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PRESS RELEASE

Social start-up based in Spain

Mouse4all selected as one of the ten finalists in 2017 European Social Innovation Competition 'Equality Rebooted'

- Mouse4all is an accessibility solution aimed at the millions of people with physical disabilities that cannot use the touch screen of tablets and smartphones.
- Ten European social innovators to compete for three €50,000 prizes awarded by the European Commission.

10 October 2017- Mouse4all has been selected from a shortlist of 30 semi-finalists out of almost 800 entries in the 2017 edition of the European Social Innovation Competition, Equality Rebooted. This year's Finalists have ideas to 'reboot' equality and ensure everyone in Europe benefits from the opportunities created by technological change. Their solutions present fresh, energetic approaches to digital inclusion, collaborative economy, connectivity and skills development.

Mouse4all is an assistive technology which enables people with severe physical disabilities to access an Android tablet or smartphone without touching the screen. It consists of a combination of hardware (connectivity box) and software (Android app). The box allows the connection of the standard alternative input devices that the users require: switches, adapted mouse, trackball or joystick.

José Angel Jiménez co-founder of Mouse4all said: "We came up with the idea two years ago when we realized that the digital revolution had left behind millions of people who cannot use a touch screen due to cerebral palsy, spinal cord injury, multiple sclerosis, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) or neuromuscular diseases."

Mouse4all was launched commercially in Spain last July. It has already changed the lives of our users, who for the very first time have been able to participate in digital society, improving their autonomy, privacy and self-esteem.

Javier Montaner, co-founder of Mouse4all, commented: "Following our development and testing phase, our plan now is to expand the distribution network internationally to solve a global problem experienced by persons with disabilities worldwide. Being a finalist of the competition is already giving Mouse4all a level of visibility and credibility that will help us to scale and grow."

Organized since 2012 in memory of Portuguese politician and social innovator Diogo Vasconcelos, the European Social Innovation Competition will help the most innovative ideas to become real and sustainable projects.

Three winners will be selected from the 10 Finalists and will each be awarded with a prize of €50,000 at the Awards Ceremony on 26 October 2017 in Brussels.

See the 2017 Competition list of all 30 semi-finalists, including the 10 finalists here: http://eusic.challenges.org/selected/



Image: Javier Montaner and José Ángel Jiménez, co-founders of Mouse4all

About Mouse4all

Mouse4all has been designed and developed by two Spanish engineers, José Angel Jiménez and Javier Montaner, cofounders of Mouse4all SL. It is a social start-up which aims to use technology "to make the world a bit better".

The product has been validated with all key stakeholders: end-users, families, therapists, associations, daycare centers and public administration. Mouse4all has also been included in the Catalogue of Assistive Technologies managed by CEAPAT (Spanish Reference Center for Assistive Technology).

For more information on Mouse4all:

Watch video presentation (enable English subtitles): http://bit.ly/2uQvqpT Web page: mouse4all.com/en/

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