



Thursday 24th April 2008

Innovact 2008: 150 European young innovative enterprises (yie) were able to develop their network thanks to the 2000 participants present

Those who have not been able to participate in this edition and develop their network should not miss the next opportunity and should make a note, straight away, of the dates of the 13th version, on 24th and 25th March 2009!

Télérelief, Fluoptics, Optimal Filter Solutions and Apex Biosolutions...: their common denominator is Innovact 2008 and their satisfaction to have participated in this 12th version which differentiated these firms for their innovation and their spirit of innovative entrepreneurs.

Each one left, apart from his cheque as an Innovact prize winner or European Hopes for Innovation, with targeted contacts of investors, experts in innovation guidance, as well as useful and experienced advice to progress in the creation or development of their business. It is in fact during Innovact 2006 that Télérelief, at that time located in Paris and in the course of reflection on the setting up of the company, had met the participants of the Champagne-Ardenne region, and decided to establish themselves in the most sparkling French region...

They have returned this year with a company in Reims, strengthened and developed, which was sufficient for them to be awarded the 2008 Innovact Trophy!

These businesses represent perfectly the climate of Innovact every year, and the atmosphere yet again this year – profitable, professional, qualified and targeted contacts.

This perfectly illustrates the level of satisfaction of the 2000 participants and 150 young innovative enterprises present on the 18th and 19th March in Reims for the 12th version of the European Forum for the Innovative Growth Companies, Innovact!

■ An ever increasing quality

Quality of the files present on the exhibition space and in the various services was noticed by everyone. The files shown in the Capital Forum, for example, (13 files shown to 15 investors) were particularly appreciated by investors, and the Innovact encounters between entrepreneurs and investors have therefore taken on a very conspicuous new lease of life.

The participants presented their projects in plenary in the morning, and were therefore able to subsequently meet investors on their stand in the afternoon. These initial contacts were numerous, and while it is still too early to maintain any fund raising whatsoever, subsequent appointments have already been confirmed by the investors.

■ The figures

The 150 young innovative enterprises present, a total of 210 exhibitors, accompanied by the 2000 all professional participants, were able to take advantage of a very complete programme once again, including this year 2 important novelties: the *Good Practice Workshops* and the *Info*

Financing Village. Innovact remains therefore the unique forum in Europe, the annual rendezvous between the young innovative enterprises and the experts in guidance.

■ **Satisfaction of the participants**

80% of the participants declare that they were satisfied and very satisfied by Innovact 2008, in the knowledge that the majority of them were looking at this forum for commercial markets (amongst the priorities for 55%), the increase of their reputation and visibility (amongst the priorities for 48%), and financing (amongst the priorities for 44%).

They declare they are particularly satisfied by the quality of the exhibitors (71%), and the representativeness of the fields of activity.

74% of the participants declare they are satisfied by the quality of the growth companies and the innovative projects presented in general, whether on the exhibition platform, in the presentation of "Moment of the entrepreneur" or at the Capital Forum.

The background particularity of Innovact is in fact to provide very numerous services. This offer increases the opportunities of contacts and the entrepreneurs are supported by the Innovact team to make their choice in a manner appropriate to their situation and needs...

The participants of the various services declared themselves also entirely satisfied, like the College of Entrepreneurs (90% satisfaction), conferences (85.7%), the Good Practice Workshops (82%), the business meetings (75.8%)...

Finally, 80% of those who answered the survey maintain that they intend to come back for the 13th version of Innovact...

■ **Innovact in Europe**

20 countries were registered in Innovact 2008, whether as exhibitor, participant, partner or even contributor. Amongst them: Luxemburg, Hungary, Latvia, Spain, Germany, Slovakia, Ireland, Italy, Romania, Belgium, United-Kingdom, Greece...

Innovact keeps on developing important ambitions for the future editions and is at the moment thinking of the implementation of projects designed to increase the presence and the repercussions of Innovact at the European level...

**We hope therefore to see you for the 13th version
on Tuesday 24th and Wednesday 25th March 2009!**

Photographs available on request

Innovact is a Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Reims and Epernay event

This press release is sent out by the Direction of communication at the CCI of Reims and Epernay, organizer of Innovact

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