

Wates and Lloyds Banking Group announce winners of sustainability innovation competition

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Wates Group and <u>Lloyds Banking Group (Lloyds)</u> announce the four joint winners of a competition launched to find the next generation of green tech businesses that will support Lloyds in its transition to net zero carbon operations.

Over 100 companies applied to the sustainability innovation competition, which aimed to unearth and champion new sustainable technologies for the built environment.

Following a rigorous assessment process by Wates' technical advisory panel, finalists pitched to judges in a Dragon's Den style event at Mitie's headquarters in The Shard, London on 28 January. The four winning suppliers have been selected for their ability to deliver against Lloyds' ambitious operational pledges, which commit to net zero carbon operations and a 50% reduction in energy consumption by 2030, as well as a 40% reduction in absolute water consumption by 2030.

The four winners are:

- <u>Advanced Bacterial Sciences</u>: a drain unblocking system that uses friendly bacteria to remove wastewater issues such as blocked urinals.
- <u>Quattro Seal</u>: a liquid sealing system that increases air tightness in buildings, generating energy savings of up to 27%.
- <u>Coolnomix</u>: a high impact intelligent thermostat that maximises air conditioning efficiency and reduces energy consumption with a return on investment in under 24 months.



• <u>HSG (Ureco)</u>: an eco-friendly urinal sleeve system that helps prevent costly blockages, reduces water usage and removes odours, without the need for strong chemicals and cleaning agents.

Dr Zainab Dangana PhD, Head of Sustainable Technology Services at Wates Group, said: "The work we've been doing with Lloyds Banking Group is about connecting our customer with the products that can help it achieve its environmental goals. Too often, new, viable technologies fly under the radar because suppliers are unable to get in front of the right decision makers. We're bridging that gap, but we need to see more companies like Lloyds putting their weight behind the green businesses that are critical in our national drive towards net zero."

Matteo Deidda, Senior Sustainability Manager at Lloyds Banking Group, said: "The response to the Sustainability Innovation Competition has been fantastic. We are very excited to work with the finalists and our partners in the coming months to pilot these technologies in our offices and branches. The winning technology will have access to our innovation budget to test their solutions in our buildings, and roll out at scale if the pilots are successful. This is a great opportunity for speeding up our transition towards a greener future and achieve the group operational climate pledge."

This is the first green innovation competition launched by Wates and Lloyds, however the partnership has already resulted in eight sustainable technologies being piloted across its branches and offices. One currently being trialled across three sites is <u>Propelair</u>, a water efficient toilet that reduces water usage by up to 85%.

Photo credit: Wates