

**Tech Growth Forum, showcasing CEOs who are changing the world**

***The Tech Tour Growth Forum will host Europe's 50 top growth CEOs and investors***

On 19<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> March over 50 of Europe's CEOs and their venture capital backers will gather in Geneva and Lausanne for the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Tech Tour Growth Forum. Firmly established as one of the most important events for the growth-stage technology industry, the forum will showcase some of the most important entrepreneurs of today's tech world.

The forum will take place over two days with a closed CEO session, reserved for carefully selected CEOs, on 19<sup>th</sup> March and an open event for all delegates on 20<sup>th</sup> March. The CEO closed session will be hosted by Pictet at its offices in Geneva and the roundtable discussions will be moderated by McKinsey and Company. The open session will give a select group of corporate and international investors the opportunity to meet with these influential CEOs for a full-day programme where the CEOs will take part in facilitated panels and fireside chats.

Bank of America Merrill Lynch will be taking part as a sponsor, joining the likes of other top level companies such as Canton de Vaud. Paul Harvey, head of EMEA Technology, Investment Banking, at Bank of America Merrill Lynch, who will be making a key note speech looking at the state of European Technology during the forum, commented: "Europe is producing some of the most exciting technology companies in the world and at faster rate than ever. The Tech Tour is a key part of this and the Tech Tour Growth Forum is one of the most influential conferences of its type in Europe."

**Speakers for 20<sup>th</sup> March Forum held at the Olympic Museum, Lausanne include:**

- Ken Roth, Human Rights Watch
- Paul Harvey, Bank of America Merrill Lynch
- Christophe Donay, Pictet Wealth Management
- Mike Lynch, Invoke Capital
- Charles Louis, Dow Jones
- Albert Ganyushin, Euronext
- Adam Kostyal, Nasdaq

George Coehlo, managing director and head of Venture Capital at Good Energies, Co-President of the event and also lead of the Selection Committee said that: "The Selection Committee spent several months hand-picking the top 50 growth company CEOs in Europe. The whole exercise was a refreshing look at how strong Europe really is at the moment, there are some companies here that are on the verge of hyper-growth. This really will be a fantastic event with a very inspiring group of people."

Following the first day workshops in Geneva, a gala dinner will be held at the Beau Rivage Palace in Lausanne, CEOs will be joined by key investors, industry thought leaders and corporates for the presentation

of the annual Tech Tour Growth Awards and the launch of the inaugural Tech Tour Growth 50 – a list of Europe’s most promising pre-exit private growth companies.

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## Notes to Editors

### About The Tech Tour

[www.techtour.com/growthforum2015](http://www.techtour.com/growthforum2015)

The Tech Tour was founded in Geneva in 1998 in response to the growing interest in emerging technology companies in various European regions. The Tech Tour brings together investors and high-tech entrepreneurs through its highly successful events - Regional Tech Tours that cover multiple cities in a particular European region and 1 day Tech Summits that focus on a particular industry vertical. The Tech Tour focuses on selecting the highest quality companies for its events and as a result selected companies have been very successful in obtaining funding. The Tech Tour over the years has built a very strong and inter-connected community of Entrepreneurs, Investors, Government influencers, Industry experts and Advisers. This community comes together regularly to network, collaborate and to invest their time and money in furthering the high-tech innovation ecosystem in Europe. [www.techtour.com](http://www.techtour.com)

### 50 high-impact growth entrepreneurs from the below companies are confirmed to attend:

Activity, AdTelligence, Advanced Accelerator Applications, AlertMe, Anecova, Bullguard, Dacadoo, Displaylink, Doctoralia, EBM, eDevice, Electro Power Systems, Grupanya, happn, Heliocentris, King.com, Klarna, KupiVIP, lamoda.ru, MBA Polymers, Medicanimal, Mister Spex GmbH, MVP, New Frontier Group, Octo Telematics, Openet, Performance Horizon, Qliktech, Quandoo, RationalFX, Raw Labs, Reksoft, Saran Online, Scytl, Shazam, Similar Web, SkyScanner, Sophia Genetics, Sumerian Networks, Symetis, Synthesio, Tagsys, Talend, The Currency Cloud, The Longest Stay, TicTrac, Vivsense, VmWare, Wahanda, Yandex, ZOPA, Zound Industries.

### The 2015 selection committee members include:

Aeris Capital AG	Entrepreneurs Fund Management	Samsung Electronics
Almaz Capital	EPFL	SEP
Ariadne Capital	Good Energies	Summit Partners
Bank of America Merrill Lynch	Go4Venture	TA Associates
Caixa Capital	GP Bullhound	VY Capital
DN Capital	Index Ventures	World Economic Forum
Earlybird Venture Capital	Kreos Capital	
Endeavour Vision S.A.	Panakès Partners	

### About Bank of America

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### **About Canton de Vaud**

Canton de Vaud has been a strong supporter of the Tech Tour for a number of years. This year they are host sponsors of the Tech Growth Forum as well as the Alpine Venture Forum and the Healthtech Summit both taking place 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 Canton 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.