Greater Zurich Area home to potential unicorns

Zurich – Leading venture capital companies have selected the 50 fastest growing European tech startups. Nine Swiss startups are among them, including five from the Greater Zurich Area.

Nine Swiss startups have made it onto the <u>Tech Tour Growth 50 List</u>. From over 300 companies, a selection committee made up of 21 leading venture capital companies picked those startups which are achieving the fastest growth and are not yet listed on the stock market. This puts the limelight on startups that show the most promise of having a global impact, so with the potential to become unicorns – a startup with a market valuation of more than US\$1 billion – in the foreseeable future.

Germany is most prominent on the list, with 13 startups. It is followed by Switzerland at number two with nine startups, meaning the country has climbed considerably in the rankings this year. Last year, only four Swiss startups were on the Tech Tour Growth 50 List. Eight companies from France were represented on the list this year, and only four from the United Kingdom.

Five of the nine Swiss startups on the list are from the Greater Zurich Area. These include the Schaffhausen software company <u>Acronis</u>, the Zurich medtech company <u>Ava</u>, the Zug company specializing in online retail <u>Chronext</u> as well as the software company <u>Scandit</u> and jobs platform <u>Coople</u> both from Zurich. The list also includes <u>Beqom</u> from Neuchâtel, <u>Flyability</u> from Lausanne, <u>Nexthink</u> from Prilly and <u>Sophia Genetics</u> from Saint-Sulpice near Lausanne.

On 28 March, the CEOs of the companies who made it onto the list will gather in Geneva and Lausanne, where the two winners of the Growth Award and the Innovation Award 2019 will be announced. Sponsors of the event include the Canton of Vaud and the pan-European exchange Europeat.

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