



France Tech Insight – September 2015

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Dear Friends,

Welcome to the September issue of France Tech Insight! After having enjoyed this beautiful summer either at the vineyards in Cape Cod or art galleries in Saint Paul de Vence, fall is there and it is time to get back to school! The following weeks will be full of excitement with numerous events including the NETVA Immersion week from the October 19th to the 23rd. More information on the social events in the NETVA section. As always, you will find information about our upcoming events, science and innovation news, employment opportunities, and scholarship offers.

Enjoy the new issue!

Our Programs



From October 19th to the 23rd, the Office for Science & Technologies will host 5 startups for the now famous NETVA immersion week! Here is a quick description of the startups:

- **Blue Poppies** has developed Cocolico, an innovative approach to the children's clothing market using online and in-store configuration tools to produce and sell children's clothing that is adapted to the tastes and needs of customers at international stores.
- **EHTech** cuts water heater energy costs threefold by recovering heat from shower waste water.
- **Idexlab's** platform is a kind of "dating service" dedicated to innovation, allowing innovative companies and top experts to find each other.
- **Algama** has developed Springwave, the first naturally regenerating aquadrink with magnesium and vitamin-rich spirulina that has healthy benefits for the body and mind.
- **XRWARE** offers a suite of software for all X-RAY systems' needs from simulation to visualization.



During this week, the 5 french entrepreneurs will benefit from courses on “how to make business in the US”, personal appointments designed to address their key strategic needs, and several social events allowing them to explore what Boston has to offer. In order to warmly welcome our entrepreneur delegation, we invite all the OS&T friends and community to come to our main social events:

- **Welcoming Cocktail** @ Résidence de France: Monday October 19th from 6 to 8 pm.
- **Pitch Battle** @ MassChallenge: Wednesday October 22nd from 6 to 8 pm. The event will take place as a friendly Pitch Battle where attendees will be asked to judge and elect a grand winner.

As a french community pre requisite, cheese and wine will be served.

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU ALL THERE !!

Browse the list of laureates [HERE](#)



Last Tuesday, Consul General Valéry Freland invited the new laureates of the Young Enterprise Initiative - Start in France - Awards 2015 to the Résidence of France to congratulate them on their success. After being treated to a delicious lunch celebrating French cuisine, the laureates set out to work and spent a studious afternoon learning from successful CEOs, lawyers, former YEi awardees and members of the scientific service of the Consulate.



In the evening, laureates and guests gathered at MassChallenge where they were greeted by Scott Bailey, director of the company. Several prestigious guests shared their experience with the audience, such as Christophe Grignon, Director of Business France US, Jean-Jacques Yarmoff, scientific attaché, Jean-Pierre Sommadossi, CEO of Atea Pharmaceuticals and Idenix Pharmaceuticals, Emmanuel Picq, lawyer at PWC, Nader Yaghoubi, CEO of PathMaker Neurosystems and Joel Bergniac, CEO of Akrivis, former YEi Awards laureates. The evening ended with a “pitch contest” where laureates and young entrepreneurs were given a minute to defend their startup.

Congratulations to all the laureates and to FGC Plasma Solutions and Admetsys, winners of the pitch contest. See you next November in France !

**FRENCH
AMERICAN
INNOVATION
DAY**



Precision Medicine: Innovations Transforming Clinical Research

The topic of the upcoming French-American Innovation Days (FAID 2016) conference is “**Precision Medicine**”. This annual conference is organized by the Office for Science & Technology of the Embassy of France in the United States. The 2016 edition is co-organized with France’s Global Care Initiative. The conference will focus on the impact of Precision Medicine on the development of new pharmaceutical products. The conference will feature speakers from companies and scientific institutions from France and America. Confirmed speakers include:

- Pr. Yves Agid, MD, PhD, Scientific Director of ICM;
- Dr. Geneviève Almounzi, PhD, Directeur Centre de Recherche Institut Curie ;
- Mr. Stéphane Bancel, CEO, Moderna Therapeutics;
- Pr. Christian Bréchet, MD, PhD, Président, Institut Pasteur;
- Pr. José-Alain Sahel, MD, PhD, Directeur Institut de la Vision ;
- Pr. Gilles Salles, MD, PhD, Président Calym Institute.

