



2010 - 2020
CELEBRATE
INNOVATION

NEWSLETTER

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Dear partners and friends of EIT Digital,

This is the last newsletter of the year. And what a year it has been! The COVID-19 pandemic has asked a lot of us. At the same time as a community we have shown strong resilience and were able to adapt quickly thus limiting the negative impact on our organisation. We really thank all of you contributing to this. We have seen high flexibility and dedication to have continuation of our work. Although the current situation is still serious, there is also the positive news of vaccines arriving, which offers the prospect that during 2021 restrictions to prevent the spread of the virus will be gradually relieved.

While you read this newsletter the EIT and the KICs are working on the transition from the current Horizon 2020 program to the new Horizon Europe program. Delays in the negotiations on the European budget and recovery package make that the transition needs to be done under a tight timeline. Assuming the formal acceptance of the agreement reached last week, EIT has set out the roadmap and timeline for the transition. We keep partners informed on the developments and actions that need to be taken. Together with EIT we are working on a smooth transition avoiding disruption of continuous activities. We count on your support to make the transition smooth and efficient.

During our Innovation Day & Brokerage Events we gathered more than 600 participants to discuss the achievements with respect to our ongoing innovation and education activities as well as to discuss ideas for the continuation of our work in the years to come. We are happy to see many ideas being brought forward and discussed, and we look forward to the journey ahead of us in order to make many of them a reality.

We like especially to mention the result of an earlier Innovation Activity, our successful social robot venture SARA, that won a prize at last week's EIT Awards. Congratulations to the team behind SARA!

We see strong progress in our Scottish community. The Edinburgh Satellite was instrumental in securing more than €6m of new investment in Scottish digital deep tech - a great success! The negotiations on the post Brexit relation between the EU and the UK are still going on and will determine also the position of the UK towards Horizon Europe and thus the EIT. It goes without saying we hope for a positive outcome.

Alternative payment solutions are high on the agenda and after recent progress with PeasyPay (payments using facial and palm recognition), we can report about successful trials of our Voice Commerce activity, focussing on voice recognition.

Also our Academy continues to deliver, with our Master School students presenting their innovation at renowned international conferences, four DeepHacks resulting in exciting solutions for our partners and sponsors, and numerous new Executive Courses available at our Professional School.

We are looking forward to a challenging and promising year 2021, to enhanced collaboration with you all, and a successful year for EIT Digital.

I wish all of you a well deserved rest in the coming holiday period. Keep in touch with your family, friends, and beloved ones. Stay safe, take care of each other and I look forward to meet you all again after the season break.

Willem Jonker
CEO EIT Digital

Innovation Day & Brokerage Event launch promising innovation and education activities



The 2020 Innovation Day & Brokerage Event on 25 and 26 September gathered more than 600 participants from 25 countries to discover recent success stories and achievements, and to discuss promising opportunities for joint deep tech innovation and entrepreneurial education. Node Directors are now supporting the next concrete steps to write the future success stories made of innovation.

The 2020 Innovation Day was also the occasion to launch our **online exhibition**, illustrating our impressive portfolio of activities, projects and achievements.

[View the exhibition here](#)

EIT Awards: Social robot SARA receives prize in INNOVATOR category



Congratulations to Serena Dorrestijn and the team behind SARA for winning a 2nd place at the prestigious EIT Awards in the category EIT INNOVATORS. The SARA social robot, developed as part of the "Social & Autonomous Robotic Health Assistant" innovation activity of EIT Digital, improves the quality of life of elderly residents, eases their longing for social contacts and reduces the workload of staff in care institutions.

