
PRIXSTRATEGIS

01 MAY 2025



32nd EDITION

Award for the Best Startup in Switzerland

A hand holding a glass of sparkling water with ice cubes, with a bottle of sparkling water in the background.

We are pleased to welcome you to the

32ND EDITION OF THE PRIX STRATEGIS

at the Olympic Museum of Lausanne.

We wish you a pleasant ceremony and look forward to
spending time with you at the celebration's cocktail.

SUMMARY

05	Program of The Ceremony
06	A Word from the Head of the Prix Strategis
07	A Word from the President of the Jury
08	Jury
10	Discover the Prix Strategis
11	Fidag Consulting Award
13	Consultants
14	Guest Speaker
15	Finalists
16	Last Year's Winner
17	Former laureats
18	A Word from the President of HEC Espace Entreprise
19	HEC Espace Entreprise Team
20	Our Partners
21	Acknowledgments



PROGRAM OF THE CEREMONY



WELCOMING WORDS

BY Antoni Huber, HEAD OF THE PRIX STRATEGIS

WORD FROM THE FACULTY

BY JEAN-PHILIPPE BONARDI, REPRESENTATIVE OF HEC LAUSANNE

WORD FROM THE JURY

BY EDOUARD LAMBELET, PRESIDENT OF THE JURY

PRESENTATION OF THE FIDAG CONSULTING AWARD

FIDAG CONSULTING AWARD WINNERS ANNOUNCEMENT

SPEECH BY RÉMI SABONNADIÈRE

GUEST SPEAKER, CEO & COFOUNDER OF EFFEXIS

PITCH FROM THE FINALISTS

WINNER OF THE PRIX DU PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

A WORD FROM LAST YEAR'S WINNER

PRIX STRATEGIS' WINNER ANNOUNCEMENT

CELEBRATION'S COCKTAIL



ANTONI HUBER
Head of Prix Strategis

Ladies and gentlemen,

This May 1st, 2025, marks the culmination of a thrilling adventure that began last October. Out of 82 applications, only eight startups made it to the semi-finals of this 32nd edition of the Prix Strategis – a journey shaped by bold ideas, ambition, and resilience.

These startups were carefully assessed by our teams of third-year students from HEC Lausanne, who conducted in-depth due diligence. Their work laid the foundation for our jury to select tonight's most promising finalists – a decision both challenging and inspiring.

This edition has been particularly meaningful to me. After serving as president of HEC Espace Entreprise, I took on the role of Head of the Prix Strategis to dive deeper into the world of entrepreneurship – a world I've come to admire for its energy, unpredictability, and purpose.

Entrepreneurship is not just about building companies. It's about building futures. It's about rethinking the status quo, believing in something that doesn't exist yet, and doing everything you can to make it real. That mindset is something I've seen reflected in every single startup we've met this year.

It has also been a personal journey. As this is my last year within the association, I feel a strong sense of gratitude. Gratitude toward the dedicated team behind this competition – my peers at HEC Espace Entreprise – and toward the jury members, coaches, sponsors, and startups who gave so much of their time, energy, and trust.

At its core, the Prix Strategis is more than a prize. It's a platform for encounters, for learning, and for sharing ideas that matter. And tonight, we celebrate those ideas – and the people brave enough to carry them forward.

Thank you for being here, and for believing, like we do, in the power of entrepreneurship to shape a better world.

Enjoy the evening.



EDOUARD LAMBELET
President of the jury

Each year, for the 32nd time, the Prix Strategis honors a powerful idea of entrepreneurial excellence – the kind of excellence required when turning an innovative idea, a promising technology, and a motivated team into an economic reality.

This is one of the most demanding forms of excellence. Each finalist tonight beautifully embodies it. Regardless of their field, stage of development, or funding status, they all share the same drive: the belief that the world is within reach, if you aim high enough.

But the Prix Strategis is also a chance to highlight other crucial forms of excellence, just as essential to the success of ambitious ventures. These are ecosystem-level excellences: in education, in public-private innovation partnerships, in forward-thinking policy, and in mechanisms that support early-stage funding.

This year again, the Jury reviewed many outstanding applications, a positive sign of the strength and vitality of our Swiss startup ecosystem. The ambition behind the submitted projects, often aiming for global impact, reassures us about our country's innovative capacity and our ability to finance the earliest stages of growth.

