

PRESS RELEASE

Vienna, Austria

Mouse4all, Global Champion in United Nations World Summit Awards

- **Mouse4all from Spain has been announced as the best digital innovation in the category Inclusion & Empowerment.**
- **It is an assistive product aimed at the millions of persons with physical disabilities that cannot use the touch screen of tablets and smartphones.**

March 23 2018 – Mouse4all was announced as Global Champion in the category Inclusion & Empowerment at the World Summit Awards (WSA) gala celebrated yesterday in Vienna, Austria. Javier Montaner, cofounder of Mouse4all, received the prize in the presence of the Austrian Federal Minister for Digital and Economic Affairs, the Mayor of Vienna, UN representatives and members of the private sector.

This year's edition of WSA received more than 400 nominations from 180 different countries. The gala was the culmination of WSA Global Congress 2018, that brought together 40 Winner projects grouped in 8 categories. During the event, representatives of these top initiatives pitched their solutions to an international jury that then voted for the global champion in each category.

The awards are a global initiative within the framework of the United Nations World Summit on the Information Society. Every year, the WSA measure the success of digital startups by the social impact they make and not only by growth and sale numbers.

This is particularly the case for Mouse4all, a Spanish startup that has developed an assistive technology which enables persons with a severe physical disability to access an Android tablet or smartphone, entirely, without touching the screen: WhatsApp, Facebook, YouTube, Internet, games or any other app. It is composed of a smart combination of hardware (connectivity box) and software (Android app).

Mouse4all was launched commercially in Spain last summer and it has already changed the lives of the users, who for the very first time have been able to participate in digital society, improving their autonomy, privacy and self-esteem. This year the company is focused on internationalisation. Now, distribution agreements are being signed to enter UK, France and Canada.

Digital accessibility for all

Ms. Dorothy Gordon, WSA board and jury member states: "Technology that is truly liberating! At last a flexible and adaptable solution that allows you to use the power of your

device regardless of the nature of your physical limitation. A truly positive, empowering and life changing experience for people living with physical disability, Mouse4all gives them the possibility to fully engage in our global digital community with benefits for all of us”.

According to José Ángel Jiménez, cofounder of Mouse4all, “we came up with the idea 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, neuromuscular diseases or amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS).” As an indication of the size of the problem, Spinal Research, an UK charity, reports that over 2.5 million persons live with paralysis worldwide due to spinal cord injury. And the Cerebral Palsy Alliance estimates that there are 17 million persons with this condition in the world.

Javier Montaner commented: “We are very excited about this prize and the opportunities it opens for us. It gives us an international dimension that will help us to accomplish our goal to make Mouse4all available to every person that can benefit from it, no matter where she lives in the world”.

For further details on WSA Congress and winners: www.worldsummitawards.org

Image: Javier Montaner pitching at WSA Vienna Congress



Photo credit: philippbenedikt.com

About Mouse4all

Mouse4all has been designed and developed by two Spanish engineers, José Ángel Jiménez and Javier Montaner, cofounders of Mouse4all SL. It is a social startup which aims to use technology “to make the world a tiny 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).

Mouse4all has won other prestigious awards such as the G5 Innova Prize 2017-2018, promoted by the Spanish company Grupo 5 and the Vodafone Innovation Award 2016. It has also been recognized by the European Commission as one of the ten finalists of the European Social Innovation Competition 2017.

Mouse4all has received the highest review score at Orientatech web portal, a joint initiative of Spanish Red Cross and Vodafone Foundation.

To know more about Mouse4all:

Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HE7L_KoPPG4

Web: <http://mouse4all.com/en/>

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