Web Summit 2017: How the EU supports high-tech SMEs

This year's <u>Web Summit</u>, which takes place on 6-9 November in Lisbon, brings together attendees from over 160 countries for what has become the world's largest tech conference. European entrepreneurship will be on display, including innovative small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) that have expanded across borders with the support of the <u>Enterprise Europe Network</u>.

Web Summit 2017 is focused on internet technology. Attendees will include start-ups and tech companies. The Enterprise Europe Network – the world's largest support network for SMEs with international ambitions - will be there to showcase real-life examples of how its services benefit innovative European businesses. The Web Summit provides a unique forum for discussion on the most innovative technological trends and European small businesses will be joining the conversation.

What's happening at the Web Summit?

The Network will be in attendance throughout the Web Summit to raise awareness of its services among SMEs. Alongside the Network will be five European businesses that have benefited directly from Network help, and have the results to prove it. One success story will be highlighted at a Summit workshop on 8 November.

Austria: SignTime

Austrian firm SignTime has developed an on-screen avatar that turns information into sign language using smart algorithms. The concept, called SiMAX, will help public and private institutions make their products and services more readily accessible to deaf people. The Enterprise Europe Network helped the firm submit EU funding proposals, identify coaches and meet potential customers.

http://www.signtime.tv/

Italy: Mosaicoon

Italy-based Mosaicoon has developed a platform that connects companies and video creators from around the world, allowing them to cut production time significantly. To help the firm realise its global ambitions, the Enterprise Europe Network provided Mosaicoon with assistance on applying for funding; the firm successfully secured EUR 1.6 million to further develop their integrated technology platform and secured major clients worldwide.

www.mosaicoon.com

Spain: Tagsonomy

Spain-based Tagsonomy has developed Dive Tv, a 'context discovery platform' that helps audiences identify actors, locations and products in films and television programmes. The Enterprise Europe Network helped Tagsonomy to secure EUR 1.5 million in funding to improve their video analytics, and to continue changing the way viewers can interact with media.

www.dive.tv

Spain: Worldsensing

Through the clever use of sensors and a mobile app, Spanish firm Worldsensing has developed FastPrk, a smart-parking system that saves commuters time and patience. The Enterprise Europe

Network helped the company to successfully apply for EUR 1.5 million in funding to improve their sensory technology. The firm has since rolled out the solution worldwide and currently operates in over 50 countries.

www.worldsensing.com

UK: Mymanu

UK-based start-up Mymanu has pioneered wireless earbuds with built-in translation technology that enables users to understand different languages at the click of a button. The Enterprise Europe Network helped Mymanu to secure funding and provided vital overseas trade expertise through the SME IPR helpdesk. The innovation, called Mymanu Clik, is now ready for commercialisation.

www.mymanu.com

How does the Enterprise Europe Network benefit SMEs?

The Enterprise Europe Network is the world's largest support network for SMEs with international ambitions. It brings together around 600 business support organisations from more than 60 countries to offer small businesses support, advice and technical help to nurture their international ambitions, find business partners at home and abroad and access funding and finance. Its innovation services are specifically designed to help SMEs take innovative ideas to commercial success on international markets.

The Network was launched by the European Commission in 2008. Over the past two years, the Network supported over 300,000 SMEs across Europe, providing information services and training sessions. Over 100,000 SMEs received advice to innovate and grow internationally, over 45,000 SMEs participated in brokerage events held by the Network and over 6300 SMEs benefitted from tailored innovation support packages.

This support is crucial for Europe's economy. While new companies mean new jobs and new products on the market, around 40% of start-ups fail within the first three years. Early targeted support to help small businesses is an investment in the future, which is why the Enterprise Europe Network is a key instrument in the EU's strategy to boost growth and jobs.

Find out more:

Enterprise Europe Network

Web Summit

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ICF Mostra Communication is a communication agency in charge of the media invitations to the Web Summit on behalf of the Enterprise Europe Network.