France has a track record in disruptive technology, from the Minitel service, a precursor to the internet, to the SIM card. Today’s startups bathe in the same pools of creativity and innovative research, and enjoy world-class digital infrastructure and a supportive business environment.

The rest of the world is starting to take note. At the Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas this year, the French delegation created quite a buzz.

“France reclaims ‘entrepreneur’ roots with leading number of start-ups in Europe.” (Christian Science Monitor)

“France Is Absolutely Crushing It at CES” (By Yahoo’s Technology Editor Jason Gilbert, who predicted “The winner of CES will be France.”)

The Economist noted “an exceptionally strong French presence” at the CES, while Bloomberg wrote about French business being “out in force.”

While startups make headlines abroad, in France, a new generation of charismatic entrepreneurs are inspiring others to follow their lead. Belying its reputation as a nation of bureaucrats, now 37% of all French people say they want to start their own business (Source Viavoice, October 2014).

Role models include:
Xavier Niel managed to build a telecommunication and internet empire with his company Iliad which is valued at 14 billion dollars. Free, Iliad’s telecommunication’s subsidiary has 15 million subscribers and a 5 billion dollar annual revenue. He’s invested in a software-writing school, called 42 – a homage to Douglas Adam’s “The Hitchhiker’s Guide to the Galaxy,” and Halle Freyssinet, destined to become the largest incubator in the world.

Jean Baptiste Rudelle. A seasoned entrepreneur, in 2005 he co-founded Criteo SA, now the world’s foremost digital performance advertising company. Mr Rudelle remains CEO, overseeing Criteo’s recent IPO on NASDAQ and 1.7 billion dollar valuation. Previously, he was the founder and CEO of K-Mobile Kiwee, one of the leaders in the emerging mobile content market, acquired by American Greetings Interactive in 2004.

Jacques Antoine Granjon launched vente-privee.com in Europe in 2001, when e-commerce had barely started. The website, which pioneered ‘flash-sales,’ has enjoyed phenomenal success and is now available in 8 European countries (France, the UK, the Netherlands, Germany, Spain, Italy, Belgium and Austria) and the United States, in partnership with American Express.

Loïc Le Meur is a serial entrepreneur based in San Francisco. Loïc co-founded the #1 European tech event LeWeb. Each year in Paris, LeWeb brings together in Paris 3,500 entrepreneurs, brands, geeks, investors and press from 76 countries.
France out in force again at the Mobile World Congress 2015 in Barcelona

For the ninth consecutive year, Business France, the national agency supporting the international development of French businesses, is organizing the French Tech pavilion at the Mobile World Congress in Barcelona.

There will be 120 SMEs and start-ups on the French Tech pavilion – the largest national pavilion at MWC 2015. In total there will be 184 French exhibitors, making La République one of the best represented nations at the MWC with 10% of all exhibitors, ahead of Germany (112 exhibitors), China (154 exhibitors) or Japan (30 exhibitors). The entrepreneurs are specialists in a range of areas within the telecommunications industry, such as mobile apps, telecoms infrastructure, mobile advertising, mobile marketing, telephone-based games, accessories, engineering services, and financial services.

The French Tech pavilion will enable several partner regions, such as Brittany, Ile-de-France, Languedoc Roussillon, Midi-Pyrénées and Provence-Alpes-Côte d’Azur to be represented at the trade show. Additionally, two high-technology clusters will have stands of their own: Systematic Paris Region and Solutions Communicantes Sécurisées (Secure Communicating Solutions).

All these different actors share the same determination and efforts to promote the quality of innovations “made in France”. Ms Axelle Lemaire, France’s Minister of State for the Digital Industry, will visit MWC to help promote French excellence.

This brochure presents some of the most innovative and promising French startups and companies that will be exhibiting at this year’s Mobile World Congress. They embody the amazing talents and opportunities France can offer. Getting to know them will change your perception of a country that is fast becoming reputed as much for its technology as it is for fashion and cuisine.
What is La French Tech?

