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## 25 Startups Changing How Business Is Done in a Sustainable Way

**The best of the next generation clean technology and business innovations from the Nordics and Baltics have been selected by the international jury of Nordic Cleantech Open.**

### Lund, Sweden

An international jury of more than 40 influential representatives from venture capital firms and multinational companies selected the most promising 25 startups out of the 104 Nordic and Baltic applicants of the Nordic Cleantech Open competition. The Top25 companies were assessed to have the highest innovation, market potential and ability to execute, which are important starting points for investors and industrial companies for collaboration.

Among the jury members are representatives from IdInvest Partners, Evonik Venture Capital, Capricorn Venture Partners, Dow Chemicals, Fortum, EDF, Robert Bosch Venture Capital, Stora Enso, The Swedish Energy Agency and others.

Next, the Top25 companies will meet the jury at Trolleholm, Southern Sweden, 17-18 March, where they get to pitch and improve their case. The Top10 will then continue to the Finals, 22nd of May in Malmö, Sweden.

Here are the selected Top25 startups:

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### Water and wastewater

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- **Altered**, Stockholm, Sweden – New nozzle that uses 98 % less water than a regular tap. Retrofit your faucet. Take water and energy costs down. Mitigate stress to water resources. (<https://www.alteredcompany.com/>)
- **Blue Impact**, Trondheim, Norway - Develops a technology for cleaning up marine oil spills. They use high-pressure jets to break oil into microscopic particles, so they can be efficiently degraded by naturally occurring bacteria in the water column. Their method does not make use of any chemicals, and reduces the logistics needed for treating oil spills.
- **C-Green Technology**, Stockholm, Sweden - Their technology turns wastewater sludge into an inert and odor-free bio-coal fuel product. The final product has no chemicals, biological safety hazards, micro plastics or pharmaceutical residue, and has up to 90% phosphorus recovery rate. Solution for municipalities and industries. (<https://www.c-green.se>)

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## Energy

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- **Eliq**, Gothenburg, Sweden - Software for monitoring and optimizing electricity use. The system collects data on energy consumption, smart home appliances and weather. It uses machine learning and provides feedback to users, e.g. appliances in need of maintenance or about to fail, solar panels being overshadowed or in need of cleaning. (<https://eliq.io>)
- **Enjay**, Malmö, Sweden – Recovers energy from the ventilation system of restaurants by deploying condensation, which offers average energy savings of about 250,000 kWh per restaurant. Reduces energy costs and CO2 emissions. ([www.enjay.se](http://www.enjay.se))
- **Epishine**, Norrköping, Sweden – Developed an organic solar cell with the best market efficiency indoors. For example, can replace batteries and power sensors developed for indoor Internet of Things. Now scalable and cheap for manufacturing. (<http://epishine.se/>)
- **Heimdall Power**, Steinkjer and Bergen, Norway – Provides power grid owners and utilities the data required to operate the grid safely and efficiently with their ‘neuron to neuron’ communication solution attached to power lines. Helps to use the power line capacity to its maximum. (<https://heimdallpower.com/>)
- **Leanheat**, Helsinki, Finland – Retrofittable sensors, which collect data on energy and software to control the central heating system with cloud-based models are the core of Leanheat’s system. The system allowed for an average energy saving of 13% by the end of 2016. ([www.leanheat.com](http://www.leanheat.com))
- **Phoenix BioPower**, Stockholm, Sweden - Developing a technology converting biomass to power at twice the efficiency of conventional steam cycle technology. With their method, biomass is gasified at very high pressure, and the product gas is fed to a gas turbine for energy production. Replaces coal in fossil power and CHP plants. (<http://phoenixbiopower.com>)
- **Sphebotics**, Tallinn, Estonia – The solar tracker system provides accurate and real-time solar and environmental data, correcting and adapting the position of the solar panels, and boosting significantly their energy production. ([www.sphebotics.com](http://www.sphebotics.com))
- **Teraloop**, Espoo, Finland – Combine flywheel energy storage, magnetic levitation, and brushless motors and you get a breakthrough storage system for variable renewables. Low levelized cost of energy (LCOE), fast response time, usable for grid scale energy storage applications and less greenhouse gas emissions. (<http://teraloop.org/>)

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## Mobility

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- **Airmee**, Stockholm, Sweden - Developed a logistics platform that can optimize the efficiency of transport fleets in real time. Their solution can automatically allocate each delivery, and schedule and route to the most suitable courier. Maximizes the capacity and efficiency of each vehicle, reduces CO2 emissions and congestion in cities. (<https://airmee.com>)
- **Apparkingspot Nordic**, Lund, Sweden - AirBnB for renting and sharing parking spots between organizations, individuals and companies. Sensor technology automatically rents out the spot. Users can search and rent vacant spots via the app or web, and they can get navigated to the spot. Less driving, less CO2 emissions, easier EV charging. ([www.apparkingspot.com](http://www.apparkingspot.com))

