

Serial entrepreneur Alexandre Gonthier becomes a Venture Partner

London/Munich November 30, 2009. Pan-European venture capital firm Wellington Partners has strengthened its presence in the Digital Media sector with the appointment of Alexandre Gonthier as a Venture Partner. Alexandre has had a very successful track record as founder and technologist of several companies in the online payment sector; he was co-founder, CTO and later CEO of iPIN/Valista as well as the initial CTO of Paymo. Since 2004, he is acting also as a business angel and fundraising advisor and has contributed significantly to the development of companies like BuyVIP, ScreenTonic, Mobile 365 and Ruckus Wireless.

Alexandre Gonthier explains: "I am looking forward to working together closely with the Wellington investment team. Their venture partner program is a perfect opportunity to become a part of a leading venture capital firm without losing sight of your own dedicated entrepreneurial activities."

The serial entrepreneur Alexandre joins the current nine technology Venture Partners in Europe and the U.S.. The Venture Partners team includes Eric Ly, the former co-founder and CTO of LinkedIn, Ram Srinivasan, former CEO of Fireclick, Loïc Le Meur, CEO of Seesmic, and Royston Hoggarth, the Chief Executive for BT's Global Services business. All these highcalibre entrepreneurs advise and support portfolio companies in their strategic planning, key executive hires and business development.

Wellington's General Partner Eric Archambeau says: "We feel privileged by Alexandre's decision to join our Venture Partner program. With his experience at iPin and Paymo, he will help our entrepreneurs enormously to catch the opportunity of the mobile Web. At the same time, he is extremely well-connected on both sides of the Atlantic and will help our entrepreneurs to open the doors to the leading players in their market."

About Wellington Partners

Wellington Partners is one of the most successful pan-European venture capital firms. With some € 800 million under management and offices in London, Munich, Palo Alto and Zurich, the firm invests into companies throughout Europe that have the potential to become global leaders, in the areas of Digital Media, Cleantech, Electronics, Software and Life Sciences.

Since 1998, Wellington Partners has invested in more than 100 companies in Europe and Israel, including now publicly traded Actelion and XING and successful privately held companies like Alando (acquired by eBay), Ciao (acquired by Microsoft) and ImmobilienScout24 (acquired by Deutsche Telekom). For more information please visit www.wellington-partners.com.

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