



## PRESS RELEASE

**Darktrace, Calastone and Beqom are the big winners at the Tech Tour 2018 Growth Awards**

Top 3 innovative technology companies in Europe were announced at a special ceremony in Lausanne, Switzerland

**Darktrace** (Growth Award), **Calastone** (Innovation Award), **beqom** (Special Jury Prize) are the big winners at the Tech Tour 2018 Growth Awards. The top 3 innovative technology companies in Europe were announced at a special ceremony taking place in Lausanne, Switzerland.

The [Tech Tour 2018 Growth Summit](#) is completed by the Tech Tour Growth 50 – a selection of Europe's 50 most promising growth companies with the very best potential to become \$1BN+ companies.

In its 12<sup>th</sup> edition, the [Tech Tour 2018 Growth Awards](#) continue to write the history of Europe's potential unicorns, bringing together the boldest CEOs and their investors to celebrate the success of entrepreneurs with the vision and drive to build game changing businesses. The rich portfolio of success stories of the previous Growth Award winners includes Octo Telematics, Skyscanner, Openet, Klarna, Betfair, Gameforge, QlikTech, Parallels, MySQL and Wonga. Previous Innovation Award winners include Movidius, Shazam, Tobii Technology, Enecsys, and Soundcloud, and previous Special Jury Prizes have been awarded to FeedZai, Novaled, Corevalve, ScytI, and Vente-privée.

*"European Growth Technology companies are becoming world-class in terms of number and quality of the teams. As single reference point, there were 70 Unicorns in Europe in 2017 versus just 1 in 2005. But looking ahead, the pool of technology start-ups from which these mature growth companies are emerging from is phenomenal as Entrepreneurship becomes mainstream. In 2018, once again, the selection committee which made up of a large group of the most active venture capitalists in Europe, carefully picked 50 European companies that fit our multi-variable criteria of scale, growth and success" – Chris Wade and Eric Archambeau, Co-Presidents of the Tech Tour 2018 Growth Summit.*

The **Tech Tour 2017 Growth Award** winner, **Darktrace**, founded in 2013 by mathematicians and machine learning specialists from the University of Cambridge, together with world-leading intelligence experts from MI5 and GCHQ, to bring transformative technology to the challenge of cyber security. It was named 'Best Security Company of the Year 2016' at the Info Security Global Excellence Awards and a Gartner 'Cool Vendor' 2015. **Chief Executive Officer for EMEA Poppy Gustafsson** had this to say: *"We are honored to have been recognized as Europe's number one super scale-up by Tech Tour Growth 50," commented Poppy Gustafsson, CEO EMEA at Darktrace. "Five years ago nobody talked about applying unsupervised machine learning to the challenge of cyber defense. Darktrace identified a massive gap in the market and developed AI algorithms that detect and fight back against the advanced and stealthy attacks others miss. Today, Darktrace's cyber AI technology defends thousands of organizations around the globe – that puts us in a very special position, which is virtually*

*impossible for someone else to catch up to. Being recognized by Tech Tour Growth 50 is a testament to the incredible achievement of our team of 650.”*

The **Tech Tour 2017 Innovation Award** winner, **Calastone**, founded in 2007, is the largest global funds transaction network, connecting many of the world’s leading financial organisations. Our mission is to make funds accessible to everyone by reducing the frictional cost of trading. **Julien Hammerson, CEO** of Calastone had this to say about their achievement: *“We are thrilled to have been recognised as Tech Tour’s most innovative technology company for 2018. With Tech Tour representing Europe’s leading investor community and most innovative technology entrepreneurs, receiving an award, from such eminent industry peers, is all the more valuable.”*

The **Tech Tour 2017 Special Jury Prize** winner, **Beqom**, founded in 2009, is a global provider of compensation management software, delivered using a cloud computing platform. **Fabio Ronga, CEO** of Beqom, had this to say: *“We are very honored to receive such a prestigious award. We take it as a validation of the unique global company culture developed out of Switzerland and an innovative product addressing an unmet market opportunity on a worldwide basis. We hope this contributes to the worldwide image of the dynamic Lake Geneva region.”*

