

>>venture>>

Companies for tomorrow

Newsletter

No 1 July 2011

Venture 2012

Dear all,

Venture is back! Switzerland's leading business plan competition gets under way for the eighth time, to offer young entrepreneurs a platform on which they can develop their business ideas into fully-fledged plans for a successful business. They benefit from coaching by experts in all aspects of business while they do so. Venture has now provided a supportive environment for more than 1,400 teams – and over 200 new companies have grown out of these teams, thereby creating hundreds of new jobs for highly skilled workers in Switzerland.

So, we invite you to take up the challenge of Venture 2012. Take advantage of the expert coaching by experienced and successful practitioners and the wide range of learning and know-how workshops that accompany the competition.

Everyone in the Venture community – participants, Advisory Board members, coaches, jurors and alumni – can keep up to date with the developments in the competition through the Venture newsletters and the Venture website, www.venture.ch. Please take the time to learn about Venture, and we hope you will decide to join us – in whatever capacity – for this year's competition.

Dr. Thomas Knecht
Founder of Venture
Chairman of Knecht Holding

A proven partnership

















The Venture business plan competition is a partnership between Knecht Holding, McKinsey & Company, the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich and CTI, the Swiss Federation's innovation promotion agency. This unique combination of sponsors brings together experience and expertise from the fields of top-level research, management

consulting and knowledge, technology transfer and business coaching – an ideal platform for supporting start-ups.

Venture is also backed by an Advisory Board consisting of 18 leading Swiss companies, and our media partner, the *Neue Zürcher Zeitung*.

Advisory Board

Sponsors/Advisory Board members

 Juhani Anttila	 Pascal Kiener	 Calvin Grieder	 Dr. Renato Fassbind	 Bo Risberg
 Dr. Reinhard Ambros	 Alexander Zschokke	 Dr. Markus Zenhäusern	 Dr. Markus Neuhaus	 Dr. Severin Schwan
 Heinrich Fischer	 Dr. Walter Grüebler	 Dr. Urs Rüegsegger	 Gilbert Achermann	 Ton Büchner
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Initiators				
 Dr. Thomas Knecht	 Dr. Matthias Winter	 Prof. Dr. Ralph Eichler	 Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft Confédération suisse Confederazione Svizzera Confederaziun svizra Innovation Promotion Agency CTI Faris Sabeti	

Venture 2012: the key dates

2011

Thursday 29 September 2011,
Venture 2012 Kick-off in Zurich
ETH Zürich, 18.30–20.00

Thursday 6 October 2011,
Venture 2012 Kick-off in Lausanne
EPF Lausanne, 18.30–20.00

2012

Thursday 12 January 2012,
First awards ceremony
ETH Zürich, 18.30–20.00
Presentation of best business ideas

Thursday 24 May 2012,
Second awards ceremony
ETH Zürich, 18.30–20.00
Presentation of best business plans

The Venture Office

If you have any question about Venture, or would like more information, please visit our website www.venture.ch. If you need information on a specific topic, the Venture Office is available by phone: 044 876 6781, by fax: 044 876 6789 or by e-mail: office@venture.ch (usual working hours apply)

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