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**Boston, Mass., April 15, 2025** — Leading Cities, a nonprofit accelerating urban sustainability and innovation through startup-city collaboration, announced Blueshift as the winner of the 2025 Massachusetts Climate Innovation of the Year Award, recognizing the most promising climate tech solution developed in the Commonwealth.

This award was made possible through the generosity and support of the Massachusetts Clean Energy Center (MassCEC)—a valued partner in advancing climate innovation across the state. In partnership with MassCEC, Leading Cities continues to spotlight and support the technologies that are shaping a cleaner, more resilient future for all.

The announcement comes as Massachusetts continues to solidify its position as a global epicenter of climate innovation, driven by a unique blend of academic excellence, entrepreneurial talent, and public-sector leadership. Under Governor Maura Healey and Lieutenant Governor Kim Driscoll, the Commonwealth has doubled down on its commitment to climate resilience—investing in clean energy, sustainable infrastructure, and breakthrough technologies that are helping shape a more sustainable and prosperous future.

“Governor Healey’s vision for a thriving green economy has made Massachusetts the place where climate innovation happens,” said Michael Lake, President & CEO of Leading Cities. “We’re not just building solutions—we’re building momentum, markets, and movements.”

Blueshift, based in Somerville, was selected from a highly competitive pool of over twenty semifinalists and five finalists. The company’s membrane-free electromechanical platform enables low-cost, scalable carbon dioxide removal and critical mineral recovery—two key levers in the global transition to net-zero. With scientific roots at Harvard and the University of Michigan, Blueshift’s technology stands out for both its breakthrough potential and deployability.

And now, they are the 2025 Massachusetts Climate Innovation of the Year. Among a strong field of candidates and in one of the world’s most robust ecosystems for cleantech, one company emerged to lead.

The five finalists represented sectors ranging from electrification and carbon-negative construction to sustainable fuels and waterless sanitation:

* **Stepwise** – Modular smart home hardware to accelerate residential electrification (Founder: Jane Chen)
* **Carbon Negative Solutions** – Converts industrial waste into carbon-negative cement supplements (Founder: Keith Crossland)
* **Lydian Labs** – Develops low-cost sustainable aviation fuel from CO₂, water, and renewable electricity (COS: Amanda Ritter)
* **Change:WATER** – Waterless, zero-discharge toilet tech using NASA-inspired evaporative membranes (Founder: Diana Yousef)
* **Blueshift** – *Winner* – Electromechanical platform for carbon removal and critical mineral recovery (Co-Founder: Jessica Dabrowski)

The final round of judging was led by a panel of experts across venture capital, government, and civic tech:

* [**Kathryn Meng**](https://www.linkedin.com/in/kathrynmeng/), VC Investment Director, RA Capital
* [**David Wilson**](https://www.linkedin.com/in/damcmw/), Senior Investment Associate, Massachusetts Clean Energy Center
* [**Nigel Jacob**](https://www.linkedin.com/in/nsjacob/), Civic Innovation Leader

**2025 Semifinalists**

The full cohort of semifinalists demonstrates the depth of talent and diversity of innovation within Massachusetts’ climate tech ecosystem:

* [Adept Materials](https://www.adeptmaterials.com/) (Somerville): Founded by [Derek Stein](https://www.linkedin.com/in/multifunctional/)
* [Beacon Climate](https://www.beaconclimate.com/) Innovations (Somerville): Co-Founded by [Moneer Azzam](https://www.linkedin.com/in/moneer-h-azzam/) & [Rohit Nayak](https://www.linkedin.com/in/nayakrohit/)
* [BlueShift](https://www.buildblueshift.com/) (Somerville): Co-Founded by [Jessica Dabrowski](https://www.linkedin.com/in/jessica-dabrowski-1209/)
* [Carbon Negative Solutions](https://www.carbonegativesolutions.com/) (Somerville): Founded by [Keith Crossland](https://www.linkedin.com/in/keith-crossland-022a0a26/)
* [CF Technologies, Inc.](https://www.cftechnologies.com/) (Hyde Park): Presented by Vice President [Jessica Sweeney](https://www.linkedin.com/in/jessicasweeneycftech/)
* [change:WATER Labs](http://www.change-water.com/) (Cambridge): Founded by [Diana Yousef](https://www.linkedin.com/in/dianayousefmartinek/)
* [Dottir Labs](https://dottirlabs.com/) (Somerville): Founded by [Nili Persits](https://www.linkedin.com/in/nilipersits/)
* [EQORE Inc.](https://www.eqore.net/) (Concord): Co-Founded by [Valeriia Tyshchenko](https://www.linkedin.com/in/valeriiatn/)
* [EVident Battery](https://batteryevidence.com/) (Westford): Founded by [Jinqiang Ning](https://www.linkedin.com/in/jinqiang-ning-phd-921157134/)
* [Found Energy](https://www.found.energy/) (Boston): Presented by Vice President [Angie Ackroyd](https://www.linkedin.com/in/angie-ackroyd-771846/)
* [Haystack Ag](https://www.haystackag.com/) (Boston): Founded by [Matthew Rosen](https://www.linkedin.com/in/matthew-f-rosen/)
* [JaccPro (eSki)](http://eskipro.com/) (Easton): Founded by [Jack Duffy-Protentis](https://www.linkedin.com/in/jack-duffy-protentis-37b313218/)
* [Loop CO2](https://loopco2.com/) (Marlborough): Co-Founded by [Aone Wang](https://www.linkedin.com/in/aone-wang/) & [Jimmy Chiu](https://www.linkedin.com/in/jimmy-chiu-ph-d-a4138545/)
* [Lydian Labs](https://www.lydianlabs.com/) (Cambridge): Presented by COS [Amanda Ritter](https://www.linkedin.com/in/amandaritter1/)
* [New Paradigm Energy](https://npepbc.com/) (Davidsburg): Co-Founded by [Brandon Boucher](https://www.linkedin.com/in/brandonboucher/)
* [Prisere](https://www.prisere.com/) (Boston): Founded by [Donna Childs](https://www.linkedin.com/in/riskready/)
* [Scrapp](https://www.scrapprecycling.com/) (Burlington): Co-Founded by [Evan Gwynne Davies](https://www.linkedin.com/in/evan-gwynne-davies/)
* [Square Robot](https://squarerobot.com/about/#leadership) (Marlborough): Presented by CFO [David Therrien](https://www.linkedin.com/in/davidmtherrien/)
* [Stepwise](https://www.getstepwise.com/) (Somerville): Co-Founded by [Jane Chen](https://www.linkedin.com/in/janechen3/)
* [Triton Anchor](http://tritonanchor.com/) (Chelmsford): Presented by CTO [Zachary Miller](https://www.linkedin.com/in/zachary-miller-oe/)
* [untill](https://www.untill.ag/) (Hudson): Founded by [Ahmad Zameli](https://www.linkedin.com/in/azameli/)

As part of their win, Blueshift will receive automatic entry into the global QBE AcceliCITY Resilience Challenge, where they will compete for a $100,000 grand prize. They also join the Leading Cities Academy, a certification program supporting startups as they scale through partnerships with cities. All semifinalists receive one-year membership to LaunchPad 11, Leading Cities’ virtual innovation incubator for entrepreneurs.

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**About Leading Cities**  
Leading Cities is a Boston-based 501(c)(3) nonprofit that accelerates innovation in urban sustainability, resilience, and climate action by connecting cities with solutions through public-private collaboration. Through programs like the QBE AcceliCITY Resilience Challenge, LaunchPad 11, and the Leading Cities Academy, the organization has supported hundreds of startups and municipalities around the world. For more information, visit [www.LeadingCities.org](https://www.leadingcities.org) or follow Leading Cities on LinkedIn.