

PRESS RELEASE

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FRENCH TECH IN THE UNITED STATES: A French Ecosystem Gaining Traction In The World's Most Competitive Market

Long seen as an ecosystem focused mainly on Europe, French Tech is entering a new phase. It is now rapidly expanding internationally, especially in the United States, home to the world's leading tech giants. French startups' international growth is a core priority for Julie Huguet, CEO of Mission French Tech, who is traveling to the United States this week to accelerate this momentum among founders, investors and local French Tech hubs

A growing footprint of French Tech champions in the United States

Over 40% of the top 120 French startups now operate commercially in the United States, especially in New York, San Francisco and Boston, where they directly challenge American players. Mistral is challenging OpenAI in frontier AI and open models. Contentsquare, a leader in digital analytics, completed in October the acquisition of conversation intelligence platform Loris AI, and in 2023, acquired product analytics player Heap.

Several iconic startups are hitting major milestones in the US market:

- **Wandercraft**, a challenger to US leaders in medical robotics, recently obtained a new FDA extension for its *Atalante X* exoskeleton in less than two years. This certification expands access to advanced robotic rehabilitation for American patients with severe mobility impairments.
- **MWM**, taking on the giants of creative apps, has made its second US acquisition with American studio Sincerely, after Swipewipe in 2024. The United States now represents 70% of MWM's revenue.
- **Resilience** is rolling out its digital oncology patient-support platform and already employs staff in Boston and Seattle.
- **Matawan**, scaling rapidly in the American market, was selected by the NYC Transit Tech Lab to optimize the Manhattan–New Jersey corridor.

France's strengths in deeptech, AI, greentech, health and B2B SaaS are the main drivers of this expansion.

A French network that is growing and organizing across the United States

A strong and structured French Tech presence is emerging across the country through **13 French Tech communities** in key locations including New York, San Francisco, Boston, Los Angeles, Miami, Austin and Denver. This network connects founders, investors, talent and institutional partners in a shared ecosystem.

Some regions stand out, such as Miami - now a major French Tech hub attracting a new wave of entrepreneurs and expanding far beyond fintech into biotech, oncology, and greentech. And across North America, the momentum is just as strong: the 10-year anniversaries of French Tech San Francisco and French Tech New York testify to how deeply these communities have taken root. Added to this is Team France Export, which unites Business France, Bpifrance, economic services, and the French Chambers of Commerce abroad to accelerate the growth of French champions throughout the continent.

The global AI boom is opening an exceptional window of opportunity for French talent

France is now one of the world's strongest AI talent pools with:

- 81 AI labs, the largest number in Europe
- more than 600 GenAI startups
- world-class institutions including École Polytechnique, École Normale Supérieure and Inria

Top American labs are recruiting these experts at scale. Yann LeCun (at Meta until the end of the year), François Chollet (creator of Keras) and Michel Devoret (Yale) illustrate the global recognition of French scientific excellence.

One thing is clear: some French talents who once moved to the U.S. to accelerate their careers are now returning to build or join France's next generation of startups. Examples include Alexandre Lebrun, who left Facebook AI Research in Menlo Park to launch Nabla, now a flagship in healthcare AI; Romain Niccoli, co-founder of Criteo, who is scaling Pigment into one of Europe's fastest-growing planning platforms with strong U.S. momentum; and fintech pioneer Renaud Laplanche, founder of Lending Club and Upgrade, who -while remaining in the U.S.- continues to invest in and champion French founders on the global stage.

They also support the ecosystem from abroad by directing capital and opportunities back to France.

A recent example is OpenClassrooms, part of the French Tech 120, which received full US university accreditation from WSCUC in September, the same body that accredits Stanford and UCLA. The company can now award recognized US degrees and has already secured more than 10 million dollars in workforce-training contracts with American employers.

Julie Huguet, Director of la Mission French Tech, explains: *"There is a true Franco-American engine of innovation. French Tech has been present in the United States for 10 years, and this dynamic keeps growing stronger. France trains, invents and cultivates boldness, and benefits from the amplification effect of the United States. The French Tech ecosystem shines on both sides of the Atlantic."*

About the French tech mission: The French Tech mission, operating under the Ministry for the Economy, Finances and Industrial, Energy and Digital Sovereignty, is dedicated to bolstering the French startup ecosystem. It provides support to the most advanced startups through the French Tech Next40/120 program and assists those in strategic sectors for digital sovereignty through the French Tech 2030 program. Through initiatives like French Tech Tremplin, the French Tech Mission empowers individuals without entrepreneurial experience to launch their own startups across France. To foster a competitive and efficient market, the French Tech Mission has introduced the "Je choisis la French Tech" program, which encourages public administrations and corporations to source solutions and innovations from French startups. Additionally, the French Tech Mission is backed by a global network of French Tech communities, including 17 capitals and 31 communities within France, 66 international communities, 6,000 engaged startups, and 1,400 volunteers spanning 52 countries.

More information : <https://lafrenchtech.gouv.fr/en/>

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