



PRESS RELEASE

Top 46 innovative start-ups from the region to present at the 7th edition of Alpine High-tech Venture Forum 2018 in Lausanne

26 of these companies, or 55% of all selected, are coming from the State of Vaud

The 7th edition of the [Alpine High-Tech Venture Forum](#) (AHVF), organized by **Tech Tour** and traditionally hosted by **State of Vaud**, will take place in **Lausanne on 22-23 October 2018**. 60 Swiss and International investors, 46 presenting companies and more than 130 participants in total will attend the popular event.

Alpine High-Tech Venture Forum is a unique occasion for entrepreneurs in **ICT, Life Sciences and Cleantech** sectors **from Switzerland and the Alpine region** to meet and present themselves to active international investors and corporations seeking investment and partnerships. AHVF is an important platform to promote a dynamic and professional image of innovative entrepreneurship and venture capital of the region.

26 of companies, or 55% of all selected start-ups to present at the event, **are coming from the State of Vaud** – 12 from city of Lausanne, 5 from Ecublens, 3 from Yverdon-les-Bains, 2 from Prilly, and 1 – from La Conversion, Le Mont-sur-Lausanne, Rolle, and Savigny. Another 16 of the selected start-ups are from different cantons of Switzerland. 4 German and 1 French company from Alpine Region complete the number of innovative projects for the event. For more information about the presenting companies, please visit [AHVF website](#).

The State of Vaud was recently ranked as one of the best regions for investment and business in Europe with some impressive statistics:

- **A quarter of the 100 top Swiss start-ups are based in Vaud** including 6 of the 10 top best ones in 2017 as well as about 2,000 high-tech companies;
- About **360 Vaud-based companies and 400 labs** are present in the field of Life sciences and **employ more than 20'000 people** in total;
- **Vaud ranks 1st in fundraising** and for the **4th consecutive year** in comparison to other Swiss cantons as Vaud-based start-ups have **raised up to CHF 1.2 billion over the past 5 years** and CHF 298 million in 2017;
- There are **6 incubators and innovation parks** suitable to develop your ideas and business, pooling local infrastructure and technical skills.

The Highlights of the Alpine High-tech Venture Forum this year include:

- Keynote speeches of **Raphaël Conz** (Economic Promotion - Office for Economic Affairs, SPECo – State of Vaud), **Michael Themans** (Deputy of the Vice-President for Innovation, École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne, EPFL), and **Nasri Nahas** (CEO of Biopôle);
- Panel discussion on the theme *“Partnering between World-class Research and Global Corporates for High-tech Investment”* with internationally recognised speakers such as **Pierre Chauvineau** (Boston Scientific), **Olivier Laplace** (Swiss Post) and **Mark Redshaw** (Evonik Corporate Venturing);
- Partnering opportunities for entrepreneurs, investors and corporations;



- Highly-specialized, structured business presentations of start-ups with direct feedback from experts;
- Ample networking time to establish new contacts and follow-up existing ones; and
- One2One meetings between investors and entrepreneurs.

Media representatives can register for AHVF 2018 free of charge up to 23 October 2018 on the event's [website](#) or at the registration desk onsite.

The **[registration](#) deadline for participants** interested in attending the Alpine High-tech Venture Forum is up to **22 October 2018**.

About Tech Tour

Founded in 1998, Tech Tour is 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. The platform supports innovative companies and their projects through online community space and in person at 25 networking events that we organise each year. Tech Tour is well known in the venture capital market with its 20-years of experience across Europe and the Middle East, and planning to enlarge our scope of work to China. For more information please visit: <https://www.techtour.com/>

About the State of Vaud

The State of Vaud is one of the main centers of research and innovation in Switzerland, with the largest campus in the country and several research centers as well as industries of international reputation, particularly in Life sciences, Micro-nanotechnologies, ICT and Cleantech. Through its support to the Healthtech Summit 2018, the State of Vaud aims to highlight the potential of its state-of-the-art industries and start-ups, as well as the very attractive economic and scientific conditions in the region. The Office for Economic Affairs and Innovation (SPEI) supports companies that are located in the State of Vaud, especially those involved in the sectors of advanced technology and industry. SPEI advises entrepreneurs and puts them in contact with organisations that are appropriate to their specific needs. SPEI can also provide direct financial support. For more information please visit: <https://www.vaud.swiss/>

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