

# STATION F



World's biggest startup campus - opening April 2017.  
Backed by Xavier Niel. Paris.



Photo: Patrick Tourneboeuf

**MEDIA CONTACT: RACHEL VANIER, Head of Communications**  
**rachel@stationf.co / +33 7 68 80 96 52**

@JoinStationF

# STATION F: an entire startup ecosystem under one roof

## STATION F: THE CAMPUS

The 34,000 m<sup>2</sup> historical monument has been reconverted into a massive startup hub. The train station-turned-work station will house a unique startup campus with thousands of members.

On site, you can find:

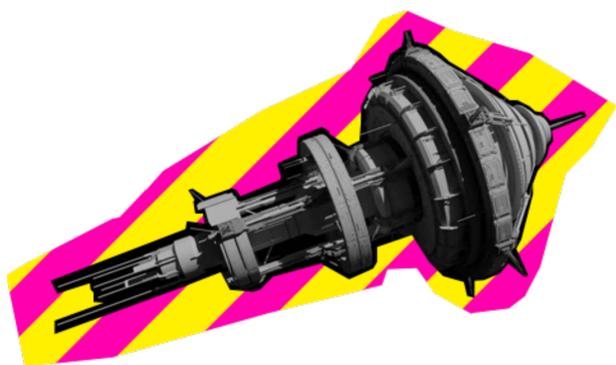
- **A startup zone**, with over 3000+ desks and 10+ international startup programs, including the STATION F Founders Program for early-stage startups.
- A **coffee shop** and massive **1000-person restaurant** with 4 kitchens and a bar, open 24-7 to the public
- An on-site **fablab** for prototyping, powered by TechShop
- A variety of **events spaces**, including a 360-person auditorium
- **Meeting rooms and private offices** for mature startups, VCs, public services and more
- **A co-living space** that will house 600 entrepreneurs, opening in 2018.

## STATION F: THE VISION

STATION F is an initiative by **Xavier Niel**, an entrepreneur and investor that has always been deeply committed to supporting the startup ecosystem. He has built the telecom operator Free, the tuition-free coding school 42 in France and California, the hyper-active early-stage VC firm Kima Ventures. He has also invested in hundreds of startups.

He wanted to build STATION F in order to add more coherence and unity to the fragmented startup ecosystem. STATION F is also an ambitious answer to a booming ecosystem desperately in need of additional infrastructure.

**TAKE A VIRTUAL REALITY TOUR OF THE CAMPUS** (player by Sketchfab): [stationf.co](https://stationf.co)



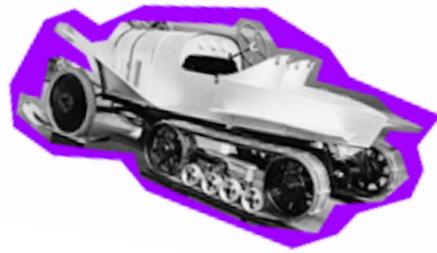
*"With STATION F, we wish to give a framework to the fragmented startup ecosystem in France and in Europe. I also want to provide entrepreneurs the means to achieve high ambitions."*

**Xavier Niel**

*"Our goal with Station F is not only to create the largest startup campus in the world but also to create a space that houses an entire startup ecosystem under one roof. It's a truly ambitious international project that puts France and Europe at the forefront of the international startup map."*