France is undergoing a start-up renaissance driven by a new generation of entrepreneurs, investors, engineers, designers, and other talented people. It is a new Start-up Republic, home to vibrant tech hubs and a hotbed of talent, impregnated with a strong entrepreneurial culture. The name of this movement is “La French Tech”, a banner shared by French startups and the French government which supports them. Launched in 2013, the €200 million initiative promotes French startups under a single brand, both in France and abroad. It also offers mentoring, funding, recruitment advice and other resources to ensure the ecosystem has the right tools to grow.
I. French Promising startups
- Oledcomm
- Famoco
- Secure-Ic
- Bespoon
- Copsonic
- Reminiz
- Think & Go NFC
- Pradeo
- Ledger Bitcoin Wallet

II. Success stories “made in France”
- Criteo
- Archos
- Sigfox
- E-blink
- 6wind
- Ercom
- Streamwide

France is Mobile-Tastic

Conclusion
I. French Promising startups
Oledcomm

LIFI: ECOLOGICAL WIRELESS CONNECTION VIA LEDS

You could say they saw the light.

Two researchers at the University of Versailles, Suat Topsu and Cedric Mayer, have developed a new short range wireless optical communications that uses light-emitting diodes (LEDs) for data transmission.

Like Wi-Fi, Oledcomm LiZe’s LiFi technology transmits data over the electromagnetic spectrum, but while Wi-Fi utilises radio waves, LiFi uses visible light. It is has several advantages over WiFi: cheaper to install and faster - researchers have reached data rates of over 10 Gbit/s, which is more than 250 times faster than superfast broadband. The US Federal Communications Commission has warned of a potential spectrum crisis because Wi-Fi is close to full capacity, but LiFi has almost no capacity limitation. It is also free from radio wave pollution.

LiFi has the advantage of being useful in electromagnetic sensitive areas such as in aircraft cabins, hospitals and nuclear power plants without causing electromagnetic interference. At the same time it has a geolocation accuracy of up to 10cm, outdoing all other location based systems.

Oledcomm LiZe’s LiFi technology adheres to the international standard IEEE 802.15 for LiFi / VLC (visual light communication). It is based on switching an LED on and off within nanoseconds: too quick for the human eye to notice. The light source must be on to transmit data, but the bulb can be dimmed so that it is not visible to humans, yet still functional.

Light waves cannot penetrate walls, making them suitable for use in defined and enclosed spaces – as well as being more secure from hacking, relative to Wi-Fi. Direct line of sight isn’t necessary for LiFi to transmit a signal; light reflected of the walls can still achieve 70 Mbit/s.

The LiFi market is projected to have a compound annual growth rate of 82% between 2013 and 2018 and to be worth over $6 billion per year by 2018.
FX100 CARD READER: THE WORLD’S FIRST SECURE ANDROID NFC DEVICE

What links ticket inspectors on Kenyan buses, construction workers in Finland, French festival goers and Romanian gym-goers? They all use a FAMOCO device called FX100 that allows large-scale contactless deployments.

The mobile NFC Android reader uses NFC (Near Field Communication), which allows wireless communication between two pieces of closely held electronics - as selected by Apple for their newest iPhone 6. It can be used as an alternative to credit cards, loyalty cards, transport tickets and ID cards.

In the professional mobile reader market, the FX100 Series stands out for combining flexibility and security that meets banking industry standards. The FAMOCO Android software kit is easy for developers to operate remotely and securely through a built-in device management platform.

It is ideally suited for two principal uses: mobile payments systems, particularly in emerging markets, and business process management, such as mobile workforce management, time tracking, security & surveillance and access control. In Sri Lanka, for example, Dialog launched a cashless transportation service called Touch. Bus travellers top up their Touch card, then the ticket inspector uses the FAMOCO device to debit the contactless card on the bus.

Another client, Finnish construction company East DataConst, chose the Famoco device for workers to clock in and out, rejecting the smartphone option after trials proved unreliable.

FAMOCO is targeting clients in the banking, energy, transport, security and facility management industries, as well as administrations and public services.

Launched in October 2013, the company has offices in Paris, Brussels and Hong Kong. Already it has 70 customers from over 20 countries.

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Cyber-attacks have become one of the most serious threats of our time. They come in many guises, threatening the security of personal data, corporate intelligence – and potentially the infrastructure of entire nations.

