Dear >>venture>> community,

What an immense pleasure it is to reunite with such an inspiring group of people this evening. As of 2020, the entire world waited anxiously for crucial developments and improvements that would allow us to sit together as we are today. And, innovation did work. The incessant drive of those who strive for a better tomorrow have allowed us to celebrate safely this evening.

I like to think that our 2021 winners also possess this drive. It’s with great pride that we celebrate entrepreneurs who, amongst living in the uncertainty of a pandemic, took the plunge to venture forward with their innovative businesses. They bring innovation to 5 different industry verticals. Many also did so with a nod to sustainability.

In my last year as Chairman of the >>venture>> foundation, one observation is an additional reason for hope. I see a generation of entrepreneurs who work toward innovation and strive to improve the quality of our lives while living in harmony with our planet.

I’m proud to say that we’ve experienced another record-breaking year, with 357 approved submissions. They all received the personalized feedback of our dedicated jurors. Our mentors and jurors have gone through great lengths to impart their learnings and experience on a pro-bono basis to our finalists. We are eternally grateful for their invaluable contributions.

And >>venture>> wouldn’t be viable without the support of our Advisory Board members, to whom we extend our deepest gratitude.

Congratulations to the fantastic teams you will meet tonight! On behalf of the >>venture>> foundation board, we wish you an inspiring evening.

Dr. T. Knecht
Founder of >>venture>>
Chairman of the >>venture>> foundation
Chairman of Knecht Holding
Program

18:30 Welcome by Prof. Dr. Joël Mesot, President of ETH Zurich
18:35 Introduction by Dr. Thomas Knecht, Founder of >>venture>>
18:40 Audience Award presented by RTS
18:45 Speech by Guy Parmelin, President of the Swiss Confederation
18:50 Finance & Insurance Awards
18:55 Health & Nutrition Awards
19:00  ICT Awards
19:05  Industrials & Engineering Awards
19:10  Retail & Consumer Services Awards
19:15  Grand Prize Winner
19:20  Closing
Key Facts & Figures

5 co-organizers

6 events

219 jurors

83 mentors

546 participants at our events

539 business case registrations
59 intellectual property voucher requests

83 mentorship pairings

Share of university affiliation

- ETH Zurich: 11%
- EPFL: 8%
- HSG: 3%
- UHZ: 3%
- Other Swiss universities: 11%
- Foreign universities: 4%

Gender

22% male

78% female
Key Facts & Figures

Geographic location of submissions

Total accepted business submissions
357
+9.5% increase of submissions from last year
Submissions per category

Finance & Insurance: 41
Health & Nutrition: 93
ICT: 89
Industrials & Engineering: 65
Retail & Consumer Services: 69
2021 >>venture>> Finalists

Finance & Insurance

Aequitec AG
Assisting Swiss venture-financed companies to raise equity more easily with bankable shares.
>> christian.wilk@aequitec.ch

Alquant
Alquant is an innovative Swiss quantitative asset management and financial research firm that offers disruptive investment products that outperform during a crisis and actionable signals to better navigate through volatile market conditions.
>> qp@alquant.com
Avoodoo

Avoodoo is the world’s first integrated platform for market index development, calculation and management. We strive to support our customers in the standardization and digitization of the end-to-end index lifecycle.

>> johanna.kaelble@avoodoo.com

CyQuant

CyQuant bridges Cybersecurity and Insurance by providing companies with outstanding cyber risk assessment and cyber risk management via our innovative platform, which promises to bring savings for both company and insurer.

>> contact@cyquant.com

Fea Money Switzerland

Fea Money is the first female-focused bank that financially empowers women. It offers services and products, such as budgeting and in-app community, tailored specifically for women, helping them to take charge of their finances.

>> angie@feamoney.com

Fidectus

Fidectus is a Swiss-based company revolutionizing post-trade processing for the over-the-counter energy and commodity markets enabling traders and brokers to optimize their working capital.

>> info@fidectus.com

Kaspar&

Kaspar& offers an all-in-one app including a Swiss bank account, a personalized payment card, an automatic transaction-based round-up mechanism that invests the resulting micro-payments.