**Roxanne Varza, Director of STATION F**

## STATION F key figures



**34,000**

Square  
meters

**310**

Meters long

**58**

Meters wide

**1,000**

Startups

**9,000**

Building  
capacity

**10+**

International  
startup  
programs

**4**

Kitchens

**2**

Coffee  
shops  
/bars

**3,000**

Startup  
work  
stations

**8+**

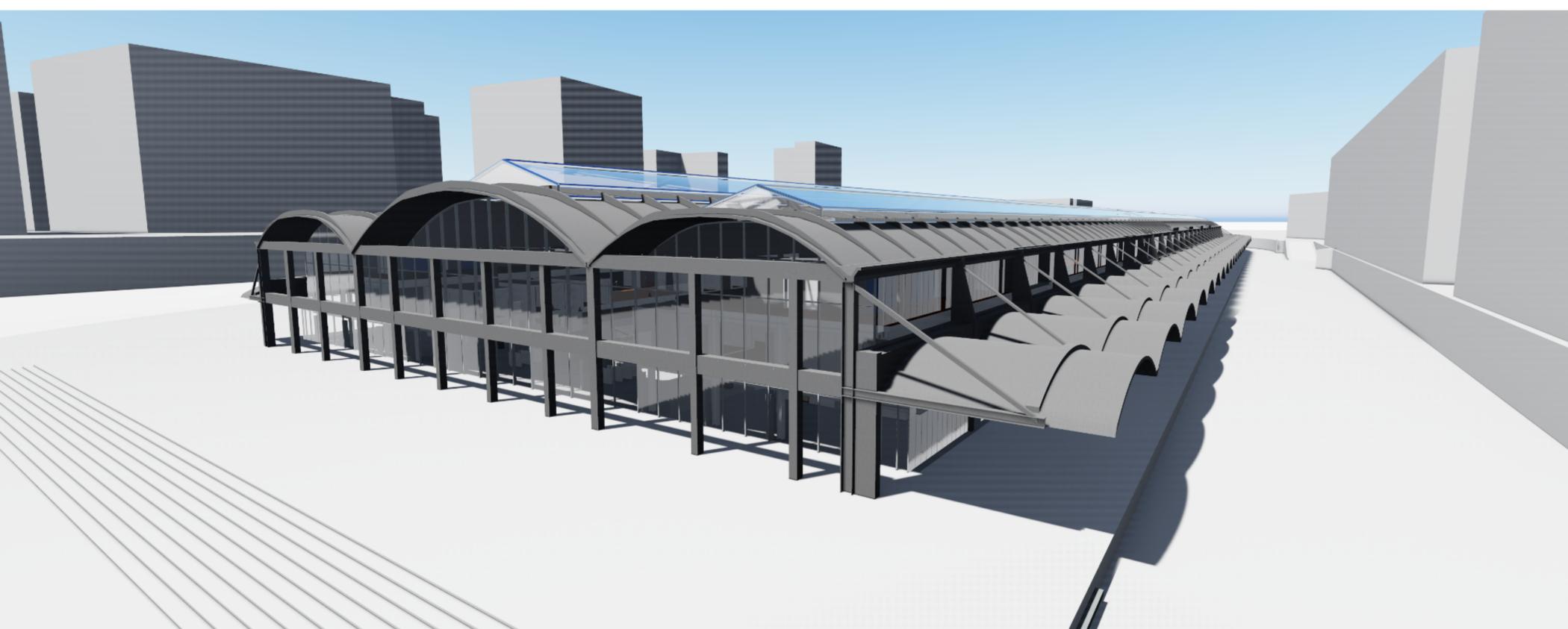
Event  
spaces

**370**

Auditorium  
capacity

**250**

Million euros invested



# STATION F's story

## October 2014

The construction site, managed by architecture agency Wilmotte & Associés, opens in the presence of French President François Hollande, Paris Mayor Anne Hidalgo, 13th arrondissement Mayor Jerome Coumet, and many entrepreneurs.



## May 2016

Appointed director Roxanne Varza gathers a team of nine people to conceive and manage the project.



## December 5th, 2016

Startups applications open. The first campus members are announced, including Facebook, Techshop, Daphni, vente-privee, and more.



## 2013

Xavier Niel acquires the historical building Halle Freyssinet with the idea to launch the world's biggest startup space in mind.



## October 2015

Roxanne Varza is appointed Director of the project. She was formerly manager of Microsoft Ventures, journalist at TechCrunch France, and launched StartHer and Tech.eu.



## June 2016

Halle Freyssinet / 1000 startups changes its name to STATION F - a name that appeals to the worldwide startup community.



## April 2016

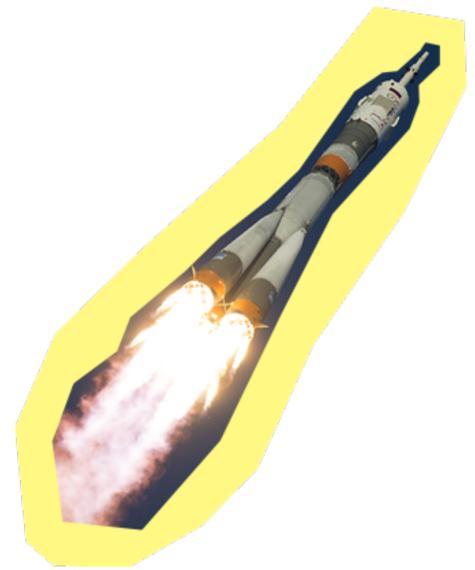
The campus opens.

# STATION FREYSSINET: a historical monument with a unique history and architecture

The Halle Freyssinet was designed between 1927 and 1929 by the engineer Eugène Freyssinet and is an outstanding building made of pre-stressed concrete. The load-bearing structure is exceptionally light thanks to an innovative technique used to apply the concrete. As a result of this original feature the Halle Freyssinet was listed as a Historical Monument in 2012.

The building was initially used as a transshipment hub for trains and trucks and was connected to the railway network of Austerlitz station in Paris. Today, it sits in the Paris Rive Gauche urban renewal area, just by the French national library in the 13th arrondissement of Paris.

