

PRESS RELEASE

Bolzano/Bozen, 14 November 2023

A different kind of marathon: 90 young talents programme non-stop for 24 hours for companies

Successful Hackathon SFSCON Edition at NOI Techpark

Bolzano/Bozen, 14 November 2023 – At 3 p.m. sharp on Friday, 10 November, the Hackathon SFSCON Edition kicked off. Ninety software developers and creatives gathered at NOI Techpark, ready to work for twenty-four hours straight on challenges from seven companies. Konverto, VMware, Beez, Gruber Logistics, Infominds, Systems and Mooovex, in cooperation with lvh.apa, had set challenges and were looking for innovative digital solutions at the hackathon. And they got them: from an online marketplace for trading digital assets, to a user-friendly voice recognition interface for a booking app, to tracking freight vehicles using image recognition and machine learning.

The hackathon was organised in collaboration with **Fondazione Cassa di Risparmio di Bolzano/ Stiftung Südtiroler Sparkasse** as part of **SFSCON, the international free software conference held at NOI Techpark**. Over a thousand participants spent two days discussing trends and technologies, innovations and news in the open source landscape. Ninety of them took on the programming marathon and the **challenges of the participating companies**, including the **two supporters of this year's Hackathon SFSCON Edition**:

VMware, a leading international provider of multi-cloud services with an R&D facility at NOI Techpark, was looking for a solution to optimise the charging experience for electric cars using artificial intelligence. The **IntelliCharge** team has revolutionised the charging experience by using artificial intelligence models such as facial expression and number plate recognition, along with a front-end service that uses data from the **Open Data Hub** to suggest places of interest for users to visit while charging.

Konverto, a local IT solution provider, gained new insights during the hackathon by challenging young developers to use high-resolution satellite images for agricultural applications. The **CosmicCarrots** working group has developed a platform that provides farmers with valuable information about the impact of climate change on their fields and orchards, as well as the best time to harvest and how their fields compare to neighbouring agricultural areas.

As in the previous edition, participants were able to use the **Maker Space prototype workshop** to visualise their ideas or manufacture components for their solutions. A combination of software and hardware increasingly in demand in day-to-day business operations. **All information, challenges, projects, and winning teams of the hackathon can be viewed at hackathon.bz.it.**

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