The purpose of the French-American Innovation Days is to bring together students, researchers, investors, startup entrepreneurs and large corporations from France and the United-States in order to foster transatlantic research and industrial collaborations.

News

Entrepreneurship & Innovation

- BlaBlaCar raises \$200 million in Series D funding at a \$1.6 billion valuation

BlaBlaCar, the French company that connects long-distance drivers and people interested in hitching a ride, raised quite some eyebrows when it secured a \$100 million round in the summer of 2014. Well, the startup is about to do that trick all over again today, as it is announcing today that it has raised double that amount in a fresh round of financing.. [Read More](#)

- Uber will not re-open its peer-to-peer UberPop service in Paris. Neither will anyone else.

_This week it was learned that Uber will not be re-opening its UberPOP service, its peer-to-peer service that launched February of 2014, and received subsequent attention earlier this year when drivers were taken hostage by taxi drivers, ultimately resulting in the French government putting the squeeze on UberPop in the form of arresting Uber’s country manager for France & their EMEA director, also based in Paris. In the wake of this summer’s protests, Heetch, a Paris-based service that allowed young people to get a ride home in Paris after the metro stopped running, was scooped up in the battle. [Read More](#)

- Azendoo raises \$1.5 Million to bring their Slack-like tool to marketing teams

Bordeaux-based Azendoo announced they’d raised a \$1.5 Million round of funding last week, building on top of what has been a winding road through the productivity tool landscape. [Read More](#)

- NETVA winner Mr Gabriel raised €591,000 in funding!

French start-up VProject just raised € 591K to fund the growth of Mr Gabriel, the first security application designed specifically for Apple Watch. [Read More](#)

- Up 70% from 2014, 250 French startups pulled in €750 Million in H1 2015

E&Y has released their bi-annual report on France's private equity market, and the numbers look promising. After ISAI's Business Angel report showed that, finally, business angel activity in France is starting to pick up, it looks like VCs can boast the same activity. €759 Million was raised in the first half of the year, putting France on track to raise €1.6 Billion in 2015, an increase of 70% compared to the same period last year. [Read More](#)

- French startup accelerator TheFamily has a new board member from Starup Chile

French startup accelerator TheFamily has a new board member, entrepreneur-turned-academic Vivek Wadhwa. He has been involved with many different research centers, including at Singularity University and Duke University. He's co-created Start-Up Chile, a government-sponsored program for foreign entrepreneurs. Program members get a grant, a visa and a bit of mentorship to spend a few months in Chile and see what it's like to build a startup in this country. [Read More](#)

Science & Research

- Prof. Christian Guilleminault receives the AAMS Hippocrates Award for Contribution to Medicine with Myofunctional Therapy in Los Angeles

Professor Guilleminault has received grant funding from the France-Stanford Center for Interdisciplinary Studies to conduct the France-Stanford Sleep Project. This is a program of the Office for Science and Technology of the French Embassy in the United States, and we anticipate to see even more of his wonderful work in the future. We congratulate Professor Guilleminault on his great accomplishment and on his wonderful contributions to the world of sleep medicine. [Read More](#)

- "Life Sciences: inventing – creating – having fun" 2015 Laureates

The grant "Life Sciences: inventing – creating – having fun" has been offered by the Office for Science and Technology of the Consulate general of France in Los Angeles since 2012 to French teams who participate in American competitions in life sciences. Following the call for projects launched in February 2015, 8 teams were selected to receive a grant. [Read More](#)

Upcoming Events

NETVA - Welcoming Cocktail



When:

Monday, October 19th, 6 to 8 pm

Where:

Résidence du Consul de France
194 Brattle Street
Cambridge, MA

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now famous NETVA immersion week!

