

DESIGN
TERMINAL
Powered by **civitta**

Annual report



2025

For Talent. Always.

◀ Community building on Consultation Day.

For Talent. Always.



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OUR TEAM



Dr. István Sárhegyi
Chairman of the
Supervisory Board



Age Laine
Member of the
Supervisory Board



Olivér Sziller
Member of the
Supervisory Board



Diána Lajos



Lilla Liszkay



Sára Miklós



Kristóf Molnár



Lőrinc Páva



Csaba Bánki



Anna Becsák



**Gergely
Böszörményi-Nagy**



**Tímea
Csepregi-Végh**



Dominika Domonkos



Dorina Póta



Ibolya Rácz



Mária Rácz



Bernadett Sármay



Katrina Sarnyai



dr. Angéla Csala



dr. Laura Götzinger



Viktor Hegedüs



Dóra Horváth



Beáta Imre



Sára Lili Sidló



**Vanda
Szabó-Balczer**



Katalin Szilágyi



Balázs Takács



Emese Tomka



Marcell Izing



László Jónás



József Kelemen



Adrienn Kenyeres



Diána Kiss



**Boglárka
Váczi-Szentgyörgyi**



Triniti Vajda



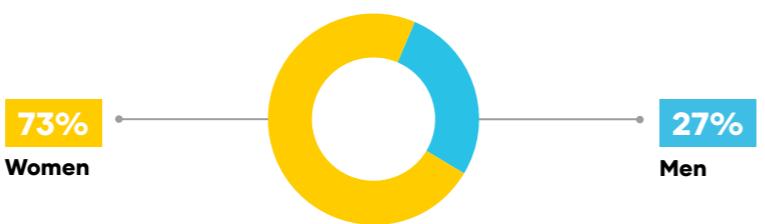
Ágnes Visnyovszki



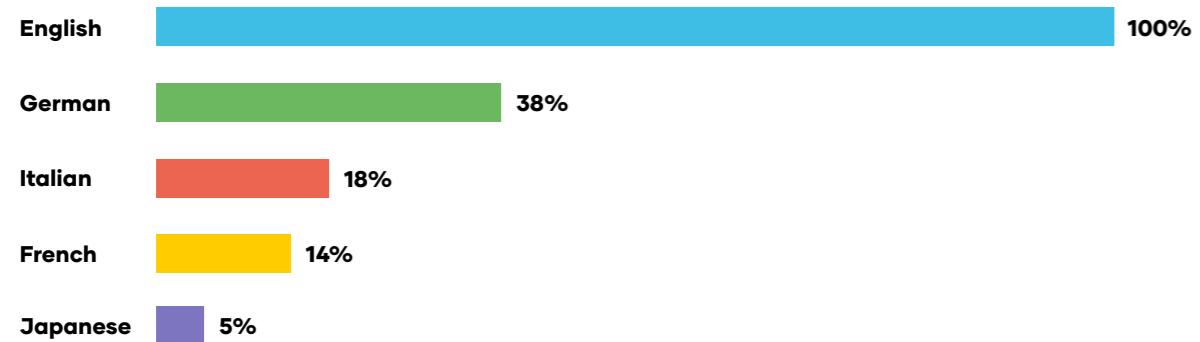
Average age:



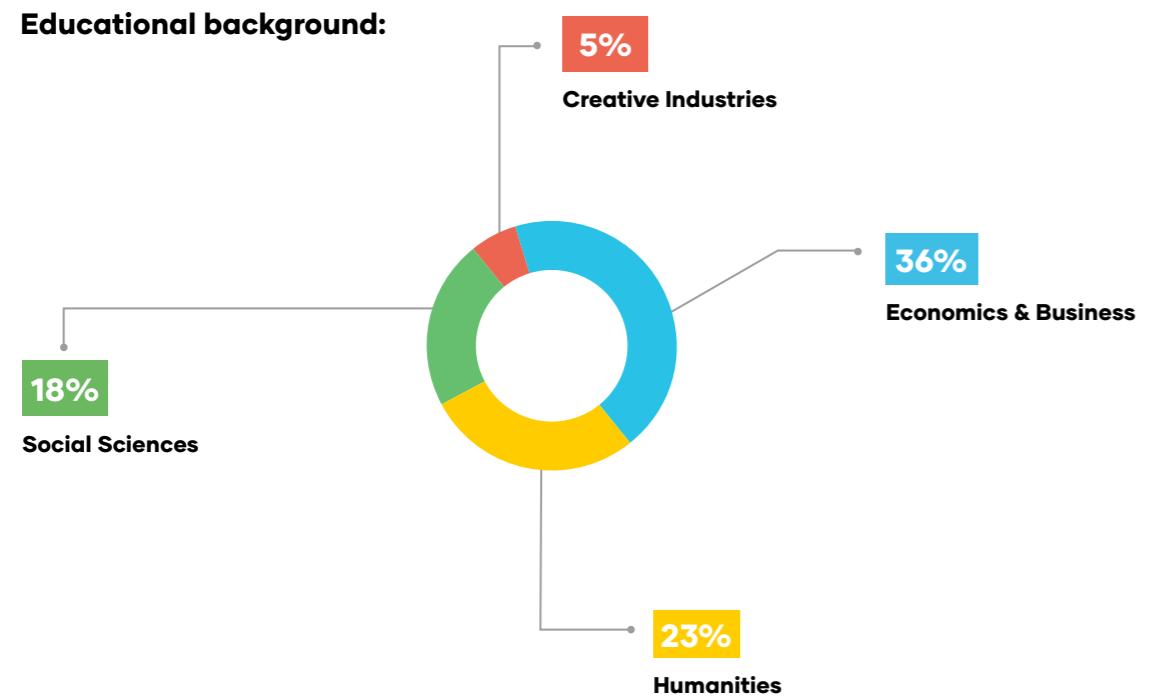
Gender ratio:



Languages spoken:



Educational background:





MEMORABLE MOMENTS OF 2025

DT11 STAGE AT BRAIN BAR FESTIVAL ON THE FUTURE

It is not a novelty for Design Terminal to represent itself on Brain Bar, yet this year exceeded all our previous appearances. In celebration of our more than a decade-long operation, we revisited how we have contributed to the development of Hungary's entrepreneurial ecosystem. Through our discussions, we highlighted how to get started, what the secret to entering international markets is, how we turn our biggest setbacks into success, and the direction in which this community may develop over the next ten years..



CREATING THE "IDEAL COMPANY" TOGETHER

Working with communities is an integral part of our everyday life through our programmes. At the same time, our own team is also a community - one whose retention and strengthening is just as important for us. This is why we organised a two-day team-building event in May. On the first day, we focused on active organisational development: we discussed what our ideal team looks like, what we already have in place, what is missing, and what we should change. On the second day, we visited Etyek, where we tasted Kúria wines and explored the area through various challenges. These two days offered the complete experience - shared thinking, self-development, solving challenges, and lots of laughter.





MEETING OUR COLLEAGUES IN ATHENS

Each year we have the opportunity to meet our Civitta colleagues during a joint, multi-day team-building event. This year we travelled to Athens, arriving no longer as newcomers, but as an integrated part of the Civitta network. We met familiar faces – colleagues with whom we have been working closely day by day for a year. These days spent together have multiple benefits: it strengthens personal connections and also broadens our international perspective. Shared lunches and dinners, sightseeing and sports brought renewed momentum to our collaborations. It is truly heartwarming that several of our colleagues played an active role in organising the Offsite, further proving that we have a place and a mission here.



EXPANDING OUR OFFICE SPACE

Our growing team, only one year after moving in, has already begun to outgrow the office: Design Terminal's lively community has expanded into yet another floor. This change is due to two factors: the challenges of the past year showed us that certain spaces need new functions in order for us to perform at our best, and we are also growing thus serving as a base for an increasing number of Civitta colleagues in Hungary.







PUBLIC BENEFIT INITIATIVES

Since its establishment, Design Terminal has been driven by an unwavering sense of mission to seek out those places and communities where support is needed the most. These programmes and initiatives are among the most essential building blocks of our DNA. We developed our international acceleration programme with this in mind, which we then transformed into Consultation Days and the High School Roadshow Programme last year, both of which achieved great success again this year.





NEKIVÁGUNK? CONSULTATION DAYS

The programme provides a unique opportunity for participants to consult with experienced professionals who are recognised experts in their fields about their ideas, businesses, and challenges. Whether the topic is business planning, marketing, financial challenges or else the programme supports every participant in taking their business forward or turning their idea into reality.

Throughout the year, we organised four Consultation Days in Budapest, and we also stepped beyond the capital, visiting two regional locations: Győr and Pécs. Regardless of age, professional background, or level of experience, we provide completely free support to every entrepreneur helping them set their dream project on the path to success.

However, these days are not only a series of events, but a community as well. This year, beyond professional support, our goal was to strengthen the supportive community where entrepreneurs can learn both from one another and from experts, and where they can continue to rely on each other's help. For this reason, we also organised two networking occasions for participants of the Consultation Days, called the **Nekivágunk? Business Club**.

The programme's gap-filling nature is clearly demonstrated by the fact that since its launch, we have been able to support 260 entrepreneurs. This continues to reinforce our belief that what we envisioned is truly needed and that it was worth taking the leap.



"It is a special feeling to work in a field where the results of our work are immediately visible and have an impact on others. The **Nekivágunk? Consultation Days** is exactly such an initiative, where we support entrepreneurs who are either just starting out or arriving with only an idea on a long and challenging journey. These meetings, mentor-mentee relationships, and feedback reinforce our belief that what we do creates real value and delivers tangible results."

Boglárka Váczi-Szentgyörgyi
Project Manager



NEKIVÁGUNK? HIGH SCHOOL ROADSHOW

The high school age group has the need to develop the skill of complex thinking increasingly. We designed our nationwide programme in order to provide students in grades 10-12 with professional knowledge that can be used in the long term through in-person workshops, an online simulation-based entrepreneurship competition, and an in-person hackathon weekend.

We launched our programme in the county of Borsod in the autumn of 2024, and continued it this year in the counties of Fejér and Szabolcs-Szatmár-Bereg. Over the two semesters this year, we visited a total of 15 schools, where we introduced 230 students to the fundamentals of entrepreneurial thinking.

