

Green Tech Valley

The Green Tech Valley is a location with more than 100 years of industrial history. It is as revolutionary as its makers. In order to put their ideas into practice, the forefathers of green technologies pushed the limits of feasibility. Their pioneering spirit and their joy in inventing are firmly anchored in the DNA of the Green Tech Valley and can still be clearly felt today. The history of the Green Tech Valley and its rise to become a Green Tech Hotspot begins in the 1970s and 80s. In an era of cheap oil and a boom in nuclear power, far-sighted innovators are implementing the first renewable energy concepts. The first waste systems are also developed here by the Gyro Gearloose of the circular economy. They shape the corporate landscape of Styria and Carinthia, which stands for concentrated innovative power in the hydropower, solar, biomass and recycling sectors. Her high level of environmental awareness and her tenacity are leading the south of Austria into a green future. They not only transform an industrial region into a knowledge-based production and



service location, but also environmental technology into a pillar of the domestic economic landscape.

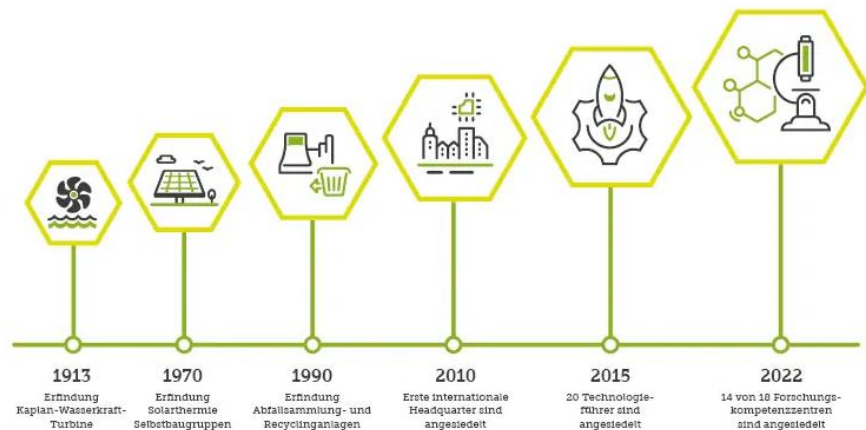
It all started with Viktor Kaplan from Styria. With his pioneering invention of the Kaplan turbine, all eyes were already on southern Austria at the beginning of the 20th century. This is where electricity is generated from hydropower for the first time. Today, every 5th kWh of green electricity worldwide is generated using hydropower from the Green Tech Valley. Nikola Tesla, one of the pioneers of electrical engineering, also works here in the Green Tech Valley. The inventor and – as his admirers called him “the magician of electricity” studied at the Technical University of Graz. It shows in a spectacular way that electricity can be transmitted through the air and is exposed to a voltage of two million volts. The power of the sun takes center stage in the 1970s. From Styria, self-assembly solar thermal systems are conquering the international market. The research institute AEE Intec is offering the first courses on this. At the beginning of the 1990s, Carinthian Robert Kanduth also tinkered with his first solar collectors in his garage. Shortly thereafter, he jumps in at the deep end



GREEN TECH VALLEY
RESEARCH MAP
#1 IN GREEN TECH

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with the founding of GREENoneTEC. His perseverance is rewarded. The company develops into the world's largest manufacturer of thermal solar collectors. Another milestone: Sustainable and fully automatic heat from pellets. The Styrian company KWB-Kraft und Wärme aus Biomasse sets new standards with innovative combustion technology and has developed the cleanest pellet heating system on the market. Recycling also began its worldwide triumph from here in the 1980s, with the first separate waste collection and world market leaders in sorting systems such as Binder+Co and REDWAVE.



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Today, the Green Tech Valley combines the expertise of over 800 entrepreneurs in one place. Twenty global technology leaders are within an hour's drive. This network is strong and ready to launch into a greener future. More than sixty startups and thus a large number of innovative founders successfully invest their passion and commitment in the development of new technologies for the green transition.

What is being researched in the Green Tech Valley?

The Green Tech research institutions in Styria and Carinthia are driving the green transformation with their know-how in the sectors of renewable energies and the circular economy. At 18%, their

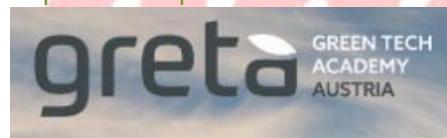


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main focus is on the topics of green heat and green electricity. But the focus is also on the efficiency/industry (16%), green mobility (16%), sustainable construction (14%), circular economy (12%) and green digital (11%) sectors.

Green Tech Academy

Styria bundles its educational program to make companies fit for the green transition. TU Graz, FH Joanneum, PH Stmk., WKO Stmk. and the Green Tech Cluster founded the [Green Tech Academy Austria](#), a hub for training and further education offers in the field of climate neutrality. The aim is to establish a lifelong learning ecosystem throughout Austria. Whether wind and water power, solar, biomass, circular economy or sustainable construction - green technologies are important topics for the future. The Green Tech Academy Austria –



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GRETA for short – was set up to provide the industry with the best possible support on the way to green transformation. This unites

several Styrian educational institutions and universities, which offer their extensive and tailor-made further education program in the areas of climate and circular. The selection will be expanded over the next few years based on demand.

In addition to industry and research, education is a central pillar to guarantee the competitiveness of companies in the white-green location. With GRETA, Styria's status as a Green Tech Valley is further

strengthened. The country should become a "St. Gallen" for green innovations. Continuing education highlights such as the Executive MBA "Twin Green & Digital Transformation" from Graz University of Technology, the WIFI course "Photovoltaic Technician or Photovoltaic Planner" but also the established FH JOANNEUM degree in "Energy Management" should guarantee this. In addition, individual lectures or workshops, university courses for employees from all sectors and company sizes, or innovation camps for companies on the subject of green technologies, decarbonization and ways to climate neutrality are offered. GRETA also offers a training series for secondary school teachers. The focus is on all types of innovations that contribute to the creation of products, services or processes in order to reduce the burden, impairment and threat to the environment and at the same time optimize the use of natural resources.

If you would like to have more information about the styrian **Green Tech Valley** - please visit the company's website:

<https://www.greentech.at/>



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