industry sector and will provide various networking opportunities including a networking evening at the historic Ghent Town Hall, One2One meetings and coaching sessions.

Day 1 of the Forum will take place at Het Pand located in Ghent's historic City Centre. Day 2 is hosted on the premises of the Materials Research Cluster on Tech Lane Ghent Science Park.

Notes to Editors

About Tech Tour

Tech Tour was founded by VC Sven Lingjaerde (Endeavour Vision) in 1998, and acts as a platform to foster interactions through a range of pan-European regional and industry sector events. The scope of the events, the content and selection processes are driven by volunteer investors and IVC members. This offers entrepreneurs direct access to a unique ecosystem of investors, corporate partners as well as peers, to facilitate fundraising and partnerships. Investors and Corporate participants gain direct access to the most promising cleantech investment, acquisition and partnership opportunities. For more information, please visit www.techtour.com

Tech Lane Ghent Science Park

In close proximity to the Ports of Ghent and Antwerp, globally one of the most important industrial materials clusters (chemicals, steel, biofuels, paper), Tech Lane Ghent Science Park hosts more than 1000 researchers from 8 research organisations, 5 corporate R&D centres and numerous high tech start-ups. By sharing R&D infrastructure and semi-industrial pilot plants, new materials and processes are being developed in the areas of metallurgy, structural building materials, composites, and renewable biofuels. Access to excellence in high-throughput screening methodologies, large structure materials characterization and thermochemical reaction engineering are just a few of the core strengths. For more information, please visit

<http://www.ugent.be/techtransfer/en/scienceparks/techlane>

City of Ghent

Home to 257,000 inhabitants Ghent is the third largest city of Belgium. Over 74,000 students make Ghent the largest Flemish student city. Moreover, 14 world-renowned research institutes allow Ghent to play R&D champions league and act as a magnet for knowledge and talent. The city is situated strategically within Europe at different crossroads and has an important port linked to the Westerschelde and the North Sea. Ghent is a historic and cultural hotspot and Europe's best kept secret according to Lonely Planet. For more information, please visit <https://visit.gent.be/en/>



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