

Santa María de la Hispanidad, the first school in Madrid to take part in SENER and the SENER Foundation's "A Challenge for Science"

- With this project, the SENER Foundation and SENER seek to encourage young people to pursue STEM careers.
- By presenting actual engineering challenges, "A challenge for science" aims to bring students closer to the disciplines specific to engineering, technology and science in general.

Madrid, June 25, 2021 - The [SENER Foundation](#) and the [SENER](#) engineering and technology group both took their joint "[A challenge for science](#)" project to the [Santa María de la Hispanidad](#) school, the first in the region of Madrid to take part in this initiative to promote scientific careers among young people and teens in schools. This time, it was the 15-16-year-old students who presented their solutions to the challenges posed by SENER.

The teams in the final and the prizes were presented at the Santa María de la Hispanidad School in Madrid on June 23. The jury members were [Ernö Péter](#), a member of SENER's Innovation Engine and the [FORAN](#) development team, [Rosana Madroñal](#), the Director of the SENER Foundation, [Carmen Martín](#), CEO of [Artenea 3D](#) and [Jaime Rivas](#), Managing Director of [Euromar Technology](#). Representing Santa María de la Hispanidad at the event were [Fernando Alegría](#), Educational Director, and the professors and organizers of "A Challenge for Science" at the school, [Belén Caldito](#) and Elena Hornos.

On this occasion, the "A challenge for science" award was presented to the team called Future Minds, consisting of Carmen Zapardiel, Víctor Reina, Miguel Aguilera, Marta Riaño and Álvaro Pimentel, for their solution to traffic congestion in cities. An honorable mention was presented to the Space-Y team and its members, Gabriel Gómez, Yago Salillas, Luis M^a Uranga, Lucas Díaz, Álvaro Rosario and Lucas Corchado, for their project to leverage energy resources to promote zero consumption in infrastructure.

For SENER, Ernö Péter noted that *"innovation starts with young people, with giving them the dream to come up with ideas, grow with them, try to convey them and embark on a career that will lead them to success."* For her part, Rosana Madroñal emphasized how *"despite the year they have lived through and that we are still living through, it's wonderful to see how enthusiastic and eager the students are and how, with their solutions, they addressed the challenges presented to them by the SENER Foundation and SENER."*

On behalf of the Santa María de la Hispanidad school, Fernando Alegría stated that *"it is a very good initiative for promoting STEM subjects and careers, which are in such demand among employers now. We don't have many opportunities in schools to engage with companies, and this project is a very good way to show students what they can find in the professional world."*

As for Belén Caldito and Elena Hornos, these teachers stated that *"what we liked most is the chance the students got to solve a real-world problem, without a book to tell them what's right or wrong. They were given a challenge and had to use all their knowledge, all their skills to come up with a solution. It was also an opportunity to collaborate between departments and apply content from multiple subjects."*

What is "A challenge for science"?

"A challenge for science" involves having SENER professionals present real challenges to secondary-school students that are tailored to their curriculums. The students then have to find solutions to the problems faced daily by an engineering company. Subsequently, the students' solutions are evaluated by SENER personnel and other external collaborators with expertise in these areas of engineering.

On this occasion, the project was sponsored by the company [Euromar Technology](#), in partnership with [Artenea 3D](#), which gave a free course at the school on using a 3D printer, a gift from the SENER Foundation for taking part in "A Challenge for Science".

Some of the challenges posed to the Santa María de la Hispanidad School were: show the benefits of solar thermal technology to the different stakeholders involved; ways to purify air to get rid of pollution in cities; how to minimize the risk of spreading a virus on public transportation; and how to provide urban services more efficiently. The young participants were thus able to see how science, technology and engineering serve people in order to improve their quality of life.

About the SENER Foundation

The SENER foundation was created in May 2002 by the SENER Engineering Group and the Sendagorta family to promote humanitarian initiatives and activities. Over its years of activity, the SENER Foundation has been working in social services at the community level by developing social responsibility in professional activities, training people, and promoting research at the highest level.

The activities carried out by the SENER Foundation include encouraging scientific research at the highest level by presenting prizes, such as the [Award for Best Doctoral Thesis in Engineering](#), sponsoring the Air Force Award for university aerospace research, and supporting [R&D projects](#) in technology centers and universities. Similarly, the SENER Foundation promotes [corporate volunteering](#) among SENER staff and encourages young people to pursue careers in science.

About SENER

SENER is a private engineering and technology group founded in 1956, which seeks to offer its clients the most advanced technological solutions and which enjoys international recognition thanks to its independence and its commitment to innovation and quality. SENER has 2,350 professionals on four continents. The group's operating income exceeds 433 million euros (2019 figures).

SENER combines the activities typical of Aerospace and Engineering and has ownership stakes in companies working in the power generation field. SENER Aeroespacial has more than 50 years of experience and is a top-tier Space, Defense and Science supplier. SENER Engineering has become a world leader in the areas of Infrastructure, Power and Naval.

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