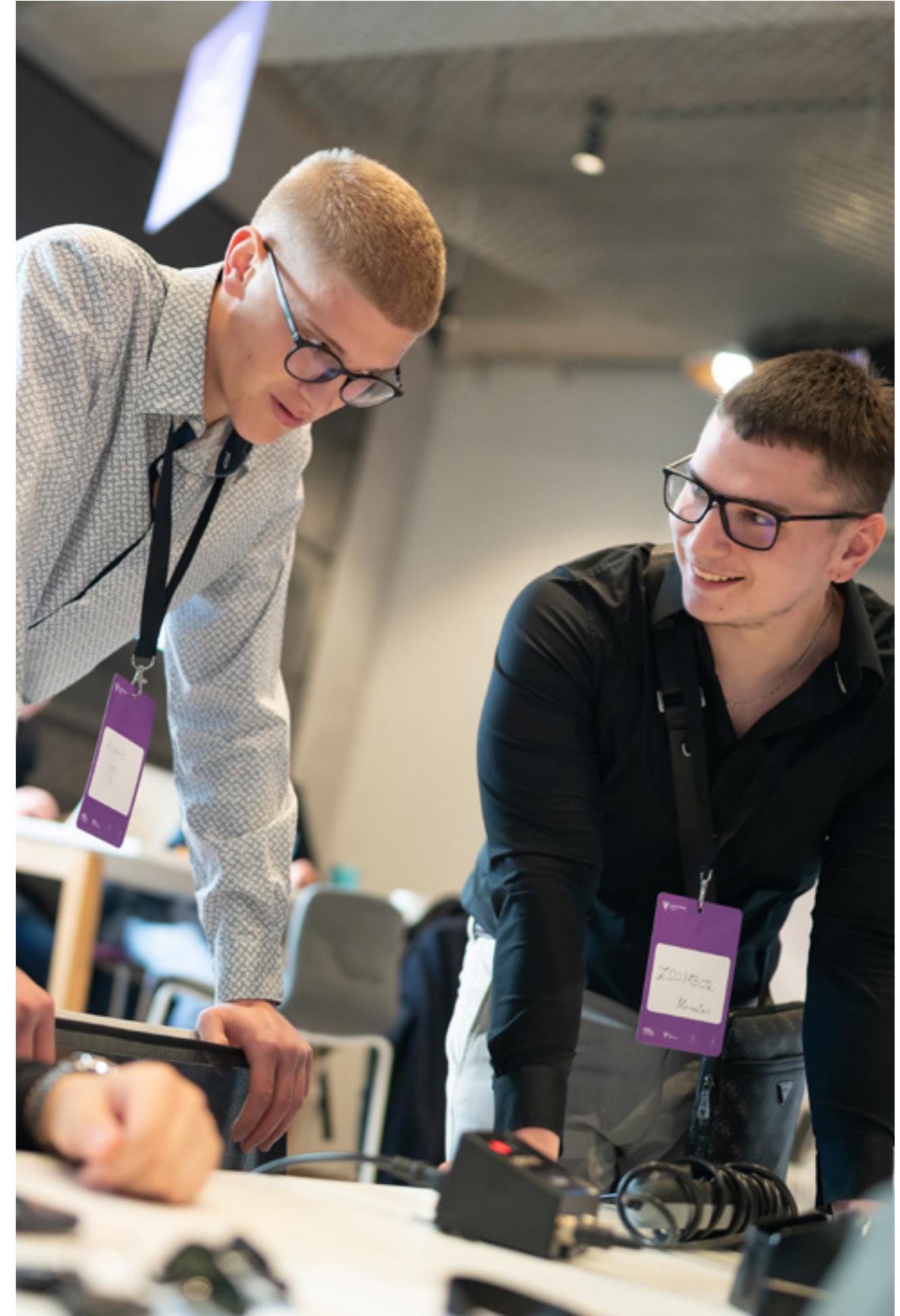






OUR TALENT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES

For the fourth time, the National Talent Centre organized the START Programme with professional contribution from Design Terminal. The objective of the programme remains unchanged: we support young Hungarian talents in achieving success in their own field of talent. This year, through two sub-programmes, we focused on high school students as well as university students and young adults.



START IDEATHON

The uniqueness of the programme aimed at high school students is that, in addition to professional development, young participants also learn the fundamentals of clear communication, teamwork, and setting realistic goals. These are skills that support them not only in leading a business, but also in the challenges of everyday life. Within the framework of a 10-week training series, participants of the competition were able to develop their ideas into a business concept and then into a prototype, supported throughout by continuous professional mentoring.

More than 40 teams applied from all across the country presenting a wide range of inspiring ideas. The most outstanding ideas included:

BánkDual – a digital platform that makes it easier for students and companies to find dual training placements

Raven – a smart irrigation system that ensures sustainable water use for small and medium-sized farms.

ÖkoCuki – edible cups created in the spirit of environmental awareness and waste reduction.



START

The next stage of the programme offers young adults aged 18–27 the opportunity to develop their existing ideas into well-considered, coherent, and feasible business concepts. During the intensive, lengthy, high-risk training programme, participants – supported by experts and entrepreneurs – learned the most important fundamentals required to operate a business. In addition to the training sessions, they received tailored mentoring, pitch trainings, and professional consultations.

