



## A contest to create connections with start ups and innovators

Techno is in the front row in the 2021 edition of Bluesky Call for Innovation, in the Change Prize section, which is aimed at innovators and start-ups to identify innovative ideas and help them develop. The initiative brings together CNA, Varese as promotor, CnaSmartClub as event manager and Techno as Business Partner. Anyone subscribed to the Change Prize section who accepts the invitation of the organizers by 30 September 2021 may participate.

### Focus of innovation

The goal of the project is to contribute towards innovation and boosting the productive sector by selecting, awarding and supporting entrepreneurial projects oriented towards tech development, digital services and low environmental and social impact innovative services in three areas:

- Innovations in connection systems for outdoor environments (plants/industry);
- Innovations in management and monitoring systems (IoT) in agritech/agrifarm plants;
- Innovations in production processes based on innovative tecnopolymers and recycling for low-medium circulation projects.

## The role of Techno

For each of these focus areas, which participants are invited to innovate and reinterpret, there will be a series of challenges, both general and specific, designed based on Techno's specific needs. Because of its role as business partner for the 2021 Edition, Techno will intervene at every stage of the support programme for the innovative companies that have been selected for the Call providing services, skills, equipment, market projection opportunities and investment capital in the best tradition of Open Innovation.

## Contest phases

By 15 November 2021, a jury nominated by the organizers will assess the market potential of the projects put forward and select a maximum of 10 to participate in the 8 week Pre-acceleration Programme. At the end of this phase, 2 projects will be selected which will go on to take part in a 4 week Acceleration Programme.

## Prizes and Credit

In the Pre-acceleration Programme, each chosen project will be assigned prizes in the form of credit released by the organizers to a maximum of 30 000 euro which can be used to make use of tech services and industrial empowerment. In the Acceleration Programme, the prizes are also in the form of credit to the value of 10 000 euro (max.), equity, semi-equity, guarantees and co-guarantees up to a limit determined by Techno in its role as Business Partner. The winning project overall will be awarded a further prize of 5000 euro. The final event for the Call will be held on 19 November 2021 at the same time as the Change Prize event.

## The role of business accelerator

“We are pleased to be collaborating with a prestigious partner like CNA, Varese for the Bluesky Call Innovation. In this way, techno is positioning itself on the national industrial scene as a business accelerator as well as a tech development and commercial partner for the development of connectivity markets and smart technologies that have become an essential feature of our lives”, states **Mauro Nodari**, Product Marketing and Business Development Head at Techno.

## What is the Change Prize

The Change Prize is a national competition within the Bluesky Call for innovation project. It is promoted by the National Confederation for Artisanal, Small and Medium Business (CNA) and is aimed at supporting the best Italian business founded after 1 January 2017 which have revived traditions, promoted their local areas or communities, innovated products and process for a better future. The initiative enjoys the support of prestigious partners and in the last edition, 2019, 946 Italian businesses signed up as candidates, the most deserving of which received various prizes in the form of funds or other services or formats. Find out more at [www.premiocambiamenti.it](http://www.premiocambiamenti.it).

## Who is Techno?

Techno designs and produces tech products using cutting-edge materials and technologies. It is specialized in the development of innovative solutions for electrical connections with high resistance to water and dust (IP68) with a production cycle completely contained in its facilities in Guanzate (Como). It offers a wide range of standard catalogue solutions as well as custom solutions and reinvests 10% of its turnover into research and development. Find out more at [www.techno.it](http://www.techno.it).