

Press Release

Smart Green Island Makeathon 2023, 01.-04. March 2023, Gran Canaria

## Press Release

### **6. Smart Green Island Makeathon on Gran Canaria**

**Young talents work together on digital and sustainable future ideas for innovative prototypes over four days**

*With its different climate zones, Gran Canaria has ideal conditions for supplying the island with sustainable renewable energies. A quarter of the electricity demand is already generated by renewable energies, including the newly opened and world's largest wind farm on an island. ITQ GmbH has been seeing this potential for years and is addressing the digital change and the necessary global networking to defuse the shortage of skilled workers with a variety of projects on the island.*

Garching, January 27th, 2023 – After a two-year break, ITQ GmbH invites young students to the **6th SMART GREEN ISLAND MAKEATHON**. The company is organizing this year's **Innovation Festival on Gran Canaria** from **March 1st to 4th, 2023** with the aim of training future engineers to become innovative and creative specialists and bringing them into direct contact with companies.

At the 6th SMART GREEN ISLAND MAKEATHON, a total of 300 young students, and representatives from universities as well as international companies from various industries will meet to work together on innovative and sustainable project ideas. The aim of the four-day **Make-Marathon** is to get young people excited about digital progress, to enable them to work on sustainable ideas and to design the first prototypes. The **Young Talents** gain important experience in project management and improve their soft skills. A special highlight this year is the **hybrid participation from Bogota, Colombia**. Smart Farming systems are already being set up there. Together with a team from the **Universidad de los Andes**, these systems are to be simulated on Gran Canaria and controlled via an **IoT platform** in Bogota.

In this way, the first prototypes are created within just four days, which advance the idea of a **Smart Green Island** – a climate-neutral island Gran Canaria – with the topics of sustainable technologies as well as environmental and climate protection. The **MAKEATHON** also offers a new recruiting platform for all **participants from 15 nations** to network and get to know industry-leading companies.

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"The topics of sustainability and digitization are still very popular in companies. In addition, the serious shortage of skilled workers shows that we must break new ground in recruiting. The demand and interest in our innovation festival was enormous this year. With our sponsors and partners, we are pursuing the goal of promoting sustainable innovations and preparing the younger generation for the digital future in the best possible way," says Dr. Rainer Stetter, Managing Director, of ITQ GmbH.



Image: SMART GREEN ISLAND MAKEATHON 2023

A total of **25 companies** are taking part in the MAKEATHON. In addition to financial support, the sponsors develop initial ideas for **sustainable projects** in advance, which are then implemented in prototypes by the participants.

The 6th SMART GREEN ISLAND MAKEATHON is financially supported by **national and international sponsors**. Special thanks go to the **Platin-Sponsors**: [B&R Industrial Automation](#), [Murrelektronik](#), [igus](#), [Beckhoff Automation](#). **Gold-Sponsors** are: [Cabildo de Gran Canaria](#), [Spegc](#), [Fundacion Sergio Alonso](#), [Vishay](#), [Lorenz](#), [MathWorks](#). **Silver-Sponsors** are: [TRUMPF](#), [OPTIMA](#), [AGCO/Fendt](#), [Honda R&D Europe](#), [MVTec](#), [Gruppo ASA](#), [Packaging Valley](#).

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### **About ITQ GmbH**

Founded in 1998, ITQ GmbH is an independent engineering and consulting company with a focus on automation, mechanical and plant engineering. The experienced team of experts specializes in interdisciplinary problem solving related to software and systems engineering. Its core competencies include software engineering (analysis, design, implementation, testing) and process improvement as well as project and crisis management as well as consulting and coaching.

A special concern of ITQ is both requirements-oriented and forward-looking training as well as continuing education concepts, which already start with the younger generations. Therefore, the company promotes young academics in practical study projects as well as technical workshops for children, pupils, and students through their Gerda Stetter Foundation – Technik macht Spass!

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### **More Information:**

[ITQ GmbH](#)

[Dr. Stetter ITQ S.L.U](#)

[SMART GREEN ISLAND MAKEATHON](#)

[Gerda Stetter Foundation – Technik macht Spaß!](#)

### **Photo Material:**

[SMART GREEN ISLAND MAKEATHON](#)

### **Press Contact:**

#### **ITQ GmbH**

Caroline Schiller

Parkring 4 | D-85748 Garching b. München

Phone: +49 (0) 89 321981-74

E-Mail: [schiller@itq.de](mailto:schiller@itq.de)

[www.itq.de](http://www.itq.de)