Secure-IC allows governments and corporate customers to stay ahead of the threat through a range of embedded technologies that offer protection and analysis.

Cyber attacks exploit software bugs to infiltrate foreign systems, and most anti-virus products confront the threat with software. With CyberCPU, Secure-IC decided on a different approach: using hardware that renders a computing system cyber attack-proof.

CyberCPU acts like a watchman for the computer chip, permanently on the lookout for threats. Without affecting operation speeds, it reports attacks in real time, catching threats before they are able to do any damage.

With CyberCPU, developers no longer need worry about software security as threats are treated at the electronic circuitry of the computer itself.

The Secure-IC range also includes a broad range of innovative IP cores such as Digital Sensors which raise the alarm by detecting abnormal conditions on small digital circuits. It is sensitive to clock/voltage glitch, temperature changes as well as LASER and EM exposure. Because the sensors are digital, they are hard to locate and easy to incorporate with any new technology.
The world woke up to the importance of high-precision localization systems last year when Google CEO Larry Page said that location tracking should be precise “down to the inches.” In the consumer market, such accuracy would allow people to identify those around them, and retailers to track and identify customer preferences in store.

Two French entrepreneurs, however, have been onto this since the 2000s, developing location technology for consumer devices. Jean-Marie André and Pascal Fabre, who’d been working together in consumer electronics since the 1990s, launched BeSpoon in 2009 to develop such location technologies.

At CES 2014, the company launched the SpoonPhone, a smartphone able to track tags to within a few inches.

Its most recent offering is the Base Station, the equivalent of a GPS satellite that can be used indoors. It acts like a beacon, synchronizing with other base stations to locate small tags that can be attached to people or things. This allows for precise location tracking to within a few inches. With GPS, cars can navigate by picking up the signal of some of the 24 GPS satellite orbiting around our planet. To compute its position, a GPS receiver compares the signal received from various satellites. The system requires very good synchronization, which is why they use an atomic clock, a very reliable way of maintaining a precise time.

BeSpoon built their Base Station with comparable requirements, with a similar the level of synchronization. The main difference is that by using regular hardware, the Base Station is much cheaper.

Base Stations have been used for guiding robots inside a warehouse or household, locating workers on a building site to avoid collisions, and tracking tools on a factory floor. The possibilities are endless.
It’s a bane of modern life: security passwords are hard to keep track of or remember, shutting users out of programs or applications at key moments. Not to mention security devices requiring cards, finger prints, memorable phrases – and yet more passwords.

Enter CopSonic, a specialist in sonic and ultrasonic authentication technology, who has developed a military-grade security that doesn’t require a password. The main idea is to use sonic or ultrasonic IDs to check the proximity of two smart devices to match them together. All devices equipped with at least a microphone or speakers are compatible.

It works like this: a first device initiates an authentication session by contacting the CopSonic server. The server generates a sonic or ultrasonic ID which is broadcasted by the first device.

On the second device, the user launches an application which scans the environment for sound or ultrasounds that it records and sends back to the CopSonic server. The server checks the returned data. When an audio ID captured by a device corresponds to one emitted by the server, the system generates a match.

The authentication can be used to accept payments between 2 mobile devices (smartphones, feature phones, EPT, POS, tablet). CopSonic technology can also turn mobile devices into electronic security key to give access to personal or private information on a web site, for example.

Retailers can also use CopSonic technology to set up audio beacons which detect consumers as they enter the store. If this user has previously visited, information is generated on the products he or she checked out. CopSonic technology can also be integrated in websites and related mobile applications for online tracking.

The system works on all existing GSM or TCP/IP networks and the software development kit is already available on all major platforms.
RECOGNITION TECHNOLOGY FOR CELEBRITIES

Reminiz Founder Jack Habra was watching TV with a friend one day. They were having an argument about the true identity of a person they both recognised on the screen.

Who was correct has been lost in the annals of history. But what emerged was a challenge to Mr Habra: design an App using face recognition technology that would avoid such arguments in future.

The Reminiz App is able to identify any public figure on screen – no matter how much plastic surgery they’ve had, nor how much they have aged. In a single tap, users have access to related information such as biography, filmography, news and social networks. It works on live shows, movies and television series.

