

ANTIPODES

Creativity in France and New Zealand

Your Ticket to the French Tech! **Join 5,000 startups in Paris on 15-17 June 2017!** **@VivaTech**

Capitalizing on the success of [Antipodes 2016](#), the Embassy of France is looking into taking kiwi ingenuity and creativity to the French Tech and Digital ecosystem by sponsoring the participation of up to **8 New Zealand startups** to [VivaTech](#) in **Paris next 15-17 June 2017**.

[VivaTech](#) is the new global meeting for game changers, bringing together the most innovative startups and global players in digital transformation. After a first edition in 2016, VivaTech has established itself as a major technology event, bringing together 45,000 visitors, 5,000 startups, 800 speakers and 250 investors from 106 countries. Highlights of the 2017 edition include keynote speakers such as Tony Hsieh, CEO, Zappos ; Jeffrey R. Immelt, Chairman & CEO, GE ; Peggy Johnson, Executive VP, Microsoft ; Ambarish Mitra , Co-Founder & CEO, Blippar ; David Kenny, General Manager, IBM Watson ; Bob Pittman, Chairman & CEO, iHeartMedia ; Eric Schmidt, Executive Chairman, Alphabet Inc ; Dan Schulman, CEO, Paypal ; Daniel Zhang, CEO, Alibaba and many more.

VivaTech brings together international startups, investors and major corporate groups through the [VivaTechnology Challenge Platform](#), where startups apply to offer a tech response to brand challenges on various sector verticals (Fintech, Healthtech, Luxury, Transport, Tourism, HR etc.). There are no barriers to entry: the floor is open to everyone from all sectors, all you have to do is bring your potential.

The French Embassy is looking to sponsor New Zealand applicants. You are eligible if you are:

... A New Zealand start-up, less than 8 years old, with innovative tech solutions, looking for international investors and partners.

... Seeking an opportunity for a pitch or to showcase a viable commercial product internationally in a BtoB environment.

Companies selected by VivaTech through the [VivaTechnology Challenge Platform](#) receive free registration passes to attend the events, showcase their work and participate in a range of activities, from pitch to networking sessions. Successful applicants will receive one of the up to 8 international return flights sponsored by the French Embassy.

Apply now at: <https://challenges.vivatechnology.com/>

Deadline for application varies for each challenge.

VIVA
TECHNOLOGY
STARTUP CONNECT / PARIS 2017



ABOUT VIVA Technology

Website: <https://vivatechnology.com/>

PDF presentation and press kit of the event: <http://bit.ly/Antipodes2017>

Practical Info:

15th - 17th June 2017

Paris Expo Porte de Versailles

Paris, FRANCE

HOW TO APPLY

1. Apply directly on the VivaTech application platform (<https://challenges.vivatechnology.com/en>), choosing any of the offered challenges.
2. Let us know to which challenges you applied at cooperation.wellington-amba@diplomatie.gouv.fr
3. If you get picked by VivaTech and receive a confirmation message, we will cover your international airfare¹.

WHAT DOES A CHALLENGE LOOK LIKE?

The 130 challenges are defined by 20 major corporate partners on a vertical around specific sectors, for example:

#Tourism

How can new virtual and immersive experiences be created in the hospitality industry?

#Finance

How can the user experience be improved in portfolio management?

#Human Resources

How can artificial intelligence improve HR planning?

...etc.

CONTACT

For further information, please check the available documentation at <http://bit.ly/Antipodes2017> and contact:

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¹ The French Embassy reserves its right to operate a final selection on companies. In particular, if more than 8 New Zealand companies get selected, the Embassy will decide on the 8 to receive sponsorship.

VIVA TECHNOLOGY 2017 SECOND EDITION: PARIS, JUNE 15 TO 17, 2017

Paris, 21 February 2017

Viva Technology, the event for those inventing the world of tomorrow, announces its second edition on 15, 16, and 17 June 2017 in Paris, at the Porte de Versailles. The President of the French Republic will attend the event where the outline of the 2017 edition **will be revealed**. It is thanks to the development of the French digital ecosystem, helped by the policies implemented by the government that the launch of such an event as Viva Technology is today possible.

