

KATERVA

WORLD INNOVATION CHALLENGE



South African team leading in global innovation challenges



With the effects of climate change becoming a strong reality, this year sees the inception of a brand new global initiative: the Katerva Challenge. This competition is designed to inspire and applaud ideas that solve global problems. The focus of the challenge is climate change. Anyone can compete. Everyone can help. We all win.

50 TEAMS AND 50 IDEAS

The Katerva Challenge is one of the most expansive efforts to curb climate change – fifty teams will present fifty ideas to a global audience. “Any idea that leads to a reduction of greenhouse gases – either by prevention, protection or removal – has a chance to win the challenge,” said the organisers of the initiative.

IS YOUR COMPANY UP FOR THE CHALLENGE?

Your team must consist of up to five members with the intent to envision, design and promote an innovation which reduces greenhouse gas emissions. Experts decide on the originality, viability and scalability of your idea, but a worldwide vote will determine its popularity and appeal. While team members will be engaged and mentored through an unparalleled leadership development programme, the winning team will receive a package of business tools and services designed to make their idea a reality.

THE JUDGING PANEL

CEO and founder Terry Waghorn and his team have put together an impressive panel of experts consisting of some of the foremost innovation and ecological thinkers of the day. Amongst them are three South Africans: Graham Terry, Senior Executive Strategy and Thought Leadership, SAICA, Mervyn E King, chairman of the United Nations Committee on Governance and Oversight, and Roy Andersen, amongst others a director of Virgin Active and also chairman of the Boards and Directors Sub-Committee of the King Committee on Corporate Governance in South Africa.

South Africa is not only represented on the advisory board, but also have one of the first competing teams to actually enter the competition. Blank Canvas International and Associates, a Sustainability Transformation Consultancy, is the first South African team, also being under the first ten teams globally to enter the challenge.

“Joining forces to compete in this challenge is certainly going to be a huge team effort, and will introduce many new team members, global best practice models on sustainability and innovation, as well as unprecedented leadership. At the same time it is also a magnificent opportunity for the global community to share knowledge and expertise towards a common challenge that is threatening the

existence of the generations to come. This challenge is not just a competition, it is a race to save us from ourselves by applying innovation and design thinking,” said Raldu Nel, managing director and founder of Blank Canvas International and Strategic Associates.

The Blank Canvas International and Associates Team consists of the following associates:

Energy and Combustion Services (ECS), a focused technology company delivering high-performance energy and emissions management solutions to large industrial companies, and ECS-TSD is a company largely owned by ECS, formed to facilitate the development of technology solutions, specifically making use of mobile technology. Solutions are developed to improve operational business processes in instances where transitions take place, such as Transport and Logistics, Van Sales or Direct Store Delivery, Electronic Job-carding, Meter Reading and Road Condition Monitoring. These solutions are provided under the GreenFleet brand, supported by the Technology & Human Resources for Industry Programme. THRIP is a project managed by the National Research Foundation (NRF) and the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI). The programme mission is to improve the competitiveness of South African industry by supporting research and technology development activities, and by enhancing the quality and quantity of appropriately skilled people. (www.enerserv.co.za)

CS International (CSI) is an international award-winning full-service Lean Enterprise and Six Sigma provider. They are known in the industry for their ability to implement high-impact improvement initiatives that deliver benchmark results by aiming to deliver Lean Six Sigma deployments. (www.csintlinc.com)

The Da Vinci Institute strives for excellence in the field of managing technology, innovation and people and the Institute has a reputation for state-of-the-art thinking in all aspects of MOTIP. Da Vinci’s offerings are positioned consciously to develop a managerial leadership competence that goes beyond traditional approaches. (www.davinci.ac.za)

25° in Africa: A niche publication focused on energy issues, electricity problems, climate change and sustainability solutions. The company brings key players in the energy and environmental fields together, both in terms of the research, development and manufacturing of technologies and funding of projects. (www.25degrees.net)

“Today we have more knowledge, education, and problem-solving power within our grasp than ever before. We’re excited to bring bright minds together around a single purpose each year for the betterment of mankind,” concludes Waghorn.



Are you and your company up to the challenge? The competition entries close on 31 October 2010.

For more information, contact Raldu Nel of Blank Canvas International on +27 82 826 1136 or raldu.nel@blankcanvas.co.za.