

FRANCE IS A TECH- SAVVY NATION

KEY INFO IN

10

POINTS

1

▶ A NATION OF ENTREPRENEURS

37% of French people would like to create their own business. (Source: Viavoice, October 2014)

More than 420,000 companies founded in 2014, including 220,000 under the “autoentrepreneur” status. (INSEE)

2

▶ A SUPPORTIVE BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

In 2014, only 4.5 days were required to found a company in France, versus six in the United Kingdom and 14.5 in Germany. (World Bank, Doing Business)

3

▶ DYNAMIC MARKET FOR BUSINESS CREATION

Between 2007 and 2011, the number of active companies in France rose by an average of 4.5% per year – a rate of growth comparable with leading emerging economies. **The net increase of 580,000 companies in France compares with 50,000 for the United Kingdom and Germany.** (RSM International)

4

▶ MOST BUSINESS STARTUPS IN EUROPE

Paris alone is home to 4,000+ tech startups as well as the largest business incubator in the world (Halle Freyssinet) that will play host to more than 1,000 startups by 2016.

5

▶ SERIAL ENTREPRENEURS AND ACTIVE BUSINESS ANGELS

French tech stars provide inspiration to their peers. From Xavier Niel, founder of internet service provider Free and “Ecole 42”, a new programming school with a unique model: entirely free and peer-to-peer teaching, featuring e-commerce stars. Pierre Kosciusko-Morizet set up the popular PriceMinister website, a rival to Amazon in France. The online designer brand retailer vente-privee.com, founded by Jacques-Antoine Granjon, has been an international hit.

6

▶ FRENCH TECH EXCELLENCE

France enjoys a global reputation in a number of sectors, including e-commerce, connected devices, big data, and the video games industry. **The number of French exhibitors at the CES in 2015 was up 33% versus 2014.** Within the Eureka Park, 25% of the exhibiting startups were French.

7

▶ FRANCE LEADS EUROPE IN THE DELOITTE TECHNOLOGY FAST 500 EMEA

With no fewer than 86 high-flying technology firms in the 500-strong list, **France remained the leading source of companies in 2014 for the fourth year in a row**, followed by the United Kingdom, Benelux and Sweden.

8

▶ THE WORLD'S MOST GENEROUS R&D TAX INCENTIVE

France's research tax credit covers 30% of R&D spending up to €100 million.

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▶ SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT

France's Public Investment Bank, Bpifrance, offers companies, particularly innovative SMEs and mid-size companies, a tailored funding service thanks to a wider palette of financial instruments and advice, so as to support companies at every stage of their development. A second phase of the "National Investment Program" has also been launched, supported by additional funds of €12 billion. **Foreign entrepreneurs and startups are eligible for €30,000 of funding through the "French Tech Ticket" scheme.**

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▶ GLOBAL LEADERS IN NEW MARKETS

Five French firms listed on the Nasdaq. Latest IPO: DBV (October 2014, US\$1 billion valuation).

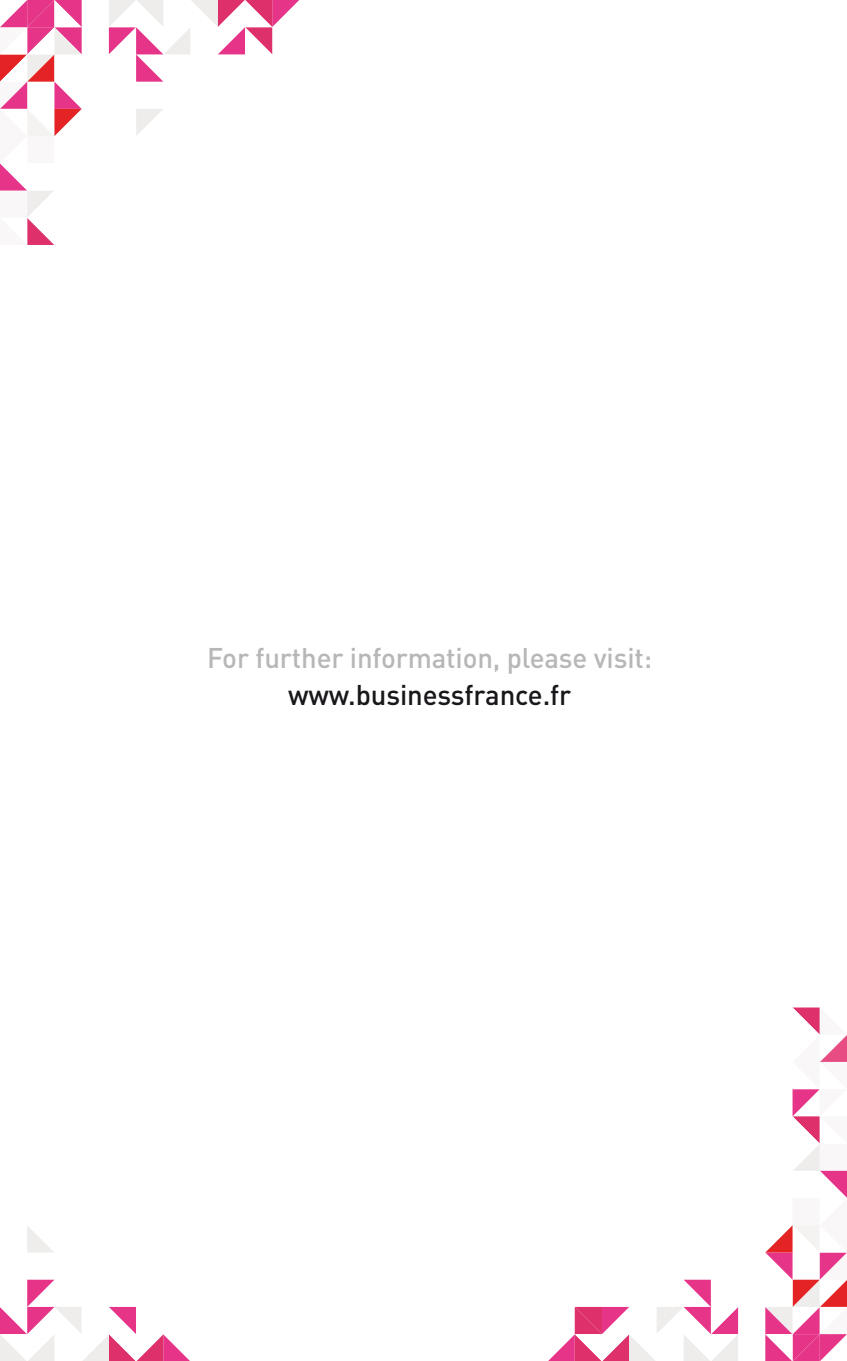
BlablaCar: US\$100 million raised (Accel Partners, Index).

Three French start-ups at the Y Combinator Winter 2014 batch, 17 French founders of YC US companies.

Wit-AI, founded by three French entrepreneurs, backed by Andreessen-Horowitz in Q3 2014.

Acquisitions of French companies: Neolane (Adobe, US\$600 million), Arkadin (NTT, US\$450 million).

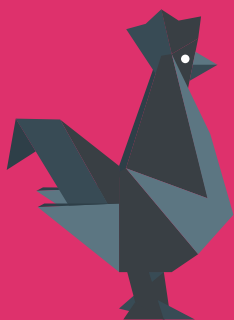
Successful French entrepreneurs in Silicon Valley, including Renaud Laplanche (Lending Club) and Solomon Hykes (Docker).



For further information, please visit:
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33% RISE
IN FRENCH EXHIBITORS
AT THE CES (2015 VS. 2014)



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