

Arborea and Graphenea: First Investments made within the INNVIERTE program's framework

Arborea and Graphenea are the first co-investments that have been made in technological companies related to energy and environment within the Innvierte program and have been led by Iberdrola and Repsol, respectively. Arborea is a firm that focuses on the manufacturing of unmanned aerial vehicles for a diverse array of professional uses, the standout use among them being the inspection of energy production and distribution infrastructures. Graphenea is an international model in the production of graphene, exporting its products to 40 countries and being a supplier to well-known multinationals such as Nokia, Philips, and Sigma-Aldrich.

The CDTI, through its Innvierte program, promotes innovation in business by supporting venture capital investment in technology and innovation. The intent of this model is to encourage private investment in Spanish SMEs working in technology under market conditions, with the aim of not only supporting its technological activities, but providing them with knowledge and the ability to manage the company and internationalize. Consequently, within the Innvierte program, many means of public-private collaboration in venture capital in information and communication technology have been put into action. Also, in the industrial technology arena and in the environmental and energy technology, the categories in which these first two investments were made. Along those same lines, in the Innvierte program's implementation approach, means of private-public investment in the biotechnology sector are in the works (see article in this magazine).

In 2013, the Innvierte program was put in action in the Energy Sector by enabling 5 collaborations in

total, led by private investors with an investment potential close to 100 million euros to invest in SMEs in the technology field related to the energy sector. Over the course of this year, more than 200 firms have been evaluated as potential investment recipients and the first investments have been made, with other businesses in the advanced stage of investment analysis.

Arborea

Arborea Intellbird S.L. was the first investment made in the Energy and Environment field. IBERDROLA, through its Perseo funds, and the CDTI,

through its venture capital partnership Innvierte Co-investment, have committed to invest 500,000 euros, structured into two separate payments, with the aim of encouraging development in the new company. This collaboration is stipulated in the agreement between CDTI and IBERDROLA in the program's framework Innvierte, in which they will invest 25 million euros in new technologies in the energy sector.

Arborea is based out the University of Salamanca's Science Park and is focused on the manufacturing of unmanned aerial vehicles for a wide array of professional uses, among them, the inspection of electricity production and distribution infrastructures. Its first product, the arcnocóptero Eol6, is a foldable, multi-rotor micro UAV (unmanned aerial vehicle)

The arcnocóptero, Arborea's first product, is a foldable, multi-rotor micro UAV intended for the wind turbine blade inspection



intended for the inspection of wind turbine blades.

The arcnocóptero is a UAV designed for daily use, accessible to technicians without previous training in handling of these devices, due to its automatic auto-stability that gives the pilot the freedom to fly without having to worry about maintaining the height and position or compensating for wind and turbulence.

The arcnocóptero, along with its associated software platform, allows for a greater level of maintenance inspection efficiency, reducing service downtime and achieving a level of detail superior to traditional inspection methods.

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