We are encouraged, but not surprised! Switzerland is the perfect place for ambitious startups. Few ecosystems combine such a strong local base with global reach: a market that demands international thinking from the start; multinationals ready to become strategic partners; a dense network of early investors who support bold ideas; and a remarkable talent pool for building exceptional founding teams.

The "Switzerland of Startups" is ambitious, and thriving. But this ecosystem remains fragile. Let's commit to protecting and strengthening this alchemy that fuels our future economic success.

Dear friends of the Prix Strategis and the "Switzerland of Startups," join me in celebrating all the passionate, determined, and innovative individuals who took part in this year's edition.

Wishing you all a wonderful evening.



Edouard Lambelet

President of the jury & tech entrepreneur



Anne Headon

Director, HUB Entrepreneurship and Innovation UNIL



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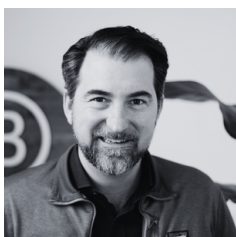
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Fabien Jacquier

Managing Director & Co-founder at Kyos



DISCOVER THE PRIX STRATEGIS

Since 1993, HEC Espace Entreprise has been presenting the Prix Strategis to honor the finest Swiss startup annually. The recipient not only receives a CHF 40,000 prize but also benefits from the esteemed reputation and increased exposure associated with the award.

Each startup undergoes an assessment according to the following four criteria:

- ➡ The level of innovation exhibited by the product/service.
- ➡ The startup's **potential for growth** on both national and international levels.
- ➡ The startup's **impact on the environment and society (ESG)**.
- ➡ **Market viability** and proficiency in **operational management**.

The jury holds three meetings to determine which startups advance to the next stage. HEC students involved in the FIDAG Consulting Award assist jury members by creating a Due Diligence on the semi-finalists.



The winner of the Prix Strategis is announced during the Closing Ceremony.

The Fidag Consulting Award

Where Academia Meets Real-World Entrepreneurship



2023 FIDAG Consulting Award's Winners

What truly sets the Prix Strategis apart from other start-up competitions is the unique involvement of HEC Lausanne students in its evaluation process. Through a dedicated university course, third-year undergraduate students form the backbone of the competition's analytical depth.

As part of the Fidag Consulting Award, 32 students are selected to work in teams and dive into the core of each semi-finalist start-up. Their mission? To produce a rigorous due diligence report that becomes the foundation for the Jury's decision. Guided by expert consultants from Fidag and supported by professors and professionals from UNIL and B Lab Switzerland, students assess the startups across key areas: strategy, marketing, finance, operations, competition, accounting, and impact.

This course offers students a rare opportunity to go beyond theory and tackle the challenges of real-world business analysis. It not only develops their analytical and consulting skills but also gives them a first-hand look into the entrepreneurial ecosystem.

We would like to express our deepest thanks our eight **consultants**, to Yves Darbellay (Fidag), Jeffrey Petty (UNIL) and Anne Headon (UNIL), Bertille D'Agay (B Lab), and Lorraine Berthoud (Coach) for their invaluable contribution to this initiative.

Thanks to the students' dedication and professionalism, the Jury can make an informed and thoughtful decision – ensuring that the Prix Strategis remains one of the most respected start-up competitions in Switzerland.

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GUEST SPEAKER



RÉMI SABONNADIÈRE
CEO & Co-founder of Effixis

Rémi Sabonnadiere is the co-founder and CEO of Effixis, a Swiss-Belgian company specialized in artificial intelligence and prompt engineering. A graduate of EPFL and Imperial College London, Rémi is at the forefront of democratizing access to AI tools and expertise. Through Effixis, he has launched the Prompt University – a training hub helping companies and individuals master generative AI technologies such as ChatGPT, Microsoft Copilot, and Google Gemini.

Across the AI sector, Rémi is a vocal advocate for responsible innovation, promoting ethical AI usage, education, and business impact. He is a council member of the Global Generative AI Award and regularly speaks at international conferences to share insights on the transformative power of AI in today's business landscape.

FINALISTS

LIGHTIUM

Lightium AG, a Swiss startup, is developing next-generation photonic chips for sectors such as telecommunications, data centers, and artificial intelligence. Their technology leverages an advanced material, lithium niobate, which enables superior performance: faster transmissions, lower energy consumption, and more compact chips. By replacing multiple components with a single chip, Lightium simplifies production and reduces costs, while offering a solution ready for large-scale manufacturing.



