

nano Challenge ²⁰⁰⁸ and polymer Challenge

International Business Plan Competition on
Nanotechnology and Polymer-based Materials

About



Veneto Nanotech has been operating in Italy since 2003 and its core business is promoting and fostering nanotechnology in Italy, by raising seed capital funds and creating real opportunities for the best researchers and scientists in the world to start new ventures in the Veneto Region.

www.venetonanotech.it



IMAST has the mission to realize an integrated system on research, training and innovation to develop the territory of the Campania Region, to improve knowledge, to promote new technologies in the sector of polymeric and composite materials and structures, and to promote new technological entrepreneurship by becoming leader in the engineering of materials and their industrial application, through the academy-company cooperation.

www.imast.it

For further information:

www.nanochallenge.com

info@nanochallenge.com

Turn
your Idea
into a
Great
Business!

**2x € 300.000
Grand Prizes**

**Registration and Executive Summary
Submission Deadline**
July 21, 2008

Final Contest
Padova-Italy, November 27-28, 2008

www.nanochallenge.com

info@nanochallenge.com

Organizers



Main Partner



In collaboration with



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Competition overview

Veneto Nanotech, the Italian Cluster for Nanotechnology, and **IMAST**, the Italian Technological District on polymeric and composite materials engineering and structures, are launching **Nanochallenge and Polymerchallenge 2008**, the international business plan competition for the best projects on nanotechnology and on advanced polymer-based materials, that offers Grand Prizes for a total amount of €600.000.

The goal of the contest is to attract the best start-up projects on nanotechnology and polymer-based materials and to turn them into a real business! This is a unique opportunity **for anybody anywhere**, who has developed a great invention in these two fields to start-up and found a real company in Italy.

The winners of the competition will be awarded with a seed capital **Grand Prize up to € 300.000** each (€200.000 in cash and €100.000 in in-kind services). The winner of the nanotech prize will have to start its operations in the Veneto Region, and the one of the polymer-based materials prize in the Campania Region. Operations must start by June 2009.

The Competition has come to its 4th edition after the success of Nanochallenge 2005 and 2006, and Nanochallenge and Polymerchallenge 2007. Altogether more than 50 international finalist teams have been hosted in Padova for the Final Contest, meeting some of the most important venture capitalists, entrepreneurs and scientists in these high-tech businesses. The winners of the past editions have already established their start-ups in our territory. Altogether about € 20.000.000 have been risen by participants from venture capitalists and industrial firms.

All finalist teams will be assisted during the drawing up of the business plan by Veneto Nanotech, by IMAST and PriceWaterhouseCoopers, that will mentor each team in writing a tangible and feasible business plan. The final business plan will then be presented to the Contest Jury, that ultimately will choose the winners. Veneto Nanotech and IMAST will organize an Investor Roadshow for the winners of the competition and for selected finalist teams appointed by the Jury.

Partners of Nanochallenge past editions included: Fondazione Cassa di Risparmio di Padova e Rovigo, Benet Group, Bracco Imaging, CEI – Central European Initiative, Dainese, E-Capital, Eurotech, Intel Capital, Lux Capital, 3i Investments, Innogest, Mapei, NanoDimension AG, PriceWaterhouseCoopers, Quantica Sgr, Selex SI, Veneto Sviluppato.



Structure and Deadlines

Phase 1

Executive Summary Submission and Selection of Finalist Teams

All competition entrants must register on-line at the Participant's Corner of the *Nanochallenge and Polymerchallenge 2008* website www.nanochallenge.com, indicating which prize they are competing for: nanotechnology or polymer-based materials. Each Team must submit an executive summary of the business idea, according to the model they will receive after registration.

Executive Summary Submission Deadline: July 21, 2008

All executive summaries will be screened by the Concept Jury and the best candidates for the nanotechnology and for the polymer-based materials category will be selected for the Final Contest.

Announcement of Finalist Teams: July 31, 2008

Phase 2

Mentoring

All finalist teams of both categories will be mentored (September-October) by Veneto Nanotech and/or PriceWaterhouseCoopers to draw a feasible business plan.

Final Business Plan Submission Deadline: October 31, 2008

Phase 3

Winners' Selection

All Finalist Teams will be hosted by Veneto Nanotech and IMAST for the Final Contest in Padova (north-east of Italy). Each team will present its business idea and will be evaluated by an International Contest Jury composed of important venture capitalists, entrepreneurs and scientists. The Contest Jury will ultimately choose and announce the winners of the Nanotechnology and of the Polymer-Based Materials Grand Prizes.

Final Contest: Padova, November 27-28, 2008

Phase 4

Investor Roadshow

The winners of the competition and finalist teams appointed by the contest jury will participate in an Investor Roadshow organized by Veneto Nanotech and IMAST following the Final Contest

Before registration, please read the Rules and Requirements, to be downloaded from www.nanochallenge.com