### About Tech Tour

Founded in 1998, Tech Tour is a community with strong positions in the venture capital market. We promote innovative companies and their projects through our online community platform and in person at 25 networking events that we organise each year. We have 20-years of experience across Europe and the Middle East and present a unique cross-border platform for growing and emerging innovative tech companies on their way to investment and funding – from the idea to the success story. For more information please see: [www.techtour.com](http://www.techtour.com)

### About the International Venture Club

The International Venture Club is a collaborative platform of over 70 leading independent venture capital, corporate and institutional investors promoting successful international investments. The Club objectives are to share better practices, build co-investor trust and relations, foster new funding and investment opportunities through joint actions and grow portfolio companies with corporate partners and co-investors. The International Venture Club is managed by Tech Tour. For more information, please visit: [www.iventureclub.com](http://www.iventureclub.com)

### About the Tech Tour Growth 50

Every year Tech Tour, in conjunction with the International Venture Club and Silverpeak Technology Investment Banking, identifies 50 of Europe’s fastest growing pre-exit investor backed companies, to identify European companies with the chance to achieving the iconic “Unicorn” status. Companies are selected through a combination of quantitative and qualitative data and have to meet a minimum of 3 out of 4 of these criteria: exceeding €10mn in revenue; exceeding €20mn in total funding; has a

valuation between €100mn and less than €1bn; has had a minimum revenue growth of 50% over the last 3 years. For more information, please visit [www.techtourgrowth50.com](http://www.techtourgrowth50.com)

**VP Selection Committee:** Chris Wade, Isomer Capital (United Kingdom)  
Eric Archambeau, Wellington Partners (Germany)

**2018 Selection Committee Members:**

Matthias Allgaier, Summit Partners Limited (United Kingdom)  
Antonella Beltrame, Intesa Sanpaolo S.p.A. (Italy)  
Chris Caulkin, General Atlantic Partners (United Kingdom)  
George Coelho, Good Energies AG (Switzerland)  
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Alexander Galitsky, Almaz Capital Partners (United States)  
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Jacob Bratting Pedersen, Vaekstfonden (Denmark)  
Seth Pierrepont, Accel Partners (United Kingdom)  
Mauro Pretolani, Fondo Italiano di Investimento - Tech Growth Fund (Italy)  
Helena Prokhorenko, Highland Capital Partners Europe (United Kingdom)  
Morgan Seigler, TA Associates (United Kingdom)  
Patrick Sheehan, ETF Partners (United Kingdom)

The Tech Tour Growth Forum and Awards are proudly supported by [Pictet](#), [Orrick](#), [State of Vaud](#), Korn Ferry, [Bryan Garnier & Co](#), [Nasdaq](#), [Euronext](#), [Silverpeak](#) and [Pitchbook](#).

**About Pictet**

Founded in 1805 in Geneva, Pictet & Cie SA is today one of Switzerland's largest private banks, and the leading independent asset management specialist in Europe, with CHF 436 billion (EUR 402 billion) in assets under management and custody at December 2015. Pictet & Cie SA is a partnership owned and managed by eight general partners with unlimited liability for the bank's commitments. The Pictet Group, based in Geneva, employs more than 3,900 staff. The group has offices in the following financial centres: Amsterdam, Barcelona, Basel, Dubai, Florence, Frankfurt, Hong Kong, Lausanne,

London, Luxembourg, Madrid, Milan, Montreal, Nassau, Osaka, Paris, Rome, Singapore, Taipei, Turin, Tokyo, Verona and Zurich.

**About Orrick**

Orrick is a leading global law firm with a particular focus on serving companies in the technology, energy and financial sectors. We are recognized worldwide for delivering the highest-quality, commercially-oriented legal advice and for our culture of innovation and collaboration. Founded in San Francisco a century and a half ago, Orrick today is named by Law360 as one of the "Global 20" leading firms. Our platform offers clients a distinctive combination of local insight and global reach across 25 offices. Orrick practices in five core areas: Corporate, Energy & Infrastructure, Finance, Intellectual Property and Litigation. Known for our work in the technology sector, we act for many of the world's top public companies as well as more than 1,200 start-ups.