The company expects interest from content providers who can offer related products and services and so create new sources of revenue while enhancing user experience. Depending on the celebrity identified, the user might be interested in their other movies, songs, concert tickets or books.

Service providers can easily integrate the Reminiz into Video on Demand and Replay platforms, set-top-boxes, smart TVs and so on. The technology can also work offline through pre-processed video content.

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No need for 3G or WiFi to exchange data with Think&Go’s products they use NFC which allows closely held electronic devices to communicate wirelessly.

The French company has designed an award-winning range of proximity technology products to improve the shopping experience.

Think&Go’s Connected Screens allow shoppers to interact with video promotions, collect coupons, download content, navigate advertising and add products to a mobile shopping basket with their smartphones, contactless smartcards or even smartwatches. Its Dynamic NFC-Screens won the NFC Challenge at the Mobile World Congress 2013, and clients include Orange and Avenir Telecom.

The company has also developed a NFC-Shopping platform which brings the information management possibilities of e-commerce to the physical environment that shoppers prefer, creating a more personalized experience. NFC smartphones read product tags which can alert them to personalized preferences such as allergy information or calorie content. Retailers can also make suggestions – for example ‘this t-shirt exists in your favourite color.”
Pradeo provides security for Apps on Smartphones, tablets and IoT devices. Its Apps behavioral analysis engine Trust Revealing™ can alert the user to any action performed without their knowledge, such as the retrieval of private / professional data or phone tapping.

Pradeo current sells three products. These are AuditMyApps™ which provides a full security report for one or several mobile apps; CheckMyApps™, a next-generation antivirus able to check in real time the security of the entire personal (BYOD) and professional mobile applications installed in a mobile fleet of Smartphones & tablets by ensuring their compliance with any company’s security policy; and CheckMyApps API™, which integrates code directly into a critical application to show all the actions made by other third party applications running on a same mobile device.

Pradeo is an innovative French company founded in 2010, specialized in the field of mobile devices security and mobile application security.

The innovative nature of Pradeo’s products has been recognized by many professionals in the field of mobility. The company has won a number of awards including the Innovative SME’s Award at this year’s International Forum on Cybersecurity.

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How do you trade securely in a virtual currency? And what happens when malware tries to steal your Bitcoin?

Ledger, a specialist in digital identity security, has the answer.

Bitcoin transactions are very safe and decentralized by design, but you don’t really own Bitcoins if you don’t own your private keys. Handling private keys is so complicated for most users that new hardware solutions are needed to protect against theft and malware.

But rather than buy a new device, Ledger allows users to download a virtualized hardware wallet, creating a safe and standard environment for trading Bitcoins.

Its Ledger Wallet Blue is a Bitcoin Hardware Wallet based on banking smartcard technology which ensures that transactions in the virtual currency are secure and trusted. Fitted with ST31 contactless secure microcontroller from STMicroelectronics, it protects Bitcoin transactions from malware and private-information leakage and guarantees the authenticity of payment. Near Field Communication and Bluetooth Low Energy (BLE) enable easier Bitcoin payment options.

The Ledger Wallet Blue will be demonstrated by Ledger at the Business France booth 8.1E49 at MWC - and will be commercially available before the end of the year.
II. Success stories “made in France”
Criteo helps advertisers generate more sales through personalized performance advertising at a global scale. Measuring return on post-click sales, Criteo makes ROI transparent and easy to measure. Criteo has over 1,300 employees in 23 offices across the Americas, Europe and Asia-Pacific, serving over 7,000 advertisers worldwide with direct relationships with over 9,000 publishers.

Criteo’s solution matches and converts customers seamlessly across screens and channels. The Criteo mobile solution combines a deep, data-driven understanding of mobile consumer behavior with the ability to execute real-time automated buying. This means we creatively optimize and deliver campaigns that hit specific cost-per-sale goals. The result is a platform built for clients focused on maximizing the ROI and lifetime-value of their mobile audience. Criteo’s cross device solution is built on the same platform as our best-in-class desktop products. It is based on an exact match identifier which aggregates unique, anonymous, client-provided identifiers across the Criteo network to accurately identify users across devices. With this approach, Criteo is able to leverage its purchase intent algorithms to reengage with consumers across over 9,000 publishers globally.