Measuring 310 meters long and 58 meters wide, the Halle Freyssinet is primarily composed of three parallel naves, featuring slender pre-stressed concrete arches that in places are thinner than 5cm along the roofline. It also has overhangs suspended over the sides of the building, which act as a counterweight and contribute to the overall structural finesse. This optimizes the concrete frame and gives the building its strong, powerful lines.



## Construction stakeholders:

Client SDECN (Xavier Niel)  
Assistant to the Contracting Authority: REDMAN  
Project management team Planning authority: SEMAPA  
Architect: Wilmotte & Associés  
Architect of Historic Buildings: 2B2M  
Structural Engineering: AS MIZRAHI

Façade Engineering: ARCORA  
Sustainability Engineering: TRANSSOLAR  
Fluids Engineering: BARBANEL  
Acoustic Engineering: LASA  
Facade Engineering : ARCORA  
Construction Management (OPC): CICAD  
Quantity Surveyor: Gleeds

## STATION F team



### **Director - Roxanne Varza**

Comes from Palo Alto and Iran, lived in the U.K. Co-founder of StartHer and Tech.eu. Previously at TechCrunch France and Microsoft Ventures. Waiting for Snoop Dogg to invest in STATION F.  
@RoxanneVarza

### **Communications - Rachel Vanier**

Born Hungarian and French, lived in Boston, San Francisco and Cambodia. Published author. Previously at eFounders and RudeBaguette. Loves dinosaurs.  
@VanierRachel

### **Startup Relations - Marwan Elfitesse**

Born in Paris' suburbs from Moroccan origins, lived in Silicon Valley. Previously at Microsoft France and Nimbula (startup acquired by Oracle). Collects Ghibli artefacts.  
@Marwan\_Elfi

### **Partnerships - Cedric Gaudard**

Born in Paris, lived in the U.S. Previously at Abercrombie and 3-time startup co-founder. DJ and vinyls collector.

### **Finance & Operations - Mouna Guennouni**

Comes from Morocco, moved to France at age 21. Previously at Mazars. Went backpacking for one year through Australia, New Zealand and South America. Salsa dancer.

### **Events - Marie Millet**

Born in France from American origins, lived in the U.K, Spain, Poland, Mexico, Canada and Hong Kong. Previously at Dior and Founders Forum. Candy addict.  
@MarieMillet64

### **Logistics & Design - Brice Bourgeois**

Grew up in France and lived in Tokyo and London. Previously at LeWeb. Studies Clinical Psychology. Burning Man attendee since 2009.

### **Workplace Services - Faouzi Bennour**

Born & raised in Clichy. Previously at Salesforce and NUMA. Music producer, hip-hop lover, and t-shirt designer.

### **HR & Cultural Projects - Valentine Lin-Saingré**

Born in the West Indies with Lebanese origins, moved to Paris at age 17. Previously at Polka Galerie and Magnum Photos. Drives a Vespa.  
@VLinSaingre



## Our campus partners



[vente-privee.com](http://vente-privee.com)

True e-success story, flagship of the French e-commerce, vente-privee is the creator of the online flash sales concept and the sector's world leader. Historically created to clear stock, the business model evolved digitally into the flash sale concept that combines an event to an exclusivity. This revolutionized consumption patterns by making accessible to the greatest number of people exclusively premium brands. vente-privee is present in 14 countries with 50 million members worldwide and 6000 partner brands.

To pursue its mission initiated 15 years ago by Jacques Antoine Granjon and his associates, reinventing the codes of retail in its sector, and the heart of its identity, fashion, vente-privee is now endowed with a Fashion / Tech / Retail accelerator within Station F. vente-privee's ambition is to help the best French and European start-ups who are building tomorrow's fashion tools, its online and offline consumption, by developing its functionalities, technologies or services.

*"In the digital age where competition is no longer between "big and small" players but between "slow and fast", we accelerate our strategy of open innovation by joining forces with STATION F. The Digital revolution is a breeding ground for exciting projects and we are committed to supporting and accompanying young entrepreneurs in this adventure with vente-privee as an experimental platform."*  
Jacques-Antoine GRANJON, CEO and founder of vente-privee



[daphni.com](http://daphni.com)

daphni is a venture capital fund investing in user-oriented, early stage startups with the European DNA and strong international ambition. We are supported by daphnipolis, a closely knit community of 200+ innovators, entrepreneurs, executives, academics, artists and advisors, and a digital platform to ensure both efficiency and full transparency.

Daphni believes that a vibrant community is working when you mix players from different backgrounds that share the same values and have a collective play. They will have investors from their team available to discover startups, give them feedbacks on their strategy and meet founders raising funds.

*"Station F will be the next place to work and hang around for the tech ecosystem in Europe. We share their values and vision of this wonderful project: building a world-class community of entrepreneurs and putting Europe in the center of the tech world."* Pierre-Eric LEIBOVICI, co-founder

## Our campus partners



[techshoplm.fr](http://techshoplm.fr)

Techshop Ateliers Leroy Merlin is offering its community members training and access to machines up until now reserved for professionals. It's in these collaborative production workshops that makers, students, DIY enthusiasts and entrepreneurs come together to share their passion for designing and creating. It counts 2 000m<sup>2</sup> of premises, 150 machines, and 70 training courses.

To enable startups, entrepreneurs and innovation professionals to prototype their projects, Techshop Ateliers Leroy Merlin has created TechShop - Station F. A workshop capsule, located in Ivry-sur-Seine, TechShop - Station F is a 650m<sup>2</sup> facility that operates in two main areas: one dedicated to co-working and community events, the other to manufacturing, with more than 20 industrial and semi-industrial machines that can be used by members.

*"Techshop Ateliers Leroy Merlin enjoys a unique concept, the only one of its kind worldwide, designed to enable some 1,000 Station F startups to prototype their ideas, their products, their services and their applications extremely quickly. It's an incredible convergence opportunity that stands to benefit both entrepreneurs and innovation."* Pascal Malfoy, Deputy Director



[ventechvc.com](http://ventechvc.com)

Ventech is a leading venture capital firm both in Europe and China, with local teams based out of Paris, Munich, Helsinki and Shanghai. It invests in high-growth IT companies such as Withings (France, recently acquired by Nokia), Jumei (China, NASDAQ IPO), StickyADS.tv (France, recently acquired by Comcast), Believe Digital (France), Freespee (Sweden), Picanova (Germany) or Vestiaire Collective (France).

Within 18 years, Ventech raised 7 funds, invested more than €500m in 150 companies, completed €7Bn of value creation, and took part in 14 IPOs.

For almost 20 years, Ventech has invested in tech companies in France and abroad, through its local teams based out of Munich, Helsinki and Shanghai. With Station F, Ventech will support their foreign portfolio companies to take advantage of the high quality of the French ecosystem. Conversely, they will contribute to Station F' international reach.

*"Station F chose us for our unique international reach. We wish that Ventech's foreign companies put Paris as a major pillar of their European rollout. We are very enthusiastic to join Station F and want to make Paris the #1 tech capital in Europe."* Audrey Soussan, Principal

## Our campus partners



[hec.fr](http://hec.fr)

The Incubator, part of the Entrepreneurship Center, is a multisector start-up support program based on 3 pillars: An “à la carte” program, a participative community and a knowledge factory. The program mobilizes the whole HEC ecosystem around entrepreneurs to accelerate their development. It was created in 2007, 250 startups were incubated, which amounts to 360 entrepreneurs, among which 74% are still in activity

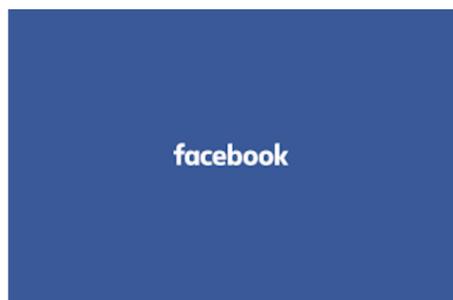
HEC Paris is joining Station F because they believe that the more the startup ecosystem will be joining forces, the more we will create value and impact for the world. Partners will leverage the full power of the HEC brand and international community to strengthen startups at Station F.



[kimaventures.com](http://kimaventures.com)

Kima Ventures is the VC arm of Xavier Niel, and one of the most active early-stage investors in the world. We invest in 100 early-stage startups every year from all over the world and of all sectors from Seed to Series A, with portfolio companies such as Transferwise, Docker, Aircall and Trainline (ex Captain Train).

Kima invests in 2 startups per week for \$150K each and has 450 startups in portfolio across 28 countries.



[facebook.com](http://facebook.com)

Facebook is defined by a hacker culture, an environment that rewards creative problem solving and rapid decision making. Through a presence at Station F, Facebook will continue to leverage its open culture across the entrepreneurial ecosystem in France with the goal of encouraging bold new ideas and creating new opportunities. More details about Facebook’s partnership with Station F are coming soon.

This journey is 1% finished

*“We're excited to be part of a truly unique space - the first of its kind in the world - for startups to collaborate, learn and build amazing new products and services. Partnering with Station F is the next step in expanding our developer outreach beyond programs like FbStart or F8.”* Julien DECOT, Director, Product Partnerships, EMEA