

## Press release

The finalists for the German Entrepreneur Award 2018 have been chosen: the spotlight this year is on groundbreaking sustainable technologies

**Berlin, 5 June 2018** – The finalists have been announced for the German Entrepreneur Award 2018 in the StartUp and Rising Star categories. Six outstanding companies were nominated by the panel of judges made up of representatives from the stern magazine, Sparkassen, ZDF and Porsche as well as the award sponsors. The candidates will discover who has won the prestigious award at the Award ceremony to be held on 11th September 2018 at the ZDF studios in Berlin.

At the heart of this year's awards are pioneering developments with sophisticated business models, ranging from compact chemical reactors through flow measurement probes to intelligent energy-storage units and dedicated software. The companies are increasingly opting for technologies that are sustainable and use resources wisely.

The StartUp category focusses on one to a maximum of three year old companies whose business ideas have taken firm hold on the market. The nominees are:

- Ineratec GmbH from Karlsruhe. The company shrinks giant chemical plants to compact formats. Using wind or solar power, the decentralised reactors can produce synthetic fuels or create high-grade starting materials for the chemical industry
  - Oculavis GmbH from Aachen. Service technicians equipped with commercially available smart glasses and smartphones and the respective software from Oculavis saves not only trips to the customer but also time and money for all parties involved. Groundbreaking use of digital technologies for deployment in machine engineering services.

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- Vectoflow GmbH from Gilching. The company develops customised, robust, high temperature probes that measure the flow of air, water or oil with extreme precision.

The Rising Star category acknowledges companies that have been in business for no more than nine years and have achieved exceptional growth. This year's nominees are:

- **Ankerkraut GmbH from Jesteburg. High-end spice blends, beautifully packaged, very moreish and with no chemical additives –Ankerkraut has captured the hearts and cooking pots of enthusiastic amateur cooks.**
- **CQSE GmbH from Garching near Munich. Companies seeking to avoid potentially expensive software quality decay issues count on Teamscale, CQSE's code analysis program.**
- **Tesvolt GmbH from Wittenberg. Intelligent battery storage systems that pay off –Tesvolt has developed a vital building block for the clean energy revolution.**

The six finalists receive a consulting package tailored to their own individual needs from Porsche Consulting GmbH. In addition, members of the German Entrepreneur Award's advisory committee share their know-how and expertise in a two-year mentoring programme. The entrepreneurs also receive media training from ZDF and access to the German Entrepreneur Award's alumni network.

The entrepreneurs are put forward by the German Entrepreneur Award's 300 or so experts, who come from renowned companies, technology centres, ministries, start-up initiatives and the Sparkassen finance group. The experts have excellent industry know-how as well as many years of experience with business start-ups.

For detailed company profiles go to:  
[www.deutscher-gruenderpreis.de/preistraeger/2018/](http://www.deutscher-gruenderpreis.de/preistraeger/2018/)

You can see photos of this year's German Entrepreneur Award finalists at:  
[www.deutscher-gruenderpreis.de/presse/downloads](http://www.deutscher-gruenderpreis.de/presse/downloads)

Current information and photos can also be found on:  
[www.facebook.com/DGP.DeutscherGruenderpreis](https://www.facebook.com/DGP.DeutscherGruenderpreis)

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About the German Entrepreneur Award:

The German Entrepreneur Award is the country's most prestigious acknowledgement of entrepreneurial excellence and achievement. It aims to foster a positive entrepreneurial environment in Germany and encourage people to go into business. The award is conferred annually in the following categories: Student, StartUp, Rising Star and Lifetime Achievement. There is also a Special Award for exceptional business success. The German Entrepreneur Award is presented by the partners stern magazine, Sparkassen, ZDF and Porsche, who have been actively fostering a culture of entrepreneurship since 1997. The German Entrepreneur Award is supported by a stellar advisory committee that is tasked with mentoring the nominees and award winners. The German Entrepreneur Award is sponsored by Bertelsmann SE, Gruner + Jahr GmbH & Co. KG, Süddeutsche Zeitung and the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy

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