

NOTA DE PRENSA

PRESS RELEASE

Two cutting-edge companies are supported by the Biscayan Provincial Council and Telefónica initiative to stimulate entrepreneurship and the transformation of industry in the region

BISCAYAN STARTUP ISETIC AND MEXICAN RETAILSIGHTS TO MEET THE NEEDS OF INGETEAM AND TECUNI AS WINNERS OF THE CHALLENGES SET BY BIZKAIA OPEN FUTURE_

- The Biscayan firm Isetec is to work with Ingeteam on solutions to prevent and act on fraud regarding secure access to IT systems.
- Mexican startup RetailSights will collaborate with Tecuni to seek out technological solutions designed to help it to carry out the inventory of public lighting automatically.
- Proposals were submitted by 49 startups, SMEs, universities and technological centres, of which 28 are from the Basque Country, 10 from the rest of Spain and 11 international entities.
- The winners will undertake a pilot project paid for by the company, and funding of up to 20,000 euros will be available from the Biscayan Provincial Council to develop their initiatives.

Bilbao, 7th December.- A Mexican startup, RetailSights, and the Biscayan startup, Isetec, are the winners of the challenges set by Tecuni and Ingeteam, two cutting-edge companies, as part of the Bizkaia Open Future_ open innovation programme. This initiative is promoted by the Biscayan Provincial Council and Telefónica to transform industry and galvanise entrepreneurship in the region. RetailSights, based in Mexico City, and Isetec, headquartered in Barakaldo, will be able to benefit from funding from the provincial council totalling 20,000 euros each to develop their projects.

Based in Zamudio, Ingeteam chose from among 23 proposals the submission from Isetec, a technological startup specialising in providing high-quality management services that automatically monitor, detect and address incidents and problems in performance within information and communication technologies (ICT) systems and companies' business processes. Isetec also works in the field of latest generation machinery for industrial control and in conjunction with Ingeteam will develop a solution to meet the latter's needs in order to enable it to plan ahead in light of potential risks in the area of the security of its IT systems. Of

the 23 proposals submitted to Ingeteam, 13 come from the Basque Country, five from the rest of the country and five from international entities.

Tecuni, for its part, will work with RetailSights to achieve a technological solution designed to automatically perform an inventory of lighting, indicating characteristics such as geolocation, brand, model, type, information and support. The Mexican firm RetailSights, specialising in artificial intelligence applied to business to measure and analyse the operation and the behaviour of assets of companies and consumers through artificial vision, has been accelerated in Mexico by Wayra, the global digital startup accelerator for Telefónica Open Future_. Tecuni, part of the multinational group VINCI Energies, received 26 projects for the challenge set through Bizkaia Open Future_, from 15 candidates located in the Basque Country, five from the rest of Spain and six from international entities.

First cycle of the Bizkaia Open Future_ programme

The winning projects will have the chance to conduct a real pilot project in the relevant companies, paid for by those companies, and to opt for financial support or in-kind support from the Biscayan Provincial Council for an amount of up to 20,000 euros, which in the case of RetailSights will involve attracting talent to the region. Through its selection of the winners of these two latest challenges from the Open Innovation Programme, the goals of the first phase of Bizkaia Open Future_ have been met.

The Biscayan Provincial Council and Telefónica initiative revolves around the Telefónica Open Future_ open innovation platform, through a physical space and through a virtual space. The physical space, called Crowdfunding Ilgner, located at the BIC Bizkaia Ezkerraldea facilities in Barakaldo, has become a benchmark through which Industry 4.0 technological projects with an open, international approach are fostered. A place where numerous activities have been carried out to enable startups and entrepreneurial talent to boost and develop their initiatives, to allow SMEs to become aware of new business models they can evolve with, and to permit benchmark companies to acquire new knowledge and technologies designed to evolve and improve their businesses.

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