Press Release
Please meet our OpenLabs Brazil Contest Winners

Frankfurt am Main, Germany | Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, August 4th, 2021
The voting period for the first OpenLabs Brazil Ideas Contest ever, that started out in March 2021 and bore all applicants the chance to win, just ended. A SENAI and ISC3 expert jury just selected the contest winners! The ideas competition was held in the framework of an OpenLabs Brazil Project Pilot that is looking to bring a new way to share R&D equipment in Brazil, making science more accessible for all innovators.

Nine contest finalists won access to the ISC3 Global Startup Service (ISC3 GSS) LEVEL-1 General Support, including access to the ISC3 Online Library and Sustainable Chemistry Toolbox, as well as to a closed community of international sustainable chemistry start-ups (LinkedIn) for peer-to-peer support and an introduction to sustainable chemistry in the frame of a Workshop on Sustainability Assessment and visibility via promotion of their innovation via ISC3/SENAI communication channels:

SUI Biotecnologia; Ms Carolina Roberte de Oliveira, Ms Carolyne Caetano Gonçalves & Team, Brazil:
“In tackling landfill and resource challenges at once SUI Biotecnologia is promoting the circular economy. SUI is using agricultural residues to produce a textile fibre, which does not require the use of arable land and irrigation for the planting of raw materials and thereby paving the way towards a more sustainable fashion industry.”

GCell Cultivo 3D; Ms Leandra Baptista & Team, Brazil:
The 3D cell culture based on spheroids technology for drug discovery allows a significant reduction in the number of drug trials on living organism and thereby not only save animal’s lives but also decrease the amount of drugs released in the environment.

LowCost Chemistry; Ms Vanessa Machado, Brazil:
With decreasing water resources, reusing and circulation of water is an important contribution to a sustainable living. As laboratories often use tap water for cooling of chemical reactions Low-Cost Chemistry offers a way to reduce the impact of R&D to the water footprint of this facilities.

Additionally, the following two out of nine finalists were chosen for special laboratory support by our two Rio de Janeiro-based SENAI partners:

Special SENAI Green Chemistry laboratory support will be granted to:

BIOSOLVIT - The Biosolution Company; Ms Ana Catarina Gomes & Team, Brazil:
Using bio residuals to solve the environmental problems created by non-sustainable industries is an important contribution to save marine life. By being also more efficient than current polypropylene adsorbers, Biosolvit is a role model for bio-based products.
Special SENAI Biosynthetic and Fibers laboratory support will be granted to:

**ZeoFertil**: Ms Helena Schneider & Ms Camila Flores, Brazil:

ZeoFertil recycles industrial waste by using it as raw material for zeolite synthesis. Although zeolites are used in many industrial applications, ZeoFertil aims to use potassic zeolites as smart and green fertilizers.

And here are our **top four contest winners** who on top of the already mentioned ISC₃/SENAI prices will receive tailored support in the form a 1:1 sustainability assessment expert consultation, a resource prize in the form of 1-2 months acceleration period, the signing of a contract with SENAI on lab access, principal investigator support and supervision at one of the SENAI Institutes in RJ/Brazil, including use of equipment and lab facilities to run research and experiments needed to develop the start-up’s innovation, and an ISC₃ travel grant amounting to EUR 2,000/ approx. R$/BRL 11,700 for travel and accommodation in Rio de Janeiro, in addition to all aforementioned applicant and finalist prices!

The exact scope of top four winner support will be individually defined based on the type and requirements of our winning business solutions. The support shall comply with the availability of equipment and experts within the start-up’s chosen timeframe. Granted hours and services can be used at any time within 1 year.

**SENAI Green Chemistry will be hosting:**

**Conatus Ambiental**: Mr. José Renato Lanzi Martini & Team, Brazil:

One of the most favourable beverages in the world is coming at tremendous environmental costs. Conatus Ambiental tries to lower this impact by also using coffee peels as high-grade organic fertilizer as well as a source for sustainable functional compounds as an inhibitor of weed growths.

**MicroCiclo Biotecnologia**: Ms Carolina Minnicelli & Team, Brazil:

By using mixtures of selected bacteria to degrade oil from industrial waste and wastewater MicroCiclo Biotecnologia offers a product which aims to reprocess contaminated water. Thereby lowering the pollution risk of the environment and enabling different industries to deal with contaminated resources.

**SENAI CETIQT/ ISI Biosynthetic and Fibers will be hosting:**

**BYOMMA**: Mr. Ailton Pereira & Team, Brazil:

Textile producing countries are suffering heavily from pollution due to the use of synthetic and toxic dyes. By using microorganism and agro-industrial waste BYOMMA is substituting a petroleum based by a bioprocessed product, enabling a whole industry to become sustainable in the long run.

**Innsumo**: Mr. Diego Fernandes Livio, Brazil:

In our daily life we use plenty of cosmetic products which consist of toxic synthetic petrochemical compounds which are at some point flushed down the drain and into the rivers and oceans. Through an optimized bioprocess Innsumo were able to reduce the cost of the
biosurfactant in the order of hundreds, at the same time allowing high performance in cosmetics, hygiene and cleaning products.

We would like to congratulate all our contest winners on their great innovations and on their win, thank them for being active as Brazilian sustainable chemistry and biotech changemakers, and invite them to present their innovations live in the frame of our upcoming second OpenLabs Brazil Workshop on August 13th in the frame of Casa Firjan’s series "Webserie Pesquisa e Inovação, Webinar Programa Open Labs Brazil"!

To see our top four winner’s live pitches, please join our OpenLabs Brazil Workshop on Aug 13th at 10 am Brazilian time, 13 pm UTC.

About the ISC3
The ISC3 is an international centrepromoting and developing sustainable chemistry solutions worldwide. It is a globally acting centre, a multi-stakeholder platform that engages with civil society, politics, and the private sector to contribute to international chemicals policies and the formation of a global network for collaboration, innovation, research, and education on Sustainable Chemistry. The centre was founded in 2017 on the initiative of the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU) and the German Environment Agency (UBA). The ISC3 is anchored in the German GIZ (Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit) and has established a Research & Education Hub at Leuphana University, Lüneburg, and an Innovation Hub at DECHEMA e.V., Frankfurt.

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