Giant Leap into the Future
Innovation and Business Opportunities in Space

Event during the Global Entrepreneurship Week
17:30 – 20:30, November 19, 2015
Swiss Tech Convention Center

Program

17:00  Registration

17:30  Space, innovation & entrepreneurship
   Introduction by Jean-Philippe Lallement, Managing Director of EPFL Innovation Park

17:35  Space entrepreneurship
   Testimonials of Swiss start-ups having recently initiated their activities in space: benefits, difficulties and expectations
   - Christian Fischer, CEO Bcomp
   - Emile de Rijk, CEO Swissto12
   - Christof Zwynssig, CEO of Celeroton
   - Christian Schori, project manager Spectratime

18:10  Space innovation: ROSETA mission
   The greatest achievements done by the European Space Agency, Martin Rubin, University of Bern

18:40  How to make a giant leap with your technologies
   Opportunities for newcomers in the space business, Johann Richard, Swiss Space Office

18:50  Our Future in the Space Age
   Examples of applications developed from space technologies, José Achache, Managing Director AP-Swiss

19:10  Design-your-own-application challenge & finger food
   Design workshops in groups around technologies developed in Space Programs

20:30  Concluding remarks
   Volker Gass, Director of Swiss Space Centre

Drinks, desserts & networking
Speakers

Christian Fischer, CEO Bcomp [http://www.bcomp.ch]

Christian Fischer co-founded Bcomp, a company specialized in natural fiber composites. Before starting Bcomp, he was Project Manager Technology & Innovation at the Alcan Innovation Cells during 3 years. Christian graduated (MSc) in Materials Science and Engineering at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne (EPFL), where he later earned his PhD with honors. On the side, he teaches courses on Innovation, Technology Transfer, and Composites in Sports at two universities.

Emile de Rijk, CEO Swissto12 [http://www.swissto12.com]

Emile co-founded SWISSto12, a Swiss start-up developing lightweight antennas for high data throughput wireless communications. Emile obtained a PhD in Physics at the Institute of Condensed Matter Physics (ICMP) of the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology - Lausanne. His research focused on the development of novel waveguide and antenna technologies for millimeter-wave and Terahertz signals applied to Nuclear Magnetic Resonance applications. He also worked on developing new experimental techniques to characterize the interactions of materials with millimeter-wave and Terahertz signals.

Christof Zwyssig, CEO Celeroton AG [http://www.celeroton.com]

Christof co-founded in January 2009 Celeroton AG - an ETH Zurich spinoff company in the area of high-speed electrical drive systems. He has been the co-managing director of the company. Christof received the M.Sc. and Ph.D. degrees in electrical engineering from ETH Zurich in 2004 and 2008, respectively.


Christian is a Swiss/Danish citizen. He obtained his PhD in experimental physics form Aarhus University, Denmark. Since 2011 he worked as project manager at Spectratime where he is responsible for research on atomic clocks for the next generation of Galileo navigation satellites.

Martin Rubin, Researcher at the space Research & Planetary Science, University of Bern [http://space.unibe.ch]

Martin Rubin received the Ph.D. degree in Physics from University of Bern in 2006. In May 2015, he was appointed first assistant at the physics institute of the University of Bern. Since September 2012, he is adjunct research scientist at the department of Climate and Space sciences and Engineering at University of Michigan (US). His research interests cover a wide range from comets to planetary bodies in the solar system. He is co-investigator of the ROSINA instrument suite of the ESA Rosetta mission.

José Achache, Managing Director AP-SWISS [http://www.ap-swiss.ch]

José is President of ALTYN and Managing Director of AP-SWISS, a joint undertaking of ESA and the Swiss Space Office. He was firstly Professor at Institut de Physique du Globe de Paris then appointed as Deputy Director General of the French Space Agency. He served as Director of Earth Observation Programmes at European Space Agency and as Secretary General of GEO, the international organization in Geneva that coordinates Earth observation satellites worldwide. He is currently Board Member of several companies. A graduate from Ecole Normale Supérieure in Paris and a Visiting Scholar at Stanford University, José holds a PhD in Geophysics from University Pierre et Marie Curie and a PhD in Physical Sciences from University Denis Diderot.