During this week, the 5 frenchy entrepreneurs will benefit from courses on “how to make business in the US”, personal appointments designed to address their key strategic needs, and several social events allowing them to feel the core of Boston vibrant ecosystem. In order to warmly welcome our entrepreneur delegation, we invite all the OS&T friends and community to come for a welcoming cocktail. As a french community pre requisite, cheese and wine will be served.

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REGISTER NOW

Hope to see you all there!

NETVA – MassChallenge Pitch Battle



When:

Thursday, October 22nd, 6 to 8 pm

Where:

MassChallenge
21 Dry Dock Avenue
Boston, MA 02210

This event will bring together entrepreneurs from France, the NETVA laureates, and entrepreneurs from MassChallenge to face off with their elevator and longer pitches, an opportunity for both groups to improve their skills in front of their peers and develop a growing network across the Atlantic. Each person in the audience will be able to vote for their favorite participant. Come join us for what promises to be an incredible opportunity to engage with French and International entrepreneurs in a fun and dynamic environment!

The grand winner of the competition will win a prize of \$500 in cash, offered by our generous sponsor: Marie Landel & Associates.



In addition to the Pitch Battle, we are pleased to announce the participation of scouts from **Saint-Gobain NOVA External Venturing, Sanofi-Genzyme BioVentures, and Thales xPlor**, a special opportunity to meet one-on-one with top subject matter experts and discuss key factors in growing your business.



Saint-Gobain External Venturing

NOVA External Venturing is the Saint-Gobain unit dedicated to developing strategic partnerships between the Group and start-up companies all over the world. Our mission is to combine projects from innovative start-ups with the industrial and commercial assets of Saint-Gobain, so as to increase the partners' innovative capacities.



Sanofi-Genzyme BioVentures

Sanofi-Genzyme BioVentures (SGBV) is the corporate venture capital arm of Sanofi. Previously known as Genzyme Ventures, SGBV has a recently expanded mandate to invest across the more expansive business footprint of Sanofi. SGBV is an important component of Sanofi's broader global strategy to invigorate external innovation and research. SGBV only invests in early stage companies with promising new products that may be future Sanofi pipeline candidates.

THALES Thales xPlor

Seeking ways to generate corporate growth beyond traditional R&D and M&A, Thales founded xPlor, which now serves as the company's innovation hub in the United States. xPlor comprises an elite team of business leaders, technical experts and entrepreneurs whose mission is to identify emerging and disruptive technologies within the US start-up and academic communities.

French Catering will be graciously offered by NETVA's sponsor: Marie Landel & Associates. As a sponsor of international cooperation and the NETVA program since its inception, Marie Landel & Associates is an invaluable resource in the Boston area.



This event will be held at MassChallenge's headquarters in the vibrant Boston's Innovation District. Their dedicated team continues to support entrepreneurship and innovation all over the world, and their headquarters in Boston has reinvigorated and empowered the global entrepreneurship ecosystem.

REGISTER NOW

Employment Opportunities

- Post-doctoral position in neuroimmunology at the ICM

The ICM is recruiting a post-doc fellow in immunology to join the "neuroimmunology group". We are seeking an immunologist enthusiastic about applying his knowledge to neurosciences. The applicant should have a strong background in immunology and have preferentially previously worked on human monocytes/ macrophages. He/she should have an interest for neurosciences in general and on neurodegenerative diseases, in particular. The candidate should have expertise in cell culture and flow cytometry and be interested in expression profiling studies.

More information

- Full Professor of Biology – Chair (Engineering Program in Biology / hematologic malignancies)

Ecole Centrale Nantes and Cancer Research Center Nantes-Angers (CRCNA) INSERM UMR 892 /CNRS 6299 invite

application for a faculty position at the rank of Full Professor of Biology, beginning December 2015, accompanied

by a Chair.

Read More

- Group Leaders, Institute of functional genomics

Montpellier, Biomedical Campus Arnaud de Villeneuve Seeking new group leaders The Institute of Functional Genomics (IGF) (www.igf.cnrs.fr), located in Montpellier, France, is seeking two new group leaders.

Read More

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