



BigBooster Takes 20 Startups To Boston To Grow Into ‘Scale-Up’ Mode

(Lyon, France – January 24th, 2017) - From February 13th to 16th, 20 global startups with disruptive innovations in “Biotech and Health”, “Informative Tech” and “Global Impact” will benefit from a 4-day intensive Booster Camp and gain a thorough understanding of Boston and US innovation ecosystems.

BigBooster, a gateway to international

With the support of its major partners (The Metropole de Lyon, The Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes Region, The City of Boston, Schneider Electric, Sanofi, Cap Gemini, Aéroports de Lyon) BigBooster, a **unique nonprofit international acceleration program**, allows startups to quickly dive into strategic innovative ecosystems such as:

- Lyon and the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes region, one of most dynamic European startups hub
- Boston, the 4th Global Startup Ecosystem (*2015 Global Startup Ecosystem Ranking – Compass Nov 2015*)

For this Boston Booster Camp, BigBooster teams up for the second year with MassChallenge, the most startup friendly accelerator program, to provide **16 French startups and 4 coming from abroad** (Israel, Italy, Belgium and Senegal) an in-depth preview of the Boston innovation dynamic.

“We are delighted to see that the Boston Booster Camp arises fruitful international synergies. Our partners have been deeply involved in the design of this program that is especially thought to answer the needs of startups willing to go global” states Anne-Marie Graffin, CEO of BigBooster.

“Schneider Electric is deeply involved in this American phase of the program. We are both partner and mentor of this second edition with the ambition to help startups boost their business plan and network” underlines Sylvain Paineau, Open-Innovation director for Europe at Schneider Electric and co-president of the jury for the Global Impact category.

The Booster Camp, a quick and intense way to reach the next level

During the Booster Camp, startups will benefit from a mix of theory and practice. US based CEOs, mentors, experts and judges will challenge these passionate entrepreneurs on their development strategies. Key highlights of the Booster Camp include:

- **Plenary sessions** with exclusive insights on: how to set up in the US, how to approach a US investor, etc.
- **One to one mentoring sessions** and workshops with US mentors and experts
- **Unique networking events** to meet with top leaders of the American ecosystem such as Philips Research - Cambridge
- **Tailor-made roundtables** and site visits of BigBooster partners including notably:
 - **Labcentral** for Biotech and Health startups
 - **Greentown Labs** for Global Impact startups
 - **Visit of Schneider Electric** for Global Impact and Informative Tech startups

Find out more details about the program [here](#)

Next Step: Final awards

Following this American step, startups will get together in Lyon from April 5th to 6th for the final awards. Discover or rediscover the class of 2017 by visiting BigBooster [website](#).

BigBooster is also considering further international developments to the program together with top-innovation scenes and give a more global jumpstart to startups.

For immediate release

Partners of the project

This program is implemented thanks to the support of: the Métropole de Lyon, the city of Boston, the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes Region, Université de Lyon, MassChallenge, the French Tech, Aéroports de Lyon, Sanofi, Schneider, Capgemini Consulting, Bpifrance, Keolis, Air France, Delta, EDF, Institut Mérieux, Klesia, Cegid, TBWA Corporate, Seb and Oriol...

About BigBooster

Founded in April 2015, BigBooster is a unique international non-profit acceleration program for early-stage startups with cutting edge innovation in the fields of Bio Health, Informative Tech and Global Impact. Organized between Lyon (Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes, France) and Boston (Massachusetts, USA), 2 worldwide renowned hubs with strong innovation ecosystems, its goal is to become the largest European competition for early-stage startups with a global outreach and namely from the Europe-Middle East-Africa zone. Bolstered by many public and private partners, BigBooster is organized by the *Fondation pour l'Université de Lyon*. For additional information, please visit: www.bigbooster.org

About the *Fondation pour l'Université de Lyon*

Created in 2012, the *Fondation pour l'Université de Lyon* was conceived out of shared belief by the region's economic sector, the University of Lyon and public stakeholders that socioeconomic development of the region and the promotion of its higher education and research go hand-in-hand. Presided over by Bernard Bigot, the Foundation supports the University of Lyon in its ambition to become one of Europe's top ten higher education and research clusters, promotes its influence on an international scale and contributes to its continuing excellence in the region.

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