

Press Release

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50 fastest growing Belgian technology companies and 10 Rising Star finalists announced

Deloitte unveils top players in the Belgian start-up world with the Technology Fast 50 and Rising Star finalists.

Brussels, 24 October 2018 - Deloitte Belgium released today its Technology Fast 50, the list of the fifty fastest-growing technology companies in Belgium. Deloitte also named the 10 finalists for its Rising Star competition, recognising promising companies that have been active in the technology sector for fewer than four years. The Technology Fast 50 award goes to the fastest growing technology company in Belgium in terms of its percentage of growth in turnover over the past four years. Deloitte will announce the winner at the Awards Ceremony on 15 November 2018. [Click here](#) for the full list of nominees.

Deloitte is planning a matchmaking session for its fifth edition. These networking sessions will take place during the business forum together with the Award Ceremony. Through the matchmaking sessions, Deloitte will bring together start-ups with the CEOs of corporations and family-owned and run companies to expand the networks of the technology entrepreneurs. Deloitte aims to stimulate cross-fertilisation and encourage technological innovation here in Belgium even more.

"The Technology Fast 50 ranking shows that the Belgian scale-up world boasts very successful, innovative and disruptive companies. Thanks to their disruptive approach with a focus on scalability and the right team spirit in a global world, Belgian start-ups will continue to play a pioneering role in the (near) future," says Nikolaas Tahon, Managing Partner Deloitte Private.

Additional award categories

In addition to the award for fastest growth, one of the 2018 Fast 50 contestants that made it into the ranking in previous years will receive an award for Most Sustainable Growth. Dedicated awards will recognise one winner from each of the following categories:

1. Communications
2. Environmental Technology
3. Fintech
4. Hardware
5. Healthcare and Life sciences

6. Media and Entertainment
7. Software

Rising Star and Most Disruptive Innovator nominees

Companies that have been active in the technology sector for less than four years are featured in the Rising Star category. On 18 October, the Rising Star applicants made a first pitch in front of a jury of Deloitte industry experts. These ten most convincing companies are invited to pitch again on 15 November:

- [APICBASE](#) – Carl Jacobs
- [Around Media](#) – Wannes Vanspranghe
- [Byteflies](#) – Hans Danneels & Hans De Clercq
- [CrazyGames](#) – Raf Mertens
- [Effi-Drive Smart Telematics](#) – Jean-Paul Daveau & Bernard Berkein
- [Fullup](#) – Catherine de Viron
- [June Energy](#) – Vincent De Dobbeleer
- [REIN4CED](#) – Michaël Callens & Niels De Greef
- [Spencer](#) – Maarten Raemdonck
- [URBANTZ](#) – Jonathan Weber

For more information, please go to www.fast50.be.

The Rising Star panel is chaired by Duco Sickinghe, CEO Fortino Capital. The jury includes distinguished members from the business community:

Omar Mohout - Professor in Entrepreneurship at the Antwerp Management School

Heidi Rakels – Co-founder & CEO of GuardSquare

Veroniek Collewaert - Professor in Entrepreneurship at the Vlerick Business School

Ben Piquard - CEO & Coach, Principal at LeanSquare

Pattie Maes - Professor Ambient Intelligence at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)

Jonas Dhaenens - Founder & CEO at Combell Group

Duco Sickinghe, CEO Fortino Capital, said: *"Successful start-ups can count on a strong team, they have the right people in the right place. But most of all, they have clearly defined their unique selling proposition. This is the key for unlocking their full potential. The company that manages to demonstrate its maturity on these two points will be this year's Rising Star."*

The Most Disruptive Innovator award is presented to the Rising Star nominee that has developed the most revolutionary concept or product within a specific technology segment.

"It is fantastic to see how the Rising Star candidates represent their strategic story full of dedication and perseverance. Believing in your own product or service is the key to success," said Tahon.

"At Deloitte, we believe it is very important to create a network of successful technological companies because we have to ensure the future of the Belgian technological world. We are looking forward to following their growth process from up close."

The 2018 Belgian Deloitte Technology Fast 50 competition is organised in cooperation with NetSuite/Oracle and Fortino Capital.



Deloitte in Belgium

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