

BigBooster unveils the laureates of the 7th edition of its international acceleration program and sets a new milestone with the announcement of a change of Presidency

At the end of its BoosterCamp, which attracted over 150 participants and community members to the Campus Région du Numérique from November 7 to 9, the Jury announced the names of the 18 winning startups in the 7th edition of BigBooster Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes, an international accelerator program, in the presence of Regional Councillor Sophie Blachère. In addition, Sophie Jullian (PULSALYS), takes over from Isabelle Guillaume (Schneider Electric) as President of the BigBooster Foundation, with the ambition of making it the essential international development program for all the region's innovative startups.

Supported by the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes region, this free BigBooster program brings together startups from all over the world, in a wide range of sectors and at all levels of maturity. Confronted by numerous experts and mentors over 3 intensive days, this cross-fertilization of skills enables them, in record time, to boost their internationalization strategy, develop their network and gain in visibility.

Launched in May 2023, this 7th season selected 42 startups from France, Europe, the Middle East, Asia and North Africa, chosen for their positive-impact solutions or services in 6 categories in line with our society's major transitions: Environment (8), Energy (5), Health (12), Mobility (3), Construction (4), Other industries and Digital (10).

During the 3-days BoosterCamp, these startups were able to define and refine their international strategy, through pitch coaching, participation in inspiring workshops and conferences, exchanges with more than 80 experts and mentors from companies and the region's innovation ecosystem and its international partners (4 Motors for Europe, Canada and the USA), and by confronting a demanding jury.

2023's laureates

Following the BoosterCamp, Sophie Blachère, Regional Councillor for the Auvergne Rhône Alpes Region, congratulated the 18 winning startups selected by the jury. Some (15) will benefit from a customized 6-month "Go Global" support program to explore new markets and prepare their international development plan in one of these territories:

- Europe: Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes, Baden-Württemberg, Catalonia, Lombardy (4 Motors for Europe)
- North America: Pennsylvania, Quebec

In particular, the "Go Global" program enables winners to benefit from qualified contacts with local ecosystems, potential partners, investors and decision-makers in the target regions, as well as mentoring sessions with experts from these regions.



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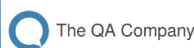
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A change at the head of BigBooster

Since 2020, BigBooster has embarked on a new phase in its development, establishing itself more widely in Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes with the support of the Region. Its track record is particularly good: 350 startups have taken part in bootcamps since its creation, and 137 winners have benefited from the "Go Global" program. Companies such as Maatpharma (healthcare), Proovstation (mobility), PaintUp (construction) and 3Deus Dynamics (industry), which have passed through the bootcamp, are now firmly rooted in the region, creating numerous local jobs.

On the strength of these results and feedback, Isabelle Guillaume, Vice President Strategic Projects at Schneider Electric, and President of BigBooster for the past 2 years, is handing over the reins to Sophie Jullian, President of PULSALYS. In particular, she wants to consolidate BigBooster's legitimacy as an international acceleration program, make it more visible and attractive to partner territories, and consolidate the community of startups benefiting from it in the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes region. Our ambition is to make it the essential gateway for all the region's innovative startups, and an essential building block in their international development and acceleration.



« Along with President Laurent Wauquiez, we've been proud to support the Big Booster Foundation for several years in the organization of its BoosterCamp. Startups are characterized by their agility, rapid growth and risk-taking. They are often the laboratory of innovation, where the most innovative ideas and the most revolutionary technologies are born. In Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes, they find an environment conducive to innovation, growth and sustainability, thanks to a dynamic and stimulating ecosystem. The Big Booster program, which accelerates the international development of these nuggets of tomorrow, contributes to the priorities of the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes region: the development of local startups, the establishment of foreign startups in the region and job creation. »

Sophie Blachère, Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes Regional Councillor



« Along with my fellow members of the Executive Committee, I'm delighted to have been able to contribute to this unique program, based on the commitment of members of the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes and international ecosystems, who volunteer to share their experience in support of startups' international development. And it gives me great pleasure to pass on the torch to Sophie Jullian, whose in-depth knowledge of the innovation ecosystem will be invaluable in continuing and expanding Big Booster's development. »

Isabelle Guillaume, Schneider Electric, President of the BigBooster Foundation



«As a founding member of BigBooster from the outset, PULSALYS is renewing and strengthening its commitment to this scheme and, personally, I'm very proud to be taking over the Presidency of the BigBooster Foundation to continue and boost the actions led by Isabelle and her predecessors. More than ever, startups need to "think international", and direct confrontation with the region's communities and ecosystems, as well as with its European and international partners, is a key asset for testing their development strategy. »

Sophie Jullian, President of PULSALYS

About **BigBooster Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes**

BigBooster Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes aims to provide entrepreneurs with the confidence to succeed internationally by connecting them to innovation ecosystems. This non-profit program federates an international community of innovative startups, mentors, experts, industrialists; and aims to detect, select and support entrepreneurs with international ambition and positive impact. Since 2015, 350 startups from 30 different countries have taken part in Booster Camp, with 137 winning startups benefiting from a personalized program.

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