At Criteo, we expect 2015 to be another exciting year for the eCommerce industry as mobile shopping accelerates and consumers continue to browse and shop across multiple devices. Working with thousands of advertisers and publishers, Criteo gathers unique insights into shopping online behavior and emerging trends. For more information on Criteo, its 2015 eCommerce Industry Outlook report and its State of Mobile Commerce report, please visit http://www.criteo.com.

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A consumer electronics manufacturer with 25 years of experience and a pioneer in the Android OS space with the first ever Android Tablets, ARCHOS has now combined its technical know-how with creativity to provide a complete range of innovative smartphones and Tablets.

The brand has repeatedly revolutionized the market for consumer electronics since 1988. Thanks to close relationships with our partner (Google certified), all ARCHOS’ Android smartphone have complete access to Google Playtm and Windows phones access to the Windows Storetm. Today, ARCHOS offers its own line of Android Tablets and Smartphones, as well as a full line of OEM devices.

ARCHOS has also developed a branch of Connected Objects with the Smart Home Eco-System. ARCHOS’ Smart Home solution is focused around an Android tablet as the centre of the eco-system. Miniaturized Smart Home Connected Objects use Bluetooth Smart Technology to communicate with the Tablet, which then sends the relevant information to your mobile device via the dedicated ARCHOS Smart Home Application. Discover how ARCHOS’ ‘Connected objects can be part of your daily life
SIGFOX is the first and only company providing global cellular connectivity for the Internet of Things, fully dedicated to low-throughput communications. SIGFOX is re-inventing connectivity by radically lowering prices and energy consumption for connected devices.

The SIGFOX connectivity solution is based on an antenna & base station infrastructure that is completely independent of existing networks, such as the telecommunications networks. This low-throughput only network is being rolled out in 60 countries within the next five years.

SIGFOX Ready™ devices connect to the Internet without any geographically dependent connectivity costs or location-specific network configuration. This worldwide connectivity solution is managed through the SIGFOX Network Operator partnership program, connecting local ecosystems to the global network.

SIGFOX uses a UNB (Ultra Narrow Band) based radio technology to connect devices to its global network. This means the network is highly scalable and built for a high volume of devices, with very low energy consumption. It provides two-way communications with your devices and is surprisingly easy to integrate with software applications.

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It’s all about the wireless-fronthaul link. This technology, connecting fiber-optic and mobile networks, picks up where fiber leaves off, saving on the last few hundred meters that are so costly to negotiate and install. It also means mobile operators are not limited in their choice of sites to locations served by fiber.

Analysts estimate the wireless-fronthaul market will exceed 20 billion euros by 2020. EBlink’s FrontLink™ solution was developed to serve this need — and is already available in Europe, North America and China.

This patented technology offers new possibilities to international mobile-telecommunications operators considering centralized architectures such as C-RAN/ V-RAN/small cells networks. It’s already deployed in Asia, and is gaining popularity in North America and other parts of the world.

FrontLink™ is complementary to fiber-based fronthaul and essential to Cloud RAN and 5G architectures. EBlink developed its system specifically to enable high-speed services such as Comp, Massive MIMO, etc.

FrontLink™58 offers unrivalled performance: up to 7.5Gbps CPRI on a wireless link within a 70MHz bandwidth, or 10 times better than what is currently on offer. It can also reduce deployment costs by up to 40%.

EBlink has been nominated in the “best mobile infrastructure” category of the Global Mobile Awards 2015. The award ceremony will be held at the Mobile World Congress on March 2.
In the era of cloud computing, high-performance software company 6WIND helps companies unlock hidden infrastructure performance, with enormous saving potential.

Networking and telecoms industries are shifting from rigid and costly dedicated hardware equipment to virtual and cloud based architectures – and towards software-defined networking (SDN) and network functions virtualization (NFV). In such an environment, Linux is a cost-effective solution as developers are no longer restrained by proprietary standards.

