



## French Innovation Week – Smart Cities: The Role of French Technology in Inventing the Cities of Tomorrow

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As part of the 4th annual **French Innovation Week**, Business France and the Consulate General of France in Chicago are organizing a panel discussion with three leading global innovation companies.

When architect and urban planners Daniel Burnham and Edward Bennett devised a grand plan to make Chicago the "Paris of the Prairies", they looked to the French metropolis for inspiration.

Today, more than a century later, French innovation is facing an important question: can we still say French technology is the driving force behind the city of tomorrow? Business France's **Smart Cities: The Role of French Technology in Inventing the Cities of Tomorrow** event explores how three leaders in smart solutions are powering the way of the future.

Stop by 1871 on May 3, 2017 to hear from and meet these three leaders, networking and a free cocktail hour.

- **When:** May 3, 2017 from 5:00 to 8:30 p.m.
- **Where:** 1871 (222 W. Merchandise Mart Plaza, Suite 1212, Chicago)
- **Registration**

### With the following speakers:

**Mark Costa**, Chief Digital Officer, North America at **JCDecaux**: JCDecaux is the number one outdoor advertising and creative street furniture company in the world and is at the cutting edge of smart city innovation.

**Yann Kulp**, VP SmartSpace, USA at **Schneider Electric**: Schneider Electric is a world leading company in smart building technologies. It operates in overall electrical distribution and manufactures industrial engineering equipment.

**Allen Proithis**, President, North America at **SigFox**: Sigfox is one of the most well-funded startups in French history and the world's leading provider of low-power wireless networks for the Internet of Things.

Moderated by **Ted Souder**, Head of Industry-Retail at Google

### Schedule:

- 5:00 – 5:30 p.m. Registration and welcoming Cocktail
- 5:30 – 5:40 p.m. Opening remarks and welcome by Vincent Floreani, Consul General of France and Howard

Tullman, CEO of 1871

- 5:40 – 6:45 p.m. Panel Discussion + Q&A
- 6:45 - 8:30 p.m. Networking

## About the French Innovation Week

French Innovation Week is a celebration of French innovation and savoir-faire in Chicago.

The 4th Annual French Innovation Week will take place **April 27-May 5, 2017** with a variety of events throughout the city that showcase the best of French science, technology, innovation and more.

The series of events will include 2 free public lectures given by leading French scientists, panel discussions, special screenings, hands-on activities for hundreds of young students during the the 6th Annual French-American Science Festival, and presentation by French leaders of cutting-edge technological advances at Chicago tech hub 1871. Finally, the week closes with the French-American Chamber of Commerce 25th annual Gala La Nuit des Etoiles celebrating this year The Loire Valley & Innovation.

- **For further information:** <https://frenchinnovationweek-chicago.com/>