>> jan-philip.schade@kasparund.ch

Ratyng

We provide the financial industry with highly efficient and accessible SME risk assessment, without the need for complex and time-consuming processes.

>> hi@ratyng.com
2021 >>venture>> Finalists

Health & Nutrition

anavo medical

anavo uses cutting-edge nanotechnology to treat seromas, a common surgical complication after mastectomies, and provide relief to millions of patients worldwide.

>> sebastian.loy@anavo.ch

Ancora.ai

Provides unbiased clinical trial information by collecting information from public registries so that anyone can identify relevant trials in minutes.

>> emily@ancora.ai
Invasight
Invasight uses breakthrough technology and develops novel inhibitors against specific proteins, which cause cancer cell invasion.
>> info@invasight.com

KOVE medical
Developed an implantable device that will prevent membrane rupture and unleash the potential of in-utero surgeries.
>> yannick.devaud@kovemedical.com

MIRAI FOODS
Cultivates pure meat directly from animal stem cells reducing environmental impact by 80-90%. Their mission is to provide delicious, high-quality cultivated meat at a fair price—better for people, animals and the planet.
>> christoph.mayr@miraifoods.com

MUVON Therapeutics
Our therapy uses the patient’s own muscle precursor cells (MPCs), to regenerate damaged skeletal muscle tissue. Our initial focus is the treatment of stress urinary incontinence in women.
>> info@muvon-therapeutics.ch

PeriVision
PeriVision aims to help avoid preventable blindness across the world and have developed AI algorithms and VR headsets to make glaucoma diagnosis and monitoring accessible to everyone.
>> serife.kucur@artorg.unibe.ch
DuoKey

DuoKey provides cybersecurity features customers need, and enables companies to confidently move sensitive workloads to the cloud while maintaining full control of their encryption keys, data privacy, and security.

>> info@duokey.ch

Lightly AG

Lightly pioneered the use of self-supervised AI for data curation, enhancing the machine learning workflow.

>> info@lightly.ai
Meloncast
Meloncast gives marketers the insights they need through a SaaS platform to produce relevant content for specific target groups by using machine learning.
>> raphaela.kurer@meloncast.com

MindMetrix
MindMetrix offers a novel app to measure and train brain activation levels during mental training (myFlow).
>> marc.baechinger@mindmetrix.ch

Peerdom
Peerdom is a Software-as-a-Service Peerdom which liberates organizations from bureaucracy by maximizing the impact of their talent: in a decentralized, distributed, remote-first, peer-to-peer way that respects the type of collaboration 21st century talent yearns for.
>> hello@peerdom.org

Scanergy
Scanergy aims to develop the world’s first commercial 3D smartphone scanner for the masses.
>> info@scanergy.ch

SciSwipe
SciSwipe enables the exploration of complex, large-scale data through human-algorithm synergies to improve decision-making in the life sciences.
>> mariellevankooten@sciswipe.com

Tune Insight
Tune Insight B2B software enables organizations to make better decisions by extracting collective insights from confidential data collaborations, while each of them remains in full control of its own data.
>> contact@tuneinsight.com
2021 >>venture<< Finalists

Industrials & Engineering

AICA
Provides software that incorporates artificial intelligence to simplify the interaction with robots.
>> contact@aica.tech

Enerdrape
Enerdrape is a cleantech spin-off, leveraging a modular, prefabricated geothermal panel technology that allows the conversion of new or existing undergrounds into renewable sources for the heating and cooling needs of buildings.
>> info@enerdrape.com
ExerGo

ExerGo is a Swiss cleantech startup that designs and supplies an energy network for densely populated urban centers using CO2 flowing in a closed-loop to transfer renewable heat from the environment.

>> info@exergo.ch

Green-Y

Green-Y uses a compressed air technology to store electricity and generate heat and cold all in one device. Applied in residential homes, buildings and industries it provides renewable energy 24/7 and replaces fossil fuels.