At the closing Demo Day, the best teams were further supported by the National Talent Centre in the amount of **HUF 3–5 million** to further develop their ideas. Among the winners of 2025 were ideas that provide answers to the challenges of the future:

Felm – an analytical solution developed for insect protein factories, revolutionising quality control.

Marokbaba – a nature-inspired developmental tool supporting young children's sensory and emotional development.

FiziGame – a gamified physics education app that makes learning easier and turns the subject into an experience.

Mentes-ókos – a mobile application for people living with food intolerance, supporting safe shopping and a conscious lifestyle.



MCC IDEA INCUBATOR



Corvinus Collegium and Design Terminal for their active students. Our main goal is to provide students with the opportunity to challenge themselves in a safe environment and experience the everyday realities of entrepreneurial life.

The first milestone was the Hackathon in September, where participants were able to develop their ideas over an intensive weekend with the support of our mentors. This year, 12 university student teams and 5 high school teams took part in the event, resulting in inspiring projects with strong social value.

An outstanding university team was **EduMap**, who developed an application that collects various educational opportunities on a single platform, making conscious learning and career-building easier.

A similarly strong concept was introduced by **TudásÚt**, who would support young people in expanding their lexical knowledge through a short, video-based learning application involving artificial intelligence.

In the high school category, the team **gREenUp** proved to be the best: they developed a student-led environmental programme that can be implemented in schools, encouraging young people and their communities to adopt a sustainable mindset.

Following the Hackathon, the Incubation Programme began and, until the end of November, supported teams in further developing their ideas through two intensive training weekends - one in Pécs and one in Szeged. During the programme's practice-oriented workshops, participants gained in-depth knowledge in areas including strategy development, financial planning, legal foundations, and marketing.



In addition to the recognised professionals delivering the trainings, the teams' development was supported by dedicated key mentors, who helped them fine-tune their business models and overcome obstacles through weekly consultations. The process concluded with the Demo Day in November, where teams presented their achievements to an investor-minded jury.



The winners of the programme

Based on the evaluation of the professional jury, the total prize pool of HUF 2 million was divided between the two teams considered the most outstanding, and based on audience votes a special prize was also awarded:

Optima - a data-driven marketing agency providing comprehensive services for small businesses and marketing managers.

Breed Up - a mechanical brush developed for dairy farms, which improves animal comfort and thereby demonstrably increases milk yield and cost-effectiveness.

TudásÚt (Audience Award) - a microlearning-based corporate education platform that transforms dry internal policies and documentation into enjoyable podcasts, short lessons, and quizzes.

Alumni events

In order to support the continued development of participants from the two completed seasons, we organised four alumni events this year, where teams could take part in panel discussions, individual mentoring sessions, and knowledge-sharing activities.



"In my work, one of the most important measures for me is whether I can help others, so it is a special experience that through the START Programme and the MCC Idea Incubator I can support young people in getting to know entrepreneurial life. Seeing them step out of their comfort zones gives me an enormous boost as well. Their enthusiasm and development are the best feedback."

Csaba Bánki
Project Manager

V4 STARTUP FORCE

Our V4 Startup Force programme has been organised jointly with the Visegrád countries (Czechia, Poland, and Slovakia) for the eighth year in a row, with the support of the International Visegrad Fund. Since the very beginning, our goal has been to shine a spotlight on the hidden opportunities of the Central European region and to equip our participants who are ready to enter international markets with practical knowledge. This year as well, the programme attracted tremendous interest: over one hundred startups applied across the two semesters, from which we selected four companies per semester to take part in our five-week intensive programme. It is a particular pleasure that in the autumn semester we could choose from very strong female founders, meaning that three out of the four participating companies were female-founded.



"The V4 Startup Force is an outstanding programme because it showcases the region's most exciting startup themes alongside the professional openness that inspired us to launch the programme. Each semester brings new opportunities for both the participating teams and us as organisers. It is inspiring to follow the creative ideas and rapid progress of the startups over the programme's five weeks. The Closing Event is always the highlight for me - meeting teams, mentors and partners in person and experiencing this vibrant community clearly shows that the programme's value goes far beyond its professional content."

Bernadett Sármay
Project Manager





TEAMS OF THE SPRING SEMESTER:

Scaut s.r.o.

Automates and coordinates background checks for an entire company's workforce, including candidates, existing employees, and supply chain partners. It offers broad, continuous monitoring across both extended and third-party workforces..



Greenwash Solutions

Provides outsourced dishwashing services for restaurants and other HORECA clients, helping them eliminate the hassle of managing in-house dishwashing and staffing. Their service not only reduces labour costs and inventory-related stress, but also improves kitchen efficiency.



InstaView

An AI-powered SaaS platform that automates online job interviews, accelerating recruitment and reducing hiring costs. It enables HR teams to find candidates, provides localised insights and intelligent screening, making the process more relevant and efficient for regional employers. Since the spring semester, they have undergone remarkable development and now operate with a team of nine.



Aleet

Offers AI-based software to optimise logistics and transport operations: fleets receive support in real-time route planning, scheduling, and resource management. Highly adaptable and designed for both operational and strategic use, it enables smarter, data-driven fleet management.



TEAMS OF THE AUTUMN SEMESTER:

Contesaur by Pretty Much Nomads s.r.o.

