

# INNOVATION CHALLENGE | BW

Gefördert durch: Ministerium für Wissenschaft, Forschung und Kunst Baden-Württemberg



- 29 Challenges submitted from as many companies
- 24 of those were admitted to the process (rejections only on grounds of lack of pre-competitiveness or insufficient disruptive potential)
- 30 participating institutes, overall 140 participants
- 96 Matchmaking conversations at the "Hackathon"
- 16 projects eventually submitted for funding
- 11 projects approved, total funding by MSRA of 1.152.000 €

That's what participants said:

- ...Exciting format...
- ...clearly less time and effort until funding...
- ...competition is good... (even academia approves...)
- ...innovative concept...

A selective and competitive funnel...



... catering for the needs of small and medium-sized enterprises (SME's)

Rapid process, tailored to SME's capabilities and capacities

No wasted research capacity and funds, as the SME requests a proposal based on its immediate needs

**The Innovation Challenge BW** is a hackathon made for SMEs and Startups and University research institutes in the field of lightweight technology, implemented by Leichtbau BW. SMEs and startups apply with an innovation problem, while research teams, from the area of Baden-Württemberg choose to ideate solutions for as many innovation problems as they want. The general purpose of the challenge is to fasten the implementation of innovative ideas of industry-oriented research topics and to strengthen the innovation in the field of the lightweight technology industry of Baden- Württemberg.

The results delivered are project ideas for solving the innovation problems proposed by the companies. Therefore, the prize for the companies was the opportunity to implement the innovative solution proposed by the research institute they chose, while the research institutes won funding for implementing the solution they presented. In the past years some of these solutions involved 3D printing.

Leichtbau BW is a collaborative network of more than 2.200 companies and more than 300 research facilities – which is probably the largest lightweighting network in the world. For your individual needs, Leichtbau BW selects the most suitable institutions and persons and bring you into contact with suppliers, project partners and research institutes from the lightweighting sector in Baden-Württemberg.

Lessons learned and hints for implementation:

- companies require detailed explanations in advance; do not take for granted that what is clear to the organization is clear to the beneficiaries.

To know more about this initiative, please  
**visit:** [www.leichtbau-bw.de/challenge](http://www.leichtbau-bw.de/challenge)  
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