Organized by Publicis Groupe and Groupe Les Echos, Viva Technology is becoming the world's leading innovation event, bringing together startups and large companies to give them a unique opportunity to initiate and develop successful collaborations.

More ambitious perspective in 2017 with an emphasis on the international dimension and a richer experience

The goal is to welcome more than 50,000 visitors including 5,000 startups. The international dimension of Viva Technology is further pronounced, with a significantly higher proportion of international speakers, visitors, and startups, as well as the presence of several country pavilions.

Viva Technology seeks to give its visitors a more efficient experience through new contact schemes such as Talent Connect, to facilitate the search for jobs in the digital sector; Mentor Connect, to help startups find Mentors; and the Office Hours platform to encourage meetings between investors, VCs, and startups.

Partnerships with industry leaders

This new edition of Viva Technology is supported by platinum partners such as BNP Paribas, Google, Orange, and La Poste, which are deeply involved in the organization and success of the event.

In addition, Viva Technology's Gold partners, including Accor Hotels, Airbus, Air France, Carrefour, Cisco, ENGIE, LVMH, ManpowerGroup, PMU, RATP Group, Sanofi, Sodexo, SNCF, Groupe TF1, Valeo, and Vinci Energies will again, this year, champion open innovation and collaboration between startups and large groups exclusively at Viva Technology.

The partners of the Hall of Technology and the Accelerate zone will be announced later.

First speakers on the international tech scene announced

More than 300 speakers are expected on stage at VivaTech to discuss the impact of tech and digital on different sectors of society and inform visitors about the transformations in progress.

The first speakers have been announced, and they are among the most inspiring personalities on the international tech scene:

- Peter Fenton, General Partner, Benchmark
- Tony Hsieh, CEO, Zappos
- Jeffrey R. Immelt, Chairman & CEO, GE

- Peggy Johnson, Executive VP, Business Development, Microsoft
- Ambarish Mitra, Co-Founder & CEO, Blippar
- David Kenny, General Manager, IBM Watson
- Bob Pittman, Chairman & CEO, iHeart Media
- Eric Schmidt, Executive Chairman, Alphabet Inc
- Dan Schulman, CEO, Paypal
- Karim Sy, Founder & Chief Catalyst, Jokkolabs
- Shelley Zalis, CEO, Girl's Lounge
- Daniel Zhang, CEO, Alibaba

A new Challenge platform for connecting startups and large companies

Several thousand startups will also be present at VivaTech. From new upstarts to well known unicorns, everyone will find opportunities to continue growing. A special area at the event will be dedicated to organizing meetings with investors and finding the right solutions for their development.

Viva Technology is also reviving its Challenges platform this year. This wide-ranging call for applications, particularly dedicated to open innovation, will see the launch of a hundred Challenges by the end of March. Startups can find opportunities to develop and accelerate their growth, which will materialize at the event in June. For this new edition of Viva Technology, the LVMH group is launching the LVMH Innovation Award to reward a promising startup after an international call for applications. For LVMH, this award confirms the importance of digital and the entrepreneurial spirit at the core of the group's strategy.

More orientated toward the general public

This wish to embrace the general public and students makes Viva Technology unique. This approach will be backed up by accessible events such as e-gaming, a concert, digital art shows, and more.

Maurice Lévy, CEO of Publicis Groupe, puts it like this: *"We thank the President of the French Republic for his support for this great event that puts France at the center of the digital world. The 2017 edition will consolidate the space that Viva Technology carved out for itself in its first edition, because we will propose an even more innovative and international event."*

"Viva Technology is the only event of this scale that brings leading businesses and startups together for direct dialogue. We are keenly aware that innovation, technology and creativity lead to disruptions that are key to driving momentum in our businesses," notes Bernard Arnault, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the LVMH Group. LVMH is co-organizer of the event via its media division Groupe Les Echos and partner of the Viva Technology Luxury Lab.

About VivaTechnology

VivaTechnology Paris, an international event co-organized by Publicis Groupe and the Les Echos Group is dedicated to the growth of startups, digital transformation and innovation. The event allows the startups and large companies to be connected in the same unit of time and place, in order to facilitate meetings, develop collaborations and present the latest innovations.

More information on www.vivatechology.com and @VivaTech



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Groupe **Les Echos**

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