



ZKB Pionierpreis Technopark goes to Nanoflex Robotics

> AWARD

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Nanoflex Robotics AG was honored with the jury prize and the audience award for its cutting-edge telerobotic technology designed to revolutionize endovascular interventions - in particular stroke treatment - by reducing the risks of trauma and complications. The system also allows remote surgeries.

Nanoflex Robotics AG, founded in 2021 by Matt Curran, Dr. Christophe Chautems, and Professor Bradley Nelson, has been awarded the 2025 ZKB Pionierpreis Technopark, a CHF 100,000 award recognizing breakthrough technological innovation. The 25th Pionierpreis ceremony, held at Technopark Zurich, was attended by around 350 guests.

The award highlights Nanoflex's **Remote Intervention System (RIS)**, an innovation that leverages precise magnetic fields to guide microrobots through the complex network of blood vessels, enabling life-saving procedures such as thrombectomies for stroke patients. The ETH spin-off also received the Audience Award worth CHF 2,500.

The MedTech's RIS represents a significant leap forward in telerobotics, allowing for precise, minimally invasive interventions. The system's ultra-flexible guidewires enable smooth

minimally invasive interventions. The system's ultra-flexible guidewires enable smooth navigation through the body's most delicate vascular pathways without excessive force, reducing the risk of trauma and complications. The innovation of the ETH spin-off is the result of over 20 years of research.

Its compact, mobile magnetic control unit can be deployed in a variety of clinical settings, including remote or emergency environments, where time is critical. The system's remote-control capability further enhances its potential, allowing specialized procedures without requiring expert surgeons to be physically present – a critical advantage for smaller or rural hospitals.

In his laudatory speech, jury president Lothar Thiele highlighted the start-up's degree of innovation, its business model and its social impact.

Recognition for Finalists Ex Nunc Intelligence and Irmos Technologies

In addition to the winner, two other standout finalists were recognized with CHF 10,000 each:

- Ex Nunc Intelligence, founded in 2023 in Lausanne by legal expert Kyriaki Bongard, tax specialist Zoé Berry, and AI pioneer Thomas Sèze, has developed **Silex**, a cloud-based platform that uses machine learning and natural language processing to provide instant, precise legal analysis. Silex supports both legal professionals and laypeople, offering real-time responses with context-specific references to Swiss law. The platform's encrypted data handling and comprehensive legal database ensure privacy and accuracy, addressing a critical gap in the legal technology market.
- Irmos Technologies, led by civil engineer and CEO Dr. Panagiotis Martakis, has developed an intelligent structural health monitoring. Their innovative solution translates real-time monitoring data, such as vibrations and strains, into structural condition metrics, providing critical insights for maintenance planning and lifecycle extension for bridges and buildings. The data is analyzed centrally on an AI-driven platform, creating predictive models that can be applied to similar structures, reducing maintenance costs and extending the lifespan of critical infrastructure.

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