**About State of Vaud**

State of Vaud has been a strong supporter of the Tech Tour for a number of years. This year they are host sponsor of the Tech Growth Forum in March and the Healthtech Summit in June. The mission of the Department for Economic Affairs of the State of Vaud is to put in place the framework conditions required to promote economic growth. Its objectives are designed to highlight the know-how of companies and to make the canton an attractive and competitive environment. The vitality of economy in the State of Vaud is particularly remarkable in state-of-the-art industries with high added value such as life sciences, information technology, micro- and nanotechnology, environmental and agri-food technologies. Strong political support and many concrete state support and incentives serve to reinforce growth in these sectors.

**About Korn Ferry**

Korn Ferry is the preeminent global people and organisational advisory firm. We help you align your people and your organisation to your strategy – developing, engaging and rewarding your employees to reach new heights. We provide broad spectrum talent management solutions, including executive and non-executive search, recruitment process outsourcing, leadership development and talent solutions.

**About Bryan, Garnier & Co**

Bryan, Garnier & Co is a European, full service growth-focused independent investment banking partnership founded in 1996. The firm provides equity research, sales and trading, private and public capital raising as well as M&A services to growth companies and their investors. It focuses on key growth sectors of the economy including Technology, Media & Telecoms, Healthcare, Smart Industries & Energy, Consumer, Brands & Retail and Business Services. Bryan, Garnier & Co is a fully registered broker dealer authorized and regulated by the FCA in Europe and the FINRA in the U.S. Bryan, Garnier

& Co is headquartered in London, with additional offices in Paris, Munich and New York. The firm is a member of the London Stock Exchange and Euronext.

**About Nasdaq**

Nasdaq (Nasdaq: NDAQ) is a leading provider of trading, clearing, exchange technology, listing, information and public company services across six continents. Through its diverse portfolio of solutions, Nasdaq enables clients to plan, optimize and execute their business vision with confidence, using proven technologies that provide transparency and insight for navigating today's global capital markets. As the creator of the world's first electronic stock market, its technology powers more than 85 marketplaces in 50 countries, and 1 in 10 of the world's securities transactions. Nasdaq is home to approximately 3,800 listed companies with a market value of \$10.1 trillion and nearly 18,000 corporate clients. To learn more, visit: [business.nasdaq.com](https://business.nasdaq.com)

**About Euronext**

Euronext is the primary exchange in the Euro zone with over 1300 issuers worth €2.6 trillion in market capitalisation, an unmatched blue-chip franchise consisting of 20+ issuers in the EURO STOXX 50® benchmark and a strong, diverse domestic and international client base. Euronext operates regulated and transparent equity and derivatives markets. Its total product offering includes Equities, Exchange Traded Funds, Warrants & Certificates, Bonds, Derivatives, Commodities and Indices. Euronext also leverages its expertise in running markets by providing technology and managed services to third parties. Euronext operates regulated markets, Alternext and the Free Market; in addition, it offers EnterNext, which facilitates SMEs' access to capital markets

**About Silverpeak**

Silverpeak provides independent advice on M&A and financing transactions to innovative, fast-growing technology companies. Our nine partners have close to 150 years combined experience and over 300 completed deals in technology investment banking with a vast network of relationships and deep domain expertise in Internet & Digital Media, Enterprise Software/SaaS, IT Services, Enabling Technologies and Healthtech.

**About PitchBook**

PitchBook is a financial data and software company that provides transparency into the capital markets to help professionals discover and execute opportunities with confidence and efficiency. PitchBook collects and analyzes detailed data on the entire venture capital, private equity and M&A landscape—including public and private companies, investors, funds, investments, exits and people. The company's data and analysis are available through the PitchBook Platform, industry news and in-depth reports. Founded in 2007, PitchBook has offices in Seattle, San Francisco, New York and London and serves more than 14,000 professionals around the world. In 2016, Morningstar acquired PitchBook, which now operates as an independent subsidiary.





TechTour  
Growth Summit

**Geneva & Lausanne**  
22 - 23 March 2018



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