>> peterf@green-y.ch

INERGIO Technologies SA

INERGIO is a spin-off from EPFL and HEIG-VD, developing and commercializing innovative energy systems based on miniaturized fuel cell technology with the vision to deliver power whenever and wherever needed.

>> info@inergio.ch

matriq AG

matriq enables marking plastic components directly inside the forming process with an individual and unique watermark 2D-code for each piece that is machine readable, and causes no delay of cycle time.

>> contact@matriq.ch

ratioX

ratioX offers a smooth, step-less automatic bicycle gear change system that provides commuter cyclists with a low maintenance and durable ride that requires no user interaction.

>> simonf@ratiox.ch
2021 >>venture>> Finalists

Retail & Consumer Services

FIIND.SPORT
Fiind.Sport is a B2B matchmaking platform: It simplifies and secures recruitment in the fitness world.
>> flora@fiind.sport

Hôtel Sauvage
Hotel Sauvage is an innovative hotel concept that puts nature and sustainability at the center of its concerns by offering the possibility of enjoying modern and innovative tourism while respecting the environment as a whole.
>> bonjour@hotelsauvage.ch
nul

nul is a shampoo bar whose mission is to make the personal and household care industry more sustainable by offering eco-friendly alternatives that actually work.

>> info@nul.care

OMY

OMY is a platform which connects senior citizens with students. Its innovative social bridging brings healthy ageing for senior citizens and financial relief for students.

>> info@omyweb.ch

parknsleep

A parking app that puts the spontaneity back into camping. Parknsleep allows for the unconstrained travel and legal parking of vans/campers.

>> info@parknsleep.app

Pelephant

An application that has the capability to scan handwritten math solution paths, to verify them and to give hints why a calculation step is right or wrong.

>> ramona@pelephant.com

Viatu

A smart travel booking platform to design and book sustainable trips into wild destinations for the conscious traveller.

>> alfredos@viatu.com
Audience Award Nominees

The nominees for the 2021 >>venture>> Audience Award were selected out of the 52 >>venture>> Finalists by RTS and >>venture>> based on the appeal of their products on everyday life. This selection procedure is separate from our jury process.

After watching a behind-the-scenes pitch training session with startup coach, Nanci Govinder, on RTS, the Swiss audience voted online for their favorite startup idea. The one with the most votes will be presented with CHF10,000 to jumpstart their entrepreneurial journey. The winner will be announced this evening at the Award Ceremony.
Retail & Consumer Services

DuoKey

DuoKey provides cybersecurity features customers need and enables companies to confidently move sensitive workloads to the cloud while maintaining full control of their encryption keys, data privacy, and security.

>> info@duokey.com

Finance & Insurance

Fea Money Switzerland

Fea Money is the first female-focused bank that financially empowers women. It offers services and products, such as budgeting and in-app community, tailored specifically for women, helping them to take charge of their finances.

>> angie@feamoney.com

Industrials & Engineering

Infrascreen

Energy management is at the core of the operations of greenhouses. Develops an innovative nano-material to increase energy efficiency of agricultural greenhouses.

>> info@infrascreen.com

Health & Nutrition

Invasight

Invasight uses breakthrough technology and develops novel inhibitors against specific proteins, which cause cancer cell invasion.

>> info@invasight.com

Retail & Consumer Services

Pelephant

An application that has the capability to scan handwritten math solution paths, to verify them, and to give hints why a calculation step is right or wrong.

>> ramona@pelephant.com
aisot
Generates and sells a trade signal based on technical analysis and alternative data focusing on volatility.

Location
Zurich

University affiliation
ETH Zurich

Contact
stefan@aisot.ch

Team members
Aaron Scheib, Stefan Klauser, Nino Antulov-Fantulin
Ignatica

Offers a cloud-based SaaS platform to insurance companies that allows for fast product launches.

Location
Bern

University affiliation
none

Contact
sebastian@ignatica.io

Team members
Sebastian Koepp (Manuel San Miguel, Travis Callahan not pictured)

Lyyna

Allows banks to cooperate with insurers to sell post-purchase insurance for items bought at small merchants.