6WIND’s commercial software helps network vendors in telecom, enterprise and cloud infrastructure markets increase their performance without having to invest in expensive new hardware.

The company’s 6WINDGate packet processing software runs Linux with a choice of multicore processors to deliver a wide variety of networking and security protocols and features. Designed for fast-growing markets such as 4G/LTE and data center networking, 6WINDGate enables the large scale deployment of high performance infrastructure networks. Clients include Alcatel-Lucent, Ericsson, Hitachi, HP, LG-Ericsson, NEC, and Nokia.

Based on 6WINDGate, 6WIND has developed high performance software packages. These include Turbo Router, the industry’s best price/performance software router, and Turbo IPsec, the world’s first high performance, software based IPsec gateway, both available for bare metal and virtual machine deployments. 6WIND Virtual Accelerator also provides accelerated virtual switching, networking, multi-tenancy and security features for virtual infrastructures.

6WIND will demonstrate its Turbo IPsec and Virtual Accelerator software in HP’s booth at the Mobile World Congress. Turbo IPsec delivers Service Providers with the best price/performance ratios when transitioning from hardware to software based appliances by delivering over 100 Gbps throughput and 200,000 IPsec tunnels on standard servers.

6WIND’s global headquarters is in Montigny-le-Bretonneux, a high-tech suburb of Paris, France, with regional offices in the United States, China, Japan, and South Korea.
The introduction of 4G, or fourth generation mobile network technology, has been heaven for web surfers, especially those who like to stream video. But faster download speeds also come with challenges, notably in Voice over long-term evolution (VoLTE) deployment, an internet protocol (IP) based network through which voice and video streams are transferred as data packets.

The incorporation of VoLTE into 4G networks risks handover issues and a rise in inactivity. Avoiding this requires rigorous testing, which can be expensive. Complicating things further, VoLTE networks require a different set of solutions from traditional networks to monitor performance, service quality and user experience.

Enter Mobipass®, a product line launched in 2006 by Ercom, a specialist in wireless network optimization and secure communications. This comprehensive product range emulates several types of VoLTE specific user experiences through the precise reproduction of the behaviors of thousands of devices with mixed traffic calls during testing. By providing laboratory test conditions with an extraordinary degree of realism and detail, Mobipass® reduces costs significantly for telecoms network manufacturers. The product line is also highly scalable and flexible.

With Mobipass®, Ercom provides the most realistic 4G emulation devices in lab. In recognition of this, Mobipass® won a Frost & Sullivan award for Product Line Strategy Leadership in the VoLTE Network Testing Market in 2014.

But Ercom is never finished innovating. To strengthen its offering still further, the French company is partnering with Korean firm Accuver to integrate its XCAL-MTS real-UE-based call-generation test system with Mobipass® to address problems experienced by advanced LTE network operators. Specifically, this will introduce real call testing into the lab, allowing network manufacturers to test the impact on different handset models.

The first prototype of the integrated product will be demonstrated on Ercom’s stand 7J40.

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When it comes to mobile messaging, there are many options for consumers – from WhatsApp to Telegram and more. But when it comes to messaging applications for business, there are surprisingly few options.

StreamWIDE, a leader in value-added telephony services, designed TOTR to meet the internal communication needs of businesses and organizations of all sizes – driving an ethos to ‘Put Your Smartphone to Work.’ The App is mobile-centric, perfect for employees who are rarely behind a desk, such as estate agents or hospitality industry workers.

While other business apps are exclusively designed for executives, TOTR has been designed for a wide variety of employees. It can be used by workers who don’t have a desktop or use email, but who do have a smartphone, such as cleaning staff or construction workers.

Unlike Consumer Apps, which are user-managed, TOTR is centrally controlled by a designated team administrator through an online web administrative portal. From here, the account can be customized with contacts, contact groups, features and restriction rules for the organization. It also enables image, video, audio and location sharing with PDF, walkie-talkie and other features.

Team members download the TOTR App directly from Google Play or the App Store onto their smartphone. Once installed, it pushes whatever the team administrator has designated, such as the organization’s contacts and groups.

StreamWIDE’s SmartMS1 technology is secure for business, offering data encryption or the possibility for the administrator to de-activate an account.

