PRIX**STRATEGIS**

Lightium Wins the 32nd Edition of the Prix Strategis !

On Thursday, May 1st, the winner of the 32nd edition of the Prix Strategis was revealed from among nearly one hundred Swiss startup applicants. The title was awarded to Lightium, a company developing photonic chips for telecommunications and artificial intelligence, combining processing speed with energy efficiency. Thanks to the strength of its technology, high growth potential, and relevance to today's global challenges, Lightium impressed the jury and was awarded the CHF 40,000 prize.

The finalists were evaluated according to four demanding criteria: innovation, achievement, scalability, and impact, with the goal of rewarding a company delivering real added value to the Swiss economy. The jury was composed of leading figures from the academic, entrepreneurial, and innovation ecosystems.

Taking second place was HekeTiss SA, creator of the TrophiPatch, a stem cell-based patch designed to treat chronic wounds, with clinical trials scheduled for 2025. This marks a promising advance in the field of regenerative medical technologies.

Third place went to Yeastup, which stood out with its solution for upcycling surplus brewer's yeast into high-value ingredients for the food and cosmetics industries. In addition to reaching the podium, Yeastup also won the Audience Award, presented by our media partner AGEFI, which provides significant exposure to the finalists through its platforms.

Giovanna Dipasquale, co-founder of HeroSupport and last year's winner, introduced the announcement of this year's podium. After sharing a few words about her journey since winning the previous edition, she revealed the third and second place winners, before handing over to Lightium, the 2025 laureate.

We were also honored to welcome Rémi Sabonnadière, co-founder of Effixis, as this year's guest speaker. His keynote address on the impact of artificial intelligence on entrepreneurship offered valuable insights into the opportunities and challenges of today's rapidly evolving technological landscape.

Among the other finalists, Green-Y Energy has developed an innovative 3-in-1 system that stores electricity while producing both heat and cold, using a patented compressed air storage technology. Meanwhile, Qaptis is developing a plug-in CO_2 capture kit for heavy-duty vehicles, contributing to the decarbonization of road transport.
The Prix Strategis is organized annually by the student association HEC Espace Entreprise, which aims to bridge the academic environment of HEC Lausanne with the Swiss entrepreneurial ecosystem. The 2025 edition was led by Antoni Huber, head of the Prix Strategis.

Since its creation in 1993, the Prix Strategis has become a major reference in the Swiss startup scene, spotlighting the most promising young companies in the country each year.
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