A content marketing and content planning SaaS system. Its greatest advantage is turning noise into strategy by centralising fragmented workflows across spreadsheets, email chains, and content management tools. A solution built by marketers for marketers to streamline content operations and reduce "content smog".



RunPixie

A sports and event photography platform that connects runners with photographers working at races, allowing runners to access their race photos faster and at a lower cost. It uses automated AI-powered photo recognition to collect photos taken of each participant at running events - whether professional or amateur - and delivers personalised photo albums to runners within one hour.



Felm

Develops automated quality control technology for the insect protein industry, addressing the sector's key analytical challenges by ensuring consistent, process-integrated protein quality control. It enables large-scale insect protein producers to ensure constant quality, reduce operational risks, and support the growth of sustainable protein production..



Shealed s.r.o.

A women's health startup developing an at-home diagnostic self-test for detecting vaginal infections. The goal of their product is to provide discreet, fast, and accessible support for those affected through quick and accurate at-home results. The test will be widely available in pharmacies and drugstores at a competitive price, in an accessible manner for everyone.



SUCCESS STORIES

The Polish startup **Pergamin**, offering a digital, data-driven, automated contract management system for companies, took part in the programme in spring 2024, and just a few months later secured an investment of **EUR 2.6 million**. Another Polish startup called **Animalhotels**, connecting caretakers and pet owners via an app, has participated in the program the same year and by now they have expanded their services into **150 countries**.





INDUSTRY PROGRAMMES

HUNGARIAN INNOVATIONS IN SPACE: A NEW ERA FOR ESA BIC HUNGARY

This year, we extended the five-year contract of the **ESA Business Incubation Center Hungary** programme for another five years. We are proud that in the coming period, we can continue supporting Hungarian space industry innovations.

Within the framework of the new contract, we launched a recruitment round in autumn, which received a record-breaking **11 applications**. The topics of the projects covered a broad spectrum from space debris reduction through precision agricultural robotics all the way to space medicine.

The goal of ESA BIC Hungary is to create a collaborative space industry ecosystem in Hungary where innovative startups can step onto the international stage. In 2025, the programme became even stronger. The scholarship supporting startups increased to **EUR 60,000**, which participants can access complemented by professional mentoring, business consulting, and technical support. Thanks

to this initiative, BIC not only offers financing, but a true development platform for Hungarian space innovators.

It is great to see that **Space Café** is the most significant domestic event for the space industry community, where industry experts, company leaders, public-sector stakeholders, and interested audiences can connect with one another.

The spring Space Café was organised within the framework of the **Space for V4** initiative, where incubated startups could present their projects in the form of a pitch competition, strengthening regional collaboration. The autumn event, in turn, was organised in partnership with **4iG Space & Defence Technologies**, during which the dynamically-growing company presented its strategic directions and development plans through professional talks.



ESA TECHNOLOGY BROKER PROGRAMME

Within the **ESA Technology Broker** programme, we build collaborations between space-industry and non-space-industry companies by adapting space technology solutions to business activities. The programme offers companies the opportunity to develop their operations with innovative technologies, increase their competitiveness, and explore new business opportunities. Applicants may come from almost any industry, as the solutions can be applied in most sectors. Participating companies can receive up to **EUR 60,000** in non-refundable grants through ESA Spark Funding.

In Hungary, the programme was first completed in 2023 by **D3 Seeron**. Since then, we have incubated **seven further enterprises**.

"Design Terminal manages the ESA BIC programme with such momentum as if launching a rocket - and this is exactly the kind of dynamism the Hungarian space industry needs. The Space Café and the community-building initiatives organised under the umbrella of Design Terminal are not only inspiring, but also create real value within the startup ecosystem of a dynamically growing space nation. It is gap-filling and forward-looking work, without which it would be much harder to take off."

Árisz Kecskés

Head of Business Development,
4iG Space and Defence Technologies





17:55 - 18:30 **Demo Day: ESA BIC Pitch Competition**

18:30 - 18:45 **Demo Day: ESA Technology Broker**

18:45 - 19:00 **Award ceremony**

from 19:00 onwards **Open networking session**

Minusplus, Mafrom

In their project called **Autumn**, the two companies used a patent related to the foldable and extendable mechanism of satellites' solar panels, through which they created a better-functioning and more aesthetic sunshade.

Fit-Pro

Within the Spark Funding programme, they created **E-Fit SmartWear**, using space technology to develop a comfortable and safe muscle-stimulation health and wellness device.

Innobay

Developed a new type of aluminium foam for the aviation industry based on a patent from the European Space Agency. The product is lighter, stronger, and has better heat dissipation properties than its current competitors.

MindRove

Using ESA software, they further developed their new neuromarketing tool called **BioSyncra**, which uses biometrics to study human behaviour revolutionising marketing effectiveness..

IntelliSense

With the help of the space-industry software **ESA Pocket+**, the company developed a new positioning product that can determine someone's exact indoor location through Wi-Fi signals.

NAUTES Építésműterem Kft.

Within their **SOLEYE** project, they are working on a new generation of medium-sized solar telescopes, which - thanks to its heat-resistant coating originating from the space industry - will enable users to capture sharper and better images.