- **APR Technologies**, Enköping, Sweden – They bring dielectric liquid cooling technology from space crafts into electric vehicle (EV) battery system. Less material and power consumption, no vibrations, long lifetime and easy to recycle. Is the final EV breakthrough here? (<http://aprtec.com/>)
- **Donkey Republic**, Copenhagen, Denmark - Offers a low-cost and convenient bike sharing service by using smart, bluetooth locks and rental via users' phone. The rental method decreases operational costs and increases user convenience, as the customers can book a bike one night ahead, and then keep the bike during the day. (<https://www.donkey.bike>)
- **Parking Energy**, Helsinki, Finland - Provides a holistic cloud-based solution for Electrical Vehicles (EV) charging for large carparks and other venues where cars are parked for a long period of time. Has developed solutions for identification, authorization, metering, reporting, billing, electric load, grid load, etc. Cost-effective and flexible. ([www.parkingenergy.com](http://www.parkingenergy.com))
- **Woshapp**, Stockholm, Sweden - Water-saving on the go carwash. The service allows users to order a carwash through their app, to the location where the vehicle is parked. Woshapp then sends an agent to do the job by bike, saving approximately 200 litres of water per car washed. ([www.woshapp.se](http://www.woshapp.se))

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### Advanced materials

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- **Alina**, Latvia, Riga – Has developed a new type of mineral material, which is non-toxic, zero VOC, non-allergic, low CO2 and decreases the speed of biodegradation for the paint. Paint lasts longer, humans stay healthier and no toxic biocides and heavy metals are needed in paint and building materials. ([www.alina-premium.com](http://www.alina-premium.com))
- **Paptic**, Espoo, Finland – Wood-based material replacing plastics in carrier bags and flexible packaging. Bio-degradable, recyclable, convertible and versatile. Broad product development roadmap and possibilities to replace oil-based alternatives. (<https://paptic.com/>)
- **GraphMaTech**, Vasterås and Uppsala, Sweden – New ionic graphene nanocomposite for heat management (as a starter). 180 % higher thermal conductivity than other materials, low dry friction, self-lubricating, self-cooling and lightweight. Reduced energy consumption and longer lifetime for electronics. (<http://www.graphmatech.com/>)
- **Polylabs**, Riga, Latvia - Produces bio polyol, a key raw material in the polyurethane industry. The production process uses renewable resources (natural oils), and creates no waste or hazardous emissions (zero VOCs). Their customers can be more independent from crude oil, and reduce their carbon footprint, catalyst amounts and production costs. ([www.polylabs.eu](http://www.polylabs.eu))

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### Industrial processes

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- **Altum Technologies**, Helsinki, Finland - Uses power ultrasound to remove fouling from industrial equipment. No production stoppages, no equipment disassembly, no hazardous chemicals and reduced energy costs. Altum's technology at your (and nature's) service! (<http://www.altumtechnologies.com/>)
- **Distence**, Espoo, Finland – Makes industrial assets intelligent in demanding environments, such as energy and process industries. Distributed Intelligence based on edge-computing technology, micro-application architecture and a device cloud level platform. Optimizes and extends the asset life. (<https://www.distence.fi/en/>)

- **Fluid Intelligence**, Jyväskylä, Finland - Their software enables real-time oil condition monitoring, data storage and analysis, changing how heavy industry and logistics use lubrication oil. Companies can foresee problems with their lubrication oils earlier, maximize operational reliability, cut oil waste by over 50% and cut costs. ([www.fluidintelligence.fi](http://www.fluidintelligence.fi))
  - **Smart Plants**, Stavanger, Norway – Software to connect everything in the infrastructure and extract and analyze the Internet of Things data for building management and factories. Reduce energy consumption, reduce machinery downtime and optimize production flow. Can be installed over existing systems. (<https://smartplants.io/>)
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### Is the innovation hype worth a bite?

After the drop in investments into Nordic cleantech in 2009, they are greatly up again in 2017, according to Cleantech Scandinavia's dealflow analysis. Now it might just be the time for many cleantech companies to start to thrive. Sustainable business is becoming mainstream; yet, many big questions remain. For example, who is going to do a breakthrough in bioeconomy? Who will be the key actor monetizing on circular economy? Can sharing economy be a booming business or should investors look for IP-protected hardware technologies? Which horse to bet? We will keep you updated on the selection of Top10 companies!

Curious to meet the Top10? The Finals are open for everyone participating to Cleantech Capital Day, 22-23 May, a networking event for investors, industries and clean technology companies.

Sign up here: <http://ccd.cleantechscandinavia.com/>

### About Nordic Cleantech Open

The Nordic Cleantech Open is a business competition aiming to identify, upgrade and showcase the top 25 early stage clean technology companies and business innovations in the Nordic and Baltic regions each year. It is organized now for the seventh time by Cleantech Scandinavia.

For more information, visit <http://www.nordiccleantechopen.com>

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