TOTR is available for download through the specialized e-commerce website www.teamontherun.com.
France is Mobile-Tastic
Here is why:

➤ In 2013, companies in France producing goods and services in the ICT sector (information technology, internet services and electronic communications) generated revenues of more than €95 billion. “Software and IT services” was the leading sector for job-creating foreign investment in France, with an average of at least one foreign investment decision every week over the course of the year. (IFA, 2013 Report)

➤ 15 out of 56 Fields medals, commonly regarded as the Nobel Prize for mathematics, were obtained by researchers from French universities.

➤ France ranks 2nd in Europe and 6th in the world for the number of patents filled (16,900 in 2013, 8% of worldwide patent production).

➤ France ranks 6th in the world and 2nd in Europe for domestic R&D spending with 55 billion euros.

World-Beating Digital Infrastructure

➤ Telecommunications networks among the best in the world: 31 Mbps broadband download speed – national average (Paris: 78.7 Mbps; Palo Alto: 42.7 Mbps).

➤ Very-High-Speed Internet Plan: €20 billion being invested to roll out very high-speed internet by 2022. 100% nationwide coverage by 2022.

➤ E-commerce in France: $35B.

➤ Mobile market: 2nd in the UE, 77 M users, $20B market.

➤ Total investments in 3G and 4G high-speed mobile in 2013 were estimated to be around €1.7 billion. (ARCEP, June 2014)

➤ Extensive 3G mobile coverage. Second in Europe for the number of 4G subscribers. (ARCEP, July 2014)
Supportive Business Environment

France’s research tax credit is the best in Europe, covering 30% of all R&D costs up to €100 million, and 5% above this threshold. Since 2013, eligibility has been extended to innovation expenditure by SMEs, and to innovative new companies (JEIs), which can combine the research tax credit with the other corporate/local tax and social security contribution relief to which they are entitled over an eight-year period.

In the digital sector, France has the third lowest effective corporate tax rate. (18.5% - Source: KPMG, Competitive Alternatives, 2014)

Administrative procedures for businesses are being simplified thanks to a digital first-strategy: France is among the simplest countries in the G20 in which to found a company: only five administrative procedures and seven days are required, compared with a G20 average of 76 procedures and 22 days. (EY, European Attractiveness Survey, 2014)
Conclusion

France is at the cutting edge of innovation

France is a fast-growing technology hotspot:

➤ The Deloitte Technology Fast 500 EMEA once again ranked France top in 2014 for the fourth year running with 86 high-growth technology companies.
➤ It is ranked third in the Thomson Reuters Top 100 Global Innovators 2014, with seven of the world’s 100 most innovative companies or institutions.
➤ France is also ranked sixth in the world and second in Europe for gross domestic expenditure on research and development.

A thriving business landscape
Criteo’s recent IPO on NASDAQ and 1.7 billion dollar valuation as well as Sigfox’s 113 million dollar capital raising illustrate how dynamic and fruitful the French business landscape is. As a matter of a fact, 1 billion dollars are invested every year in more than 700 companies, 30% of them being in the Software and internet sectors.

The success of emblematic companies like Criteo and Sigfox speaks for itself. They deliver sustainable business models while establishing themselves as leaders in their respective fields. And it all started in France!

Other success stories are illustrated by high profile exits…

➤ Neolane was acquired by Adobe for 600 million dollars
➤ Lafourchette.com was acquired by Tripadvisor for 140 million dollars
➤ MylittleParis was acquired by Au Féminin for 90 million dollars
➤ Webedia, allociné.fr and jeuxvideo.com were acquired by the Filmalac group for 275 million dollars
➤ Enovance was acquired by Redhat for 70 million dollars

…significant fundraisers…

➤ BlaBlaCar raised 100 million dollars in June 2014
➤ Intersec, which will be exhibiting in hall 5 at this year’s MWC, raised between 15 and 25 million dollars in the past 12 months
➤ Novapost raised 17.5 million dollars in May 2014

…And sustainable growth models:

➤ Coyote, which will be exhibiting in Hall 8.1 achieved 120 million dollars in sales last year
➤ Archos made a 165 million dollar turnover in 2013