



25 Swiss Technology Start-Ups Looking to Raise CHF 120 Million at the Swiss Tech Tour Over Three Days

Zurich, March 7, 2007 - 25 of Switzerland's most promising technology start-ups have been selected to present at the Swiss Tech Tour 2007, one of the most exclusive platforms in Europe for entrepreneurs to connect with a leading community of technology investors. The presenting companies are looking to raise a combined estimated total of CHF 120 million to finance their respective global expansion plans.

The 25 companies selected from a pool of 285 Swiss enterprises span the core technology sectors such as, semiconductors, enterprise software, entertainment, security and medical devices. From the presenting companies, 12 are headquartered in the Swiss German region and 12 in the Suisse Romande, with one coming from the Ticino.

Sixty invited delegates representing the elite of the pan-European venture capital scene and technology industry will attend this fast-paced event during three days. The delegates include an impressive mix from well-known pan-European venture capital firms, such as 3i, Sofinnova and Wellington Partners from Europe, Highland Capital Partners from the U.S., Vinci Capital, and Venture Incubator from Switzerland. Corporate venture capital arms such as Siemens Venture Capital are also present, as well as corporations, such as Logitech and Swisscom, who are always eager to spot new technologies ahead of the competition. Prominent figures like Brian Hashemi from NASA, Bob Bishop, former CEO of Silicon Graphics and Daniel Ritz, Chief Strategy Officer of Swisscom, will attend the Swiss edition this year.

For the third time since its creation in 1998, the European Tech Tour will present the Swiss market of young technology driven companies this week. One of the key success factors of this pan-European venture capital platform is that it is led by a prominent technology personality from the host market. This year, **Christian Wanner, CEO of LeShop.ch**, has been chosen as the President of the Swiss Tech Tour. Mr. Wanner commented on the event: *"As an entrepreneur I can truly appreciate the formidable opportunity of concentrating so much innovative talent, as well as such specialised investment power into just three days. The elite of the European and American venture capital industry, account for the 60 invited delegates who, together, represent more than €10 billion in venture capital funds."*

Among the companies that will have the opportunity to present their unique product to a powerful captive audience is **Pixelux Entertainment**, which has created a unique real-time physical simulation technology called Digital Molecular Matter (DMM) that will greatly reduce the cost of creating video games to address the problem of skyrocketing production costs. Another young market leader with worldwide ambitions is **Sonicemotion**, the market leader in 3D-Sound-Systems which brings sound to life with new technologies to reproduce holographic sound. Security software companies feature high on the list of this Tech Tour's chosen few, as concerns over global terrorist threats grow, as well as fears of identity theft. **Arktis**, for example, specializes in the development of an advanced radiation detector for screening freight for radiological threats, while **AXSionics** has developed the 'Biometric Internetpassport', which can be used anytime, anywhere for online authentication and transaction signing while the privacy of the user remains protected against identity theft. A complete list and description of the selected companies is available online on www.techtour.com/swiss07/press_room.php

Alain Nicod, member of the selection committee and Managing Partner of Venture Incubator, one of the leading venture funds in Switzerland said: *"With a winning combination of unique break-through business models, and new disruptive technologies, I firmly believe that each of the 25 selected companies will have a profound and lasting impact in the industry they operate in, that's the essence of why the Tech Tour is different from other events of this kind."*

The Swiss Tech Tour 2007 will take the international group of investors from Zurich Technopark (March 8) to the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology campus in Lausanne on (March 9).

About ETTA

The European Tech Tour Association (ETTA) was founded by Sven Lingjaerde in Switzerland in 1998, and has successfully organized 25 national Tech Tours across Europe and a première in India last year since its inception nine years ago. In response to growing interest to visit emerging technology companies in various European regions, the ETTA is an independent organization composed of key contributors to the high-technology industry. The association recognizes that continued prosperity in Europe lies in its ability to transform today's innovative projects into tomorrow's global technology leaders.

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