

## MilliDrop raises €1 million from Seventure Partners' Quadrivium 1 seed fund

*The company will develop the MilliDrop Analyzer, the first machine based on millifluidics technology for culturing and analysing micro-organisms.*

**Paris, 12 February 2016 - MilliDrop, which designs and develops cell culture machines based on millifluidics technology for bacteriological research and diagnosis purposes, is today announcing a €1 million fund-raising from Seventure Partners's Quadrivium 1 seed fund.**

The company will use the money to start producing trial runs of its first machine, the *MilliDrop Analyzer*. This machine uses millifluidics technology to culture and analyse micro-organisms such as bacteria, fungi, algae and yeasts. Particularly promising, millifluidics technology is based on the miniaturisation of cell culture. It allows the high-throughput incubation, analysis and manipulation of samples ranging from around 100 nanolitres down to a few picolitres in volume, with no deterioration in performance.

Laurent Boitard, founder and chairman of MilliDrop, said *"the sample's culture medium is no longer a Petri dish or an incubator, **but a drop, and this is a major technological breakthrough**. The system monitors several thousand reactions in parallel in millimetric droplets, with no evaporation or contamination between cultures. Reducing the sample size increases productivity a thousand-fold. For example, bacteria are omnipresent in our environment because of their great ability to adapt, and if we want to destroy or use them, we need to understand their adaptability. MilliDrop Analyzer allows us to study their phenotypic diversity, i.e. their different observable characteristics, in thousands of populations cultivated in parallel. Phenotypes of interest can be isolated and recovered in an automated manner."*

Philippe Tramoy, partner at the Quadrivium 1 seed fund, added *"MilliDrop's technology will give public- and private-sector research laboratories access to high-throughput screening machines that are unique in the market. It addresses the increasing need for analysing micro-organisms, from a single cell to a colony, with compact, easy-to-use and highly reliable instruments."*