FROM THE BRAIN TRAINING OF ASTRONAUTS TO THE WORLD'S SMALLEST DOSIMETER

Companies participating in the programme:

27G Technology Kft.

27G further developed its existing radiation measurement device for the healthcare sector. The new device is capable of measuring radiation exposure affecting patients and healthcare workers in real time during surgeries and other procedures.

D3 Seeron Kft.

D3's development detects road anomalies (manhole covers, potholes, speed bumps, etc.) through the integration of space-industry laser and software solutions, and predicts them in real time for the systems of self-driving vehicles.





ESERO – SPACE INDUSTRY SOLUTIONS FOR STEM EDUCATION

The aim of the **ESERO** (European Space Education Resource Office) programme is to spark the interest of primary and secondary school students in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (**STEM**) subjects through the exciting world of space, thereby encouraging them to explore scientific career paths. **ESERO Hungary** is implemented with the joint support of the **European Space Agency (ESA)** and the **Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade**. The programme is coordinated by **Design Terminal**, and its partners are the **Budapest University of Technology and Economics**, **Eötvös Loránd University**, and the **Hungarian Astronautical Society**. Together, these institutions work to make the fascinating world of space research accessible to Hungarian students as well, and to encourage them to explore careers in science.

ESERO programmes offer excellent opportunities for teachers and students to get closer to space research and draw inspiration for learning and teaching STEM subjects, enriching classroom content with up-to-date and



attention-grabbing educational materials. Beyond school lessons, the programme also offers activities such as career days, museum visits, and company presentations, providing students with the opportunity to experience the world of science and technology first-hand. In 2025, more than **1,100 students** participated in our **2nd ESERO Hungary Space Week** programme, and we also organised study trips, among others, to the **Svábhegy Observatory**, the **BME CubeSat Group**, the **BME Suborbitals rocket-building team**, and the companies **C3S** and **Remred**.





"Although the focus of the Technology Broker and ESERO Hungary projects differ significantly, both programmes are driven by the same goal - to strengthen the domestic space industry. It is inspiring to promote a STEM-oriented mindset among children, who may hopefully become successful entrepreneurs and researchers just like the young innovators participating in the Technology Broker programme."

Lőrinc Páva
Senior Project Manager

NASA SPACE APPS CHALLENGE

This year, for the second time, we had the opportunity to organise the world's largest space-industry Hackathon in Budapest. The **NASA Space Apps Challenge** took place simultaneously at more than 180 locations around the world, bringing together thousands of participants who worked at the same time on the most pressing challenges of the space sector.

The two-day idea competition was hosted by the office of **Sigma Technologies Kft.**, who supported the event as the main sponsor. **69 participants**, working in **21 teams**, set out to develop innovative solutions to the global challenges announced by NASA and its partners. Teams addressed real space-industry and Earth-based problems, including the fields of **space communication and quantum technology, Earth observation and AI-based forecasting**, and also **sustainable resource utilisation**.



The Hungarian jury nominated three teams for the international competition:

PinPoint Space

developed a high-precision satellite targeting system supporting the creation of quantum key distribution (QKD) networks in low Earth orbit, contributing to the secure communication infrastructure of the future.

Terra & Luna Analytics

their AI-based platform called **InfernoWatch** supports the prediction of natural wildfires and the modelling of smoke spread, helping to reduce environmental risks and enable data-driven decision-making.

Armada

their **BioCycleX** project develops a microbial system that can recycle up to 30% of the waste generated during Mars missions, producing vital resources such as nutrients, biogas, or plastic.



A special prize was awarded to the **SpaceCraft** project by team **Kupak**. Their solution transforms NASA's real lunar topographic data into an interactive Minecraft world. The development supports students and interested audiences in exploring the Moon and learning about space research in a playful way. The special prize was offered by **Sigma Technology**, providing the team with **40 hours of technology mentoring**.

The winners of the competition could win a sailing experience on Lake Balaton with the participation of **Miklós Rauschenberger**, Hungarian champion, as well as a research and development vertical farm visit at the site of **Csillagváros Kft. - Egreen Farming Solutions**, offered by the **Orion Space Generation Foundation**.

"We are delighted that NASA has placed its trust in us for the second time, and following last year's successful implementation, we once again received the opportunity to organise the NASA Space Apps Challenge. There was strong interest in the event this year as well, which gave additional momentum to our work. We would like to express our special thanks to our sponsors and supporters, without whom this internationally recognised event could not have been realised. We hope that next year we will again have the chance to host one of the world's largest space-industry idea competitions."

József Kelemen
Project Manager



HUNGARIAN DEFENCE HACKATHON

We had the opportunity to organise the Hungarian Defence Hackathon for the second time this year, commissioned by and in cooperation with the Hungarian Defence Forces and the Ministry of Defence. The main goal of the programme was to provide an opportunity for active members of the Defence Forces, employees of the Ministry of Defence, and cadets to develop solutions to the challenges they experience in their everyday work. This innovation-focused initiative allows participants to refine these ideas, and present them to the leadership of the Hungarian Defence Forces and the Ministry of Defence.

The primary aim of elevating these ideas is to continuously support the development of the armed forces, as we consider it important to highlight and give visibility to

bottom-up ideas as well. In addition to the categories of retention capability, human care, and learning and development in military training, the ideas also addressed topics such as recruitment effectiveness, information flow, leadership education, and last but not least, armed forces development.

The finalists presented their innovative concepts to a professional jury consisting of leaders of the Ministry of Defence and the Hungarian Defence Forces. The two-day Defence Hackathon took place at "Bálna" Center of Military Culture in Budapest. The overall winner received a prize of **HUF 1,000,000**, while the winners of each category received **HUF 500,000**.



AI EDIH

Within the framework of the AI EDIH project, this year, Design Terminal focused on implementing and further developing an incubation and mentoring programme – supporting startups. The aim of the programme is to help startups increase their digital maturity and further develop and implement their artificial intelligence solutions through tailored professional support.

Based on the experiences of the first cohort, the second, enhanced incubation programme was launched this year, with **21 startups** selected to participate. Participants received individual business and professional mentoring consisting of five sessions, as well as technology-focused, tailored mentoring.

The programme also included several professional events, including a full-day opening event, where expert presentations and networking opportunities supported participants in building connections and professional cooperation. As part of the programme, startups were able to participate in investment and financial advisory workshops as well as practical "No-Code Tools" trainings, where they learned easy-to-use digital tools and methods for rapid product development. In addition, we also organised an "AI Success Stories" event, where successful companies presented to the wider public how they apply artificial intelligence effectively in practice.



In 2025, our activities reached a new level in the field of access to financing: through workshops and individual consultations on capital raising and international financing opportunities, we began providing targeted support to Hungarian enterprises in this area as well. This year, **two companies** received application and financing advisory services focusing on AI and digital solutions, supporting them in accessing domestic and international resources in a prepared and successful manner.

Moreover, within the framework of the project, we organised the **SME Picnic**, where **32 companies** – startups as well as small and medium-sized enterprises – received comprehensive information about domestic and international funding opportunities, and were also able to make use of tailored advisory services.



"Within the programme, the mentoring part was clearly the most useful, as I was matched with a (professionally) relevant and likeable gentleman who helped me a great deal. As an external observer, he could also see how I was progressing, and he was able to provide a lot of inspiration regarding the directions I could take. Thanks to the programme, I identified areas within the application that need to be supported with artificial intelligence, and together with the mentor we were able to develop quite concrete plans in this regard. I would recommend this programme to any business at a similar stage that would like to make its software or service more user-friendly with the help of AI."

Dávid Konkoly

Founder of the Inwedio startup



GRANT-RELATED ACTIVITIES



Design Terminal launched its EU funding related activities in 2020, with the goal to expand our successful local programmes to an international level, thus, creating new opportunities for aspiring entrepreneurs and startups.

Over the past five years, we have secured funding for eight projects, enabling us to launch a Europe-wide deep-tech acceleration programme, strengthen the Hungarian female entrepreneurship ecosystem, develop solutions for bringing innovative ideas to market, and support the national energy transition by connecting economic actors with policymakers.

We also foster the growth of Hungarian SMEs through the adoption of AI and digital solutions, organise hackathons and acceleration programmes for the defence industry,

support university-based entrepreneurship, and expand our successful Mentoring Programme to new countries.

Starting in 2025, we have extended our proposal development expertise to our alumni companies and external clients, helping them to strengthen their innovation capacity and competitiveness through accessing direct EU funding programmes.

Together with **Civitta International**, Design Terminal offers a full range of grant consultancy services, from developing project ideas and building partnerships to managing successful, EU-funded projects.



"Many businesses have innovative ideas but feel stuck: they lack solid information on how to finance their development, don't know how to join or create EU-funded projects, or find calls and rules overwhelmingly complex. In reality, there are numerous accessible EU programmes, even for small, first-time applicants, and this world is far less complicated than it seems at first sight. That's why we designed practical workshops for companies ready to grow but unsure where to begin with EU funding. We shared our knowledge with our startups as well as with

businesses outside Design Terminal's direct network, and we had the opportunity to support one of our alumni companies in developing an innovative EU proposal. Supporting these teams on their growth path, seeing them develop their solutions within our programmes and then helping them access funding, has been a truly rewarding experience, and we look forward to empowering many more companies next year."

Katalin Szilágyi

Head of Funding





THIS YEAR, WE SAID FAREWELL TO THREE PROJECTS...

WOMENTURE

Womenture brought together innovation agencies from four countries; Czechia (DEX Innovation Centre), Germany (Spin-Lab – The HHL Accelerator), Estonia (Tehnopol) and Hungary (Design Terminal) to support women entrepreneurs and female founders over the course of two years through training, networking, and international collaborations.

Led by Design Terminal, Womenture provided more than 500 participants with a total of over 50 meetings, creating valuable learning and partnership opportunities. Within the framework of our International Acceleration Programme, 20 women entrepreneurs and women-founded startups received more than 100 hours of expert mentoring and training, culminating in their introduction at the Latitude59 conference in Tallinn.

To support long-term connections, we established an active LinkedIn community of 800+ members, where participants continue to share their knowledge, experiences, and opportunities with one another.



Beyond direct professional support, Womenture also contributed to building a more inclusive innovation ecosystem. As a result of our research and consultations, we developed policy recommendations and ten concrete proposals, providing decision-makers with guidance on how they can support women entrepreneurs more effectively.

Through Womenture, we contributed to creating a stronger and more inclusive European startup ecosystem – one in which every woman with an idea has the opportunity to make it flourish. The success of Womenture proves that when women connect, collaborate, and create, their impact goes far beyond individual achievements, they can strengthen the entire European innovation landscape.



WENNOVATE

The WEnnovate project, implemented under the leadership of Design Terminal, brought together more than 400 innovators and decision-makers from Hungary, the Netherlands, Slovakia, and Ukraine to jointly shape the future of a sustainable and accessible energy transition for all. WEnnovate built a bridge between innovation ecosystems, supporting local and national stakeholders in jointly developing cleaner and smarter energy solutions.

Through policy meetings and joint workshops, the project partners (Sustainable Scale-up Foundation, G-Force, Unify Energy, Kyiv Academic University, Ukrainian Startup Fund, and Province Utrecht) identified the most important challenges and jointly developed action plans that are built on real community needs and offer practical steps toward sustainable change. By strengthening diversity, cross-border collaboration, and shared learning, WEnnovate demonstrated how inclusive innovation can accelerate Europe's green and digital transition.

AD4GD - ALL DATA FOR GREEN DEAL

The goal of the AD4GD project was to lay the foundations for a shared European data space where environmental data is easily accessible and usable, therefore connecting information derived from satellite observations, sensors, research infrastructures, and citizen data collection. AD4GD encouraged the use of common standards so that data from different sources "speaks the same language" and can be used together to improve the state of air, water, and biodiversity.

The project demonstrated its results through three pilot examples: improving local air quality forecasting, monitoring the ecological status of lakes, and examining habitat connectivity across different European cities. Design Terminal focused on the business applicability of the project's results. The outcomes of AD4GD supported more transparent, data-driven environmental decision-making and the implementation of the objectives of the European Green Deal.



...AND WE WON THREE GRANTS

THE MENTOR BRIDGE

The Mentor Bridge is an Erasmus+ programme aimed at increasing the proportion of businesses launched by young people in particularly disadvantaged regions, and reducing the risk of business failure. Within the project, Estonian, Slovak, and Hungarian partners led by Design Terminal are developing and testing a multi-stage mentoring model that helps young people launch and operate their businesses with industry involvement.

Key activities include the development and validation of a curriculum through on-site and online consultations, as well as the organisation of international acceleration events where young entrepreneurs can meet industry mentors. The result is a scalable system that enhances entrepreneurial skills and supports the sustainable implementation of youth-led businesses across Europe.



NEXT-HEI

The NEXT-HEI project, funded by EIT Climate KIC, is implemented by Italian, Portuguese, Greek, Belgian, Albanian, Turkish, and Hungarian partners. Its goal is to strengthen the innovation and entrepreneurial capacity of European universities. The programme supports researchers, educators, and students in developing their ideas into market-ready solutions.

The initiative encourages cooperation between universities and economic stakeholders, facilitating knowledge and technology transfer. Within the project, Design Terminal is responsible for communication and dissemination activities, ensuring that project results reach the widest possible audience. The project places strong emphasis on reducing regional disparities and strengthening social equality, so that innovation is accessible to everyone.

GROUNDUP

GroundUP is a project implemented within the framework of a Horizon Europe grant by Romanian, French, Irish, Serbian, and Hungarian partners. Its goal is to strengthen the innovation ecosystem in Southern, Central, and Eastern Europe in the field of CBRNE (chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and explosives). These developments contribute to improving public safety, environmental protection, and food and water security.

The project connects researchers, businesses, and decision-makers so that new ideas can reach the market more easily. Design Terminal's task is to organise two hackathons in Budapest and Belgrade in spring 2027, where young innovators and experts will work on joint solutions. In addition, we will develop and implement a mentoring programme to support the development and realisation of the most promising ideas.





CHARITABLE ENGAGEMENTS

CHRISTMAS GIFT WRAPPING

The Christmas period brings back joyful memories for most of us. However, there are institutions working with disadvantaged children that go above and beyond to make everyday life happier for the little ones, and each year at Christmas, we contribute to this effort. We purchase and wrap the requested gifts for the children and families of the Bítos Kezdet Children's House in Gemzse, and we also support them with healthcare packages for both adults and children.





OUR FAILURES

The merger with Civitta has brought numerous positive outcomes, opening many new doors. Through our shared work, we gain extensive international experience, which we then channel for the benefit of the Hungarian entrepreneurial community through our domestic programmes. Step by step, we are becoming increasingly confident in this new system (for us), finding our place and our voice within it. At the same time, it is with great sadness that we have not been able to find the right path for every colleague, several of them are continuing their value-creating work elsewhere.



TRANSPARENCY

Design Terminal is a public benefit non-profit organisation operating through market revenues and government funding. We receive public funding under a public service agreement from the Ministry of Culture and Innovation to carry out our core activities; business talent development, the development of the entrepreneurial ecosystem, and the domestic adoption of international best practices related to innovation. Each year, we prepare both a financial report and a project-based report for the Ministry on the use of this funding. The financial operations of Design Terminal Public Benefit Non-Profit Ltd. are audited by BDO Hungary, a globally recognised international audit firm.



OUR COOPERATIONS

OUR KEY SUPPORTERS



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MINISZTRIUM



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