Location
Adliswil

University affiliation
none

Contact
habib.gzara@hotmail.com

Team members
Habib Gzara, Tamara Jost
Inanna Fertility

Revolutionizes in-vitro-fertilizations (IVF) through AI-powered clinical decision support for IVF clinics.

Location
Zurich

University affiliation
University of Zurich

Contact
hello@innanafertility.com

Team members
Amra Wägli, Martina Stucki, Nitin Kumar, Bruno Imthurn, Giovanni Schiboni, Adreinn Papp, Cristina La Cognata
Luya Foods
Creates natural plant-based meat alternatives from rescued by-products of the tofu and soy-milk production.

Team members
Michael Alistair Whyte, Tobias Kistler, Flavio Hagenbuch

Luya

Location
Zollikofen

University affiliation
Bern University of Applied Sciences

Contact
hello@luyafoods.ch

PIPRA
Reduces post-operative complications by identifying high-risk patients prior to surgery with an AI-powered software.

Team members
John Klepper, Nayeli Schmutz, Ben Dodsworth

Location
Zurich

University affiliation
none

Contact
ben@pipra.ch
2021 >>venture>> Winners

Lumiphase AG
Designs and manufactures novel communication chips boosted by a unique optical crystal.

Location
Zurich

University affiliation
ETH Zurich

Contact
contact@lumiphase.com

Team members
Lukas Czornomaz, Stefan Abel
Nimagna AG
Develops an immersive video technology that allows for a true sense of presence while requiring minimal equipment.

Location
Zurich

University affiliation
none

Contact
contact@nimagna.com

Team members
Stefan Würmlin Stadler, Christoph Niederberger

MapTiler
Builds digital smart maps that integrate into web and mobile apps of B2B clients and connect to their business data.

Location
Zug

University affiliation
Ostschweizer Fachhochschule

Contact
sales@maptiler.com

Team members
Petr Pridal, Luis Suter, Pablo Balbuena, Terezie Parysova
Cowa Thermal Solutions
Develops fully recyclable energy storage capsules to increase capacity of water tanks in heat pump systems.

Location
Luzern

University affiliation
Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts

Contact
info@cowa-ts.com

Team members
Simon Maranda, Remo Waser
Infrascreen
Develops an innovative nano-material to increase energy efficiency of agricultural greenhouses.

Location
Neuchâtel

University affiliation
none

Contact
info@infrascreen.com

Team members
Benoit de Combaud, Henri de Lalande

NaturLoop AG
Engineers bio-composites from agricultural waste such as coconut shells, and bio-based adhesives.

Location
Biel

University affiliation
Bern University of Applied Sciences

Contact
info@naturloop.com

Team members
Andrés García Vogel, Aira Ackermann, Daniel Dinizo, Michail Kyriazopoulos
2021 >>venture>> Winners

Retail & Consumer Services

Boostbar
Boostbar disrupts the €20bn unattended F&B market with a solution which provides better and more sustainable breaks at a lower cost than leading alternatives.

Location
Zurich

University affiliation
none

Contact
hello@boostbar.ch

Team members
Pascal Uffer, Tijs van Bladel, Noëmi Lorenz, Michael Zeilmann, Johannes Lermann, Carina Schörgenhofer, Angelo Sardella, Florian Trüb
Bottle+
Develops a modular re-usable water bottle that produces carbonized, flavored, or purified water on-the-go.

Location
St. Gallen

University affiliation
none

Contact
info@bottleplus-shop.com

Team members
Luca Serratore, Christian Käser

Jawsome
Develops the first smart teeth-whitening kit connected to a mobile app that individualizes treatment and monitors progress.

Location
Geneva

University affiliation
none

Contact
info@jawsome.ch

Team members
Antonio Vetrò, Simon Meillet, Dr. Nacer Benbachir
Thanks to the pro-bono work of our network of experts, we’re able to offer unparalleled advice, guidance, and feedback to our participants. Thank you for your dedication to entrepreneurship.
Thomas Foery
Ivo Francioni
Claudio Frehner
Nicolas Frey
Jan Fülscher
Antonio Gambardella
Marcos Garcia Pedraza
Stefan Geiger
Luc Gérardin
Alex Ginsburg
Guy Giuffredi
Thierry Golliard
Melanie Gonzales
Nanci Govinder
Pascal Grieder
Bernard Gruhl
Wolfram Grüning
Taide Guajardo
Urs Guggenbühl
Ronan Guirey
Ruedi Gygax
Roland Haag
Aino Hacklin
Trudi Haemmerli
Rhea Hamilton
Daniel Häring
Jann J. Hatz
Daniel Haudenschild
Jiri Havran
Scott Herrick
Stephan Hess
Peter Hilpert
Adrian Hilti
Markus Hofer
Ulrich Hoffmann
Alexander Hofmann
Beatus Hofrichter
Bolko Hohaus
Heinz Hohl
Matthias Hölling
Felix Holzner
Caspar Horne
Sascha Horrig
Tom Hug
Lorenz Ineichen
Michel Jaccard
Nikhil Jain
Damian Janzi
Corinne John
Verena Kaiser
Adrian Kalt
Arnd Kaltofen-Ehmann
Olivier Keiser
Thomas Kerscher
Björn Klocke
Stephan Knecht
Pius Kobler
Hermann Koch
Marjan Kraak
Andreas Kubli
Francis Kuhlen
Peter Kuhn
Jean-Philippe Kunz
2021 >>venture>> Jurors & Mentors

Stefan Kyora
Kevin Lally
Matt Lanfear
Markus Lang
Pierre-Olivier Latour
Mauro Lattuada
Frédéric Lauchenauer
Jim Lewis
Minja Lohrer
Rana Løn nen
Walter Looser
Massimo Lucchina
Wilma Lukas
Paulina Lutz
Christian Maehr
Jérôme Mariéthoz
Marzia Massignani
Donat Matthews
Alexandre Maurice
Evelyn Menzel
Manuel Meyer

John Millard
Sylvain Moesching
Vivian Mohr
Markus Moser
David Muggli
Simon Nebel
Linda Nel
Pedro Paiva
David Patrick
Olga Peters
Claudia Petersen
Martin Petry
Moritz Pfeiffer
Karim Piguet
Peter A. Plötz
Sylvia Polydor
Lesley Powell
Ioana Prundaru
Roy Raanani
Barbara Radtke
Mikael Ramvall

Thomas Rauber
Martine Reindel
Lukas Reinhardt
Lucie Rejman
Kelly Richdale
Stuart Robertson
Frédéric Roger
Johan Roman
Alberto Romaneschi
Tom Röthlisberger
Dennis Rubner
Christoph Ruchti
Marco Rüedi
Damian Sailer
Isabelle Sailer
Natasha Sandoval
Hilmar Scheel
Gerd Scheller
Philippe Schenkel
Luca Scheuring
Ralph Schiess
Sabine Schilg
Alexander Schlaepfer
Shila Schneider
Martin Schneider
Frank Schön
Franz Schubiger
Thomas Schurr
Gabriele Schwarz
Andy Schwarzenbach
Alex Seidel
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Romeo Spinelli
Eva Springmann
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Urs Stender
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Sandra Tobler
Andy Tonazzi
Matteo Triacca
Fanny Tribalat
Fredrik Ullman
Paul-Henri Vallotton
Jeroen Van den Oever
Francesco Vass
Maija Vihma
Sabrina Vilhena
Heiko Visarius
Michael Wacker
Karen Wagner
Arijana Walcott
Monika Walser
Beat Walther
Lukas Weber
Lukas Weder
Max Weiland
Jeannette Wibmer
Simon Widmer
Judith Wiesinger
Virginia Williams
Mark Willner
Kathrin Wolff Schmandt
David Yu
Richard Zbinden
Claudia Zimmermann
A special congratulations to all the winners of >>venture>> 2021! We look forward to welcoming your submissions starting October 2021 for next year’s competition.