Green-Y offers an innovative 3-in-1 system that stores electricity, generates heat, and provides cooling using a patented compressed air storage technology. Sustainable and cost-effective, the system relies solely on air and water, providing an efficient alternative to traditional batteries for residential, commercial, and industrial buildings. With fast payback and a long lifespan, Green-Y supports the energy transition.

HekeTiss

HekeTiss SA develops innovative cell therapy solutions to treat chronic wounds. Their flagship product, TrophiPatch, is a skin patch made from stem cells derived from healthy donors, designed to promote blood vessel regeneration and accelerate healing. Easy to use, it can be stored frozen and naturally dissolves within 1 to 2 months with minimal care. Following successful preclinical testing, HekeTiss plans to launch human clinical trials in Switzerland in early 2025, pending regulatory approval.

QAPTIS

Qaptis is developing a plug-in kit that captures CO₂ directly from the exhaust of heavy-duty vehicles. This innovative technology reduces emissions without the need to replace existing fleets. The captured CO₂ can be stored, sold, or reused, offering a practical and effective alternative for decarbonizing hard-to-abate sectors.



Yeastup upcycles surplus brewer's yeast into high-quality ingredients for the food and cosmetics industries. Using a patented process, it extracts proteins with properties comparable to those of eggs—but more sustainable and flavorful—as well as functional fibers that promote health. These innovative solutions simplify formulations while supporting healthier and more sustainable nutrition.

WORDS FROM LAST YEAR'S WINNER



"Winning the Prix Strategis was an incredible moment for us. We were the smallest and youngest startup in the competition, but we have a big ambition: to change the way breast cancer patients are treated in radiotherapy. This award gave us the energy and confidence to keep pushing forward."

Giovanna Dipasquale, CEO of HeroSupport

Giovanna Dipasquale is the co-founder and CEO of HeroSupport, a Geneva-based MedTech startup improving breast cancer radiotherapy through personalized 3D-printed devices. With over 20 years of experience as a medical physicist at Geneva University Hospitals, Giovanna turned clinical innovation into entrepreneurial impact. In 2024, HeroSupport won the Prix Strategis for its patient-centered approach, combining scientific precision with meaningful healthcare improvement.

FORMER LAUREATS

2024 - HeroSupport



HeroSupport is a MedTech start-up founded in 2022, dedicated to optimizing breast cancer radiotherapy through the use of the prone position. This innovative approach aims to reduce radiation exposure to surrounding healthy tissues while improving patient comfort and overall treatment efficiency.

2023 - Corintis



Corintis revolutionizes chip cooling for high-performance computing used in drug discovery and climate modeling. Microscopic embedded cooling channels extract heat 10 times more efficiently, making circuits more powerful and environmentally friendly.

2022 - Comppair



CompPair's innovative chemical process creates a self-repairing composite material that can be fixed by applying heat, providing economic benefits through longer lifespan, lower maintenance costs, and environmental friendliness.

2021 - Volumina Medical



Volumina Medical is an innovative company in the field of reconstructive surgery. The company develops regenerative and degradable plants for natural breast reconstruction in a minimally invasive manner.

2020 - SUN Bioscience



SUN bioscience is an innovator in the field of organ-disease modelling and patient variation analysis. Their current pipeline features programs for rare diseases affecting the intestinal or the blood-brain-barrier and immuno-oncology.

2019 - Nomoko



Nomoko develops an innovative technology to make the physical world visible to software. For this, Nomoko uses 3D modelling and an ultramodern camera in order to capture as much spatial information as possible.



HUGO DELAUNAY
President of HEC Espace Entreprise

Ladies and Gentlemen,
First of all, welcome to the 32nd edition of the Prix Strategis.

Like every year, our jury, consultants, and the students involved had the chance to discover and evaluate some truly impressive startups. This year's five finalists all have very different profiles, in terms of goals, value proposition, and target markets. But they all have one thing in common: they represent exactly the kind of ambition, innovation, and impact that we want to highlight through this competition.

It's been a real honour for me to lead this association and be part of such a meaningful project. What makes it even more special is the team behind it – a group of passionate and committed students working toward the same goal: promoting entrepreneurship here on the Lausanne campus.

Over the past two years, I've had the chance to take part in projects that were exciting, intense, and sometimes stressful but always rewarding. As this chapter comes to an end for me, I'm really proud of what we've achieved, and I'm confident that the next generation of members will keep pushing the association and the Prix Strategis even further.