[Read more about SARA](#)

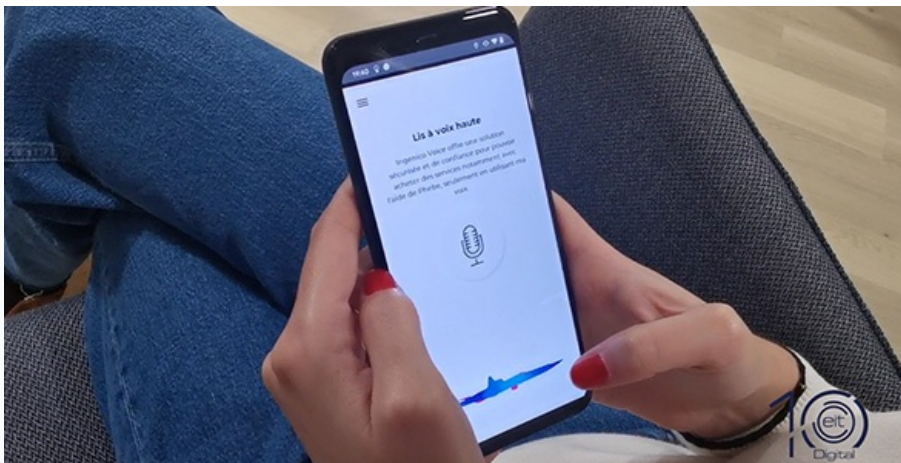
EIT Digital grows impact in Scotland



EIT Digital's Satellite Office in Edinburgh maintained strong progress in 2020, with €6m of new investment to commercialise innovative new digital products and fresh collaborations between international business and Scottish universities via three new programs focussed on Fintech, Privacy and 5G/Future Wireless Communication - all domains of national strategic importance for Scotland.

[Read more](#)

EIT Digital partners test voice authentication for payments in France



EIT Digital partners Ingenico, CopSonic and ValidSoft collaborate as part of the Voice Commerce innovation activity to develop strong voice authentication technologies that enable secure digital purchases at home, in-vehicle and in other environments. One of the technologies is currently tested in the French city of Argentan. Customers are able to securely purchase fuel at a hypermarket's gas station just by using their voice, without the need for physical contacts with human operators or payment machines.

[Read more](#)

EIT Digital Master School students develop solution that saves money and reduces energy consumption



As part of their thesis work, Muhammad Haseeb Asif and Sruthi Sree Kumar developed a feature to reduce significantly the up- and downscaling processing time for the Apache Flink framework from hours to seconds. This saves companies a lot of money and reduces energy waste, making the computing industry more sustainable. The students' solution is so relevant that they were invited to present at two global conferences.

[Read more](#)

EIT Digital closes 2020 Deephack season with 4 events



Following a rapid and successful transformation of the [Deephack](#) concept to an online format, EIT Digital and partner Ultrahack finished the 2020 season with 4 events. The [Data for Urban Logistics](#) DeepHack in early November, supported by UrbanRadar, was followed by the [Open BIM](#) DeepHack, that focussed on 3D modelling of existing buildings and was supported by Tractebel. Next in line was the [Mass Customization & 3D Printing](#) DeepHack, supported by trinckle, ETH Zurich and BigRep. The series finished last weekend with a Deephack on [Digital Technology for Charities](#), supported by Child Vision and Unicef.

Deephack is a proven concept for partners to get outstanding, creative, practical solutions for their business needs. Interested to run a Deephack with us in 2021?

Get in touch!

EIT Digital Professional School launches 4 new Executive Courses



Novel digital innovations challenge and disrupt the way business has been done in the past. The EIT Digital Professional School has joined up with its partners to offer 4 brand new Executive Courses that help successful managers to skill up: Applied Data Science Bootcamp, Blockchain for Digital Manufacturing and Logistics, Digitalisation and Industry 4.0 in Food Processing, and Sustainable Digital Innovation complement the existing portfolio of courses for professionals.

Read more and sign up

Application portal for EIT Digital Master School is open



The admissions portal for the EIT Digital Master School is now open for all students who want to learn how to turn technology into business. Graduates of the two-year programme are awarded with two Masters' degrees from two top technical universities, plus a certificate from the European Institute of Innovation and Technology.

[Read more](#)

Working at EIT Digital

Interested in working for us?

[Check out our open vacancies!](#)



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