

Swisspod Was Selected Into Oxford's CDL Program For Impact-Driven Tech Startups Worldwide

The company is enrolled in the Climate Stream, alongside 19 other companies aiming to support sustainable development and generate a positive impact on the environment and climate change-related issues.

Swisspod, a Swiss-American company developing the technology for Hyperloop - a new, ultra-high-speed and sustainable mode of transportation, has been selected among the organizations participating in the 2022/23 Creative Destruction Lab (CDL) program organized by the University of Oxford's Saïd Business School.



Swisspod joins the CDL-Oxford program for impact-driven tech startups - link to download

<u>CDL-Oxford</u> is a highly-selective program supporting the growth of massively scalable, early-stage, science-based, and technology companies pursuing innovative solutions with societal impact. In its 4th edition, the program attracts each year hundreds of deep-tech startups from around the globe operating on 4 main streams: Artificial Intelligence, Health, Climate, and FinTech. In 2021 only, 480 companies

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submitted their application to join the program, of which 81 were successfully admitted and 32 also graduated.

CDL-Oxford's main goal is to accelerate the go-to-market strategy of the companies enrolled and maximize their prospects of success, by connecting the technical founders with a group of mentors consisting of renowned and highly experienced entrepreneurs, academic representatives, scientists, experts with a strong background in various industries, angel investors, and venture capital firms.

Swisspod has been selected among the 20 startups that will join the CDL Climate Stream, aimed at organizations infusing deep-tech innovations and cutting-edge R&D into robust solutions for tackling the climate change and environmental crisis affecting our world. The company earned its spot in the program through the pioneering work it has accomplished in developing Hyperloop, a more sustainable, energy-efficient, and affordable mode of transportation for both people and freight, addressing the global demand for high-speed travel with a small environmental footprint.

"We are excited to have been selected in this year's CDL-Oxford acceleration program; Swisspod is joining a global network of innovators, forward-thinkers, and change-makers united by the ambition of shaping a better future. It is an amazing opportunity for us to explore new perspectives and shape our strategy with experts in the fields of Environment, Energy, Engineering, and Manufacturing. Swisspod's participation in CDL-Oxford is a recognition of the progress that has been made so far, the technological innovations that have been developed, as well as the substantial impact Swisspod's solution will have on the transportation industry, the environment, and the society", said Maria Nikolou, Swisspod's Head of Business Development, who has also coordinated the company's efforts in successfully applying to the program.

CDL-Oxford for the Climate Stream will start on November 18, 2022. Over a 9-month period, the companies enrolled will participate in 4 sessions in which they will benefit from 1:1 mentorship, guidance, and support in setting and attaining measurable objectives for growing and increasing the scalability of their business, raising capital, and commercializing their solutions. After each session, there will be an evaluation of the progress made by each organization, and only the ones with a track record of achieving their objectives will enter the next stage of the program.

About Swisspod

Swisspod is a Swiss-American transportation technology company leading the development of the most sustainable, efficient, and comprehensive Hyperloop solution. The company was founded in 2019 by Denis Tudor, CEO, and Cyril Dénéréaz, CTO, two multiple-award winners of the SpaceX Hyperloop Competition.

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Swisspod aims to change the way people travel by connecting every major city using sustainable, carbon-neutral, energy-efficient, and high-speed transportation solutions. The company envisions a continental map of connections between major cities that will facilitate collaboration, accelerate human progress, and create a more prosperous future for the generations to come.

For more information, visit <u>www.swisspod.ch</u> and follow Swisspod on <u>LinkedIn</u>, <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Instagram</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, <u>YouTube</u>, and <u>TikTok</u> for ongoing updates.

About Creative Destruction Lab

<u>Creative Destruction Lab</u> (CDL) is a nonprofit organization that delivers an objectives-based program for massively scalable, seed-stage, science- and technology-based companies. Its nine-month program allows founders to learn from experienced entrepreneurs, increasing their likelihood of success.

Founded in 2012 by Professor Ajay Agrawal at the University of Toronto's Rotman School of Management, the program has expanded to eleven sites across five countries: Oxford (Saïd Business School, University of Oxford), Paris (HEC Paris), Atlanta (Scheller College of Business, Georgia Institute of Technology), Madison (Wisconsin School of Business, University of Wisconsin-Madison), Seattle (University of Washington, Foster School of Business), Estonia (Delta Management School, University of Tartu). Vancouver (Sauder School of Business, University of British Columbia), Montreal (HEC Montréal), Calgary (Haskayne School of Business, University of Calgary), and Halifax (Rowe School of Business, Dalhousie University).

Since its inception, companies that have participated in the CDL program have created more than \$20 billion (CAD) in equity value. CDL alumni include Ada (Toronto), Atomwise (San Francisco), Kyndi (Palo Alto), Xanadu (Toronto), Maple (Melbourne), BenchSci (Toronto), Kheiron (London), and Roadbotics (Pittsburgh).



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