I want to sincerely thank all the people who made this event possible. Without the support of the University of Lausanne, our sponsors, partners, and jury members, none of this would happen. And of course, a big thank you to every member of HEC Espace Entreprise who gave so much of their time and energy to make this edition a success.

We hope you enjoy this evening as much as we enjoyed preparing it.

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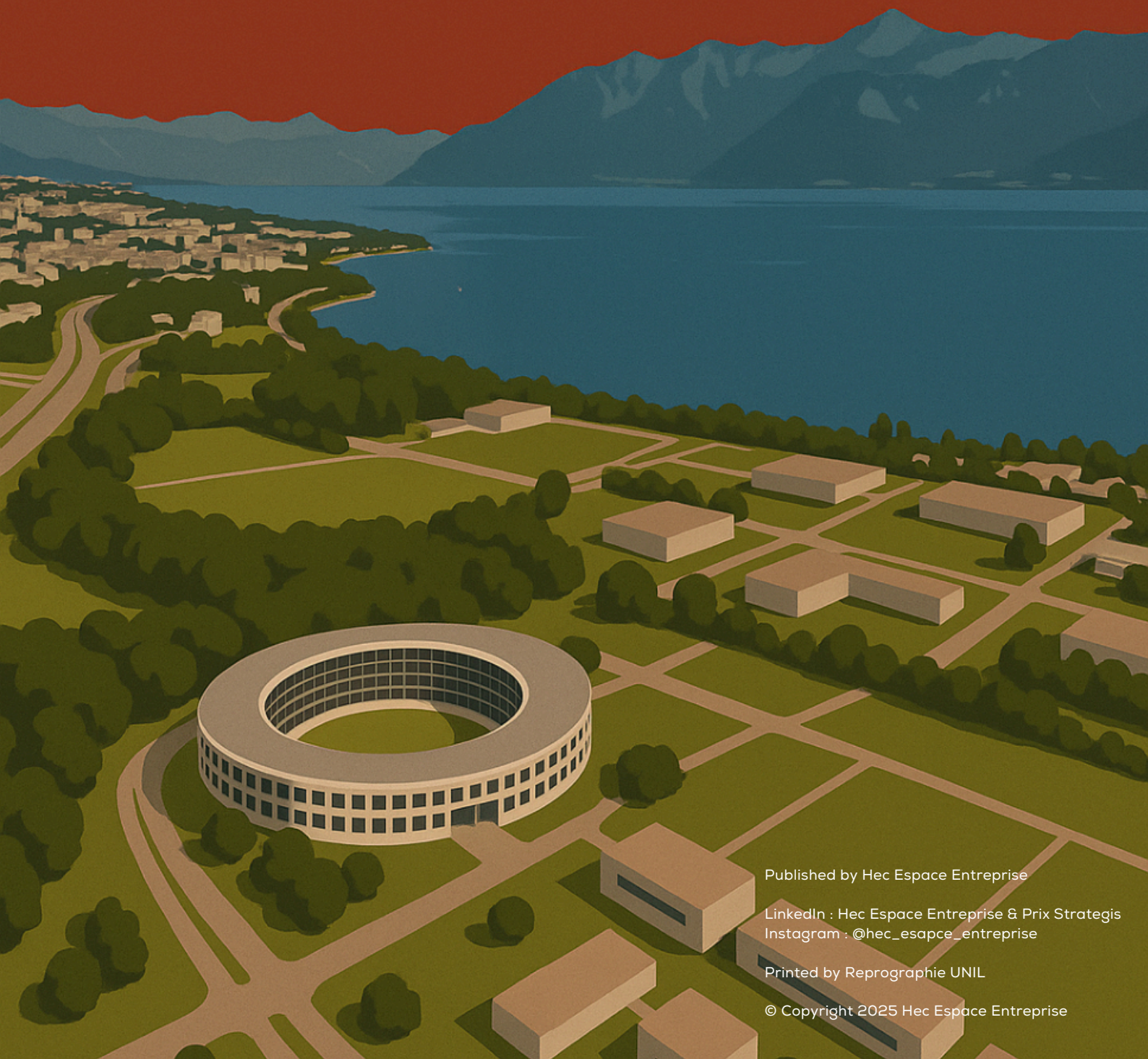
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