



CorWave Awarded at the Worldwide Innovation Challenge

- **The goal of this competition is to bring out the future global leaders of the French economy**
- **CorWave develops a groundbreaking pump technology that enables earlier care for seniors with heart failure**

Paris, France, July 25, 2016 – CorWave, a medical technology company that develops innovative mechanical circulatory support, has announced that it was a winner for its NovaPulse R&D program in the Worldwide Innovation Challenge in the “Start-up, Silver Economy” category. The NovaPulse program aims to develop minimally invasive cardiac assist solutions.

The NovaPulse project is one of 182 projects selected out of over 1,500 entries received in the start-up category. The project was chosen based on a rigorous selection process during which the CorWave team was audited by the Medicen competitiveness cluster and interviewed by a team of experts that included a Nobel Prize winner. CorWave’s management team was invited by the President of France to an awards ceremony on July 18 at the Paris offices of Agoranov, the business incubator where the company got its start in 2012.

Heart failure is the primary cause of hospitalization in people over the age of 65. This chronic illness, which mainly affects seniors, generally leads to progressive deterioration in patients’ condition. In advanced stages, there are only two treatments: transplants and mechanical circulatory support. As these treatments are very risky, they are seldom suggested for elderly patients. **The goal of CorWave’s NovaPulse project is to develop a new kind of minimally-invasive cardiac assist pump enabling the treatment of seniors affected by chronic heart failure.** This innovation could improve the daily life of 2 million patients and give birth to a market of about 4 billion euros of potential sales per year. The Worldwide Innovation Challenge will make it possible to fast-track the NovaPulse project, which uses cutting-edge technology: the wave membrane pump. The CorWave technology differs from currently used rotary pump technologies in physiological functioning (the ability to furnish a pulsed flow and blood flow velocities similar to that of the native heart) and new opportunities in terms of downsizing. NovaPulse is being developed by CorWave in parallel with the CorWave LVAD program, which is focused on developing a full-support LVAD designed to be implanted through current surgical procedures.

Silvère Lucquin, the head of NovaPulse and CorWave’s first employee, having joined after his studies at Imperial College London and École Polytechnique Paris, comments, “The entire team is very happy to receive this award that rewards extensive work that started with Jean-Baptiste Drevet in the 1990’s. Moreover, **the competition is giving us new resources for this project which offers so much hope.**” CorWave CEO Louis de Lillers adds, “We are fortunate: we can rely on a unique technology and are **surrounded by leaders in cardiology and cardiac surgery.** Indeed, the stakes are high: it is a matter of offering heart assist therapies to as many people as possible while reducing the invasive nature of these devices.”



About the World Innovation Challenge

Initiated by the President of the Republic of France, the World Innovation Challenge (WIC) is a 300 million euros investment program which aims to bring out the future global leaders of the French economy. The WIC is structured in three phases: the start-up phase (funding: €200,000), the risk reduction phase (possible funding: 2 million euros), and the development phase (possible funding: 20 million euros).

More information on: <http://www.entreprises.gouv.fr/innovation-2030/home-innovation-2030?language=en-gb>

About Heart Failure

Heart disease is a growing challenge, with over 10 million heart failure patients in the US and Europe (source: ESC and AHA). 10% of patients progress to end stage heart disease, when the heart is no longer able to pump enough blood by itself. These patients have only a 25% chance of surviving one year if treated with optimal drug therapy (source: REMATCH trial). A small portion of this group will receive a heart transplant, but a lack of donors means that many patients will die while waiting. A device that assists the heart can help, either in allowing them to receive a transplant or in providing additional years of active life. LVADs are devices that meet this urgent clinical need. In 2014, the LVAD market generated more than \$700M (€641M) in sales with over 7,000 patients receiving an LVAD. 60,000 to 200,000 people could benefit from the implant as the clinical outcomes improve (Source: HeartWare, Thoratec/St Jude Medical).

About CorWave SA

CorWave develops innovative cardiac assist devices. The wave membrane technology is a unique and disruptive technology protected by seven patent families. It is stemming from over 10 years of research led by academic laboratories and AMS R&D. Mimicking cardiac pulsation and preserving blood, CorWave LVAD should bring down serious adverse events associated with currently available devices and therefore improve the quality of care of end stage heart failure patients, a market with multi-billion dollar potential. The company was founded in 2011 by Paris based incubator MD Start. CorWave is funded by leading investors including Sofinnova, Bpifrance, Seventure, and Medtronic. Located in downtown Paris at the Pepiniere Paris Sante Cochin, with 18 staff, the company raised a total €5M (\$5.5M) since inception.

More information on: <http://www.corwave.com/>

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