

EARTO INNOVATION AWARDS 2018



attributed to
VTT for the IMSE Technology
&
Helmholtz for the SenseUp Technology

Brussels, 16 October 2018

The EARTO Innovation Awards 2018 were given tonight to EARTO members **VTT** and **Helmholtz** during a ceremony held at the *BELVue Museum* in Brussels. VTT received the award in the Impact Delivered category along with its spin-off TactoTek for the development of the **IMSE technology**, which transforms injection-molded plastics into smart structures encapsulating sophisticated electronic functionality while being light, thin and durable. Helmholtz received the award in the Impact Expected category for the development of the **SenseUp technology**, which makes it possible to quickly and efficiently identify highly productive microorganisms capable of producing the basic building blocks for products made from renewable raw materials.



IMSE Technology
Surfaces come to life



Transforming the way electronics are integrated into everyday life



SenseUp Technology
Finding a needle in a haystack



Unlocking nature's potential to drive the new bioeconomy



IMSE technology reduces assembly costs by more than **30%** compared to traditional manufacturing methods.



SenseUp technology accelerates the microorganism screening process by a factor of **1,000,000**.



IMSE structures are **50-75%** lighter and take up **25%** less space than conventional electronic assemblies.















Sense Up enables the analysis of up to **50,000** individual cells per second compared to the conventional rate of **30,000** a year.

Created in 2009, the EARTO Innovation Awards highlight the various areas of RTOs' activities and illustrate RTOs' concrete contributions to innovation with high societal impact through the two categories: "Impact Delivered" and "Impact Expected". The Awards' independent jury chose the best innovations of the year. Our Jury Members this year were:



Peter Dröll Director, DG Research & Innovation, European Commission	Simon Edmonds Director Manufacturing, Materials & Mobility, Innovate UK	Christian Ehler Member of the European Parliament	Carlos Härtel CTO & Chief Innovation Officer, GE Europe	Jana Kolar Member of the Governing Board, EIT	Francisco Marín General Director, CDTI	Unni Steinsmo Corporate Advisor, SINTEF
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On the same day, EARTO has published the 2018 edition of its "Innovation Awards" [brochure](#), a collection of twenty-two innovations featuring EARTO members, which gives a flavour of the wide range of RTOs' work. Such innovations demonstrate RTOs' capacity to support Europe's innovation performance and their focus on solving today's challenges and delivering impact. The brochure includes articles on all RTOs that took part in this year's competition with a special focus on the 6 finalists which are, in addition to the two above-mentioned winners:

			NeOse – A digital nose for success , an innovative device which sucks odours and identify different scent molecules which are sent to a database of known smells for analysis and identification.
			TROPOMI – Around the world in a day , an innovative telescope which enables the meticulous daily mapping of air pollution around the globe down to the neighbourhood level.
			AMR – Next generation generator , on-site hydrogen generation system consists of a membrane reactor that simplifies the production process and generates ultra-pure hydrogen at low cost and with low carbon impact.
			Multi-Organ-Chip – A plug-and-play human , a multi-organ chip system which simulates processes in the human body and is key to innovation in drug development and personalised medicine.

Full EARTO Innovation Awards 2018 brochure available [here](#).

EARTO Contact: Kadija Taffah, Deputy Secretary General Membership and Communications, taffah@earto.eu, +32 2 502 8698.

EARTO Innovation Awards are given since 2009 to illustrate RTOs key contribution to innovation. Two categories have been created: Impact Delivered and Impact Expected. The Impact Delivered Award is given to an innovation already in the market and which has proven its impact on Europe's economy and/or society, while the Impact Expected category rewards an innovation which is not yet on the market but has great potential.

RTOs - Research and Technology Organisations: From the lab to your everyday life. RTOs innovate to improve your health and well-being, your safety and security, your mobility and connectivity. RTOs' technologies cover all scientific fields. Their work ranges from basic research to new products and services development. RTOs are non-profit organisations with public missions to support society. To do so, they closely cooperate with industries, large and small, as well as a wide array of public actors.

EARTO - European Association of Research and Technology Organisations: Founded in 1999, EARTO promotes RTOs and represents their interests in Europe. The EARTO network counts over 350 RTOs in more than 20 countries. EARTO members represent 150.000 highly-skilled researchers and engineers managing a wide range of innovation infrastructures.

Helmholtz Association is Germany's largest scientific organisation. It represents more than 38,000 employees working in 18 research centres across Germany.

VTT Technical Research Centre is among the major research and technology organisations in Europe. VTT's research and innovation services give VTT's partners, both private and public, all over the world a competitive edge. TactoTek is a spin-off from VTT and currently a leading provider of solutions for Injection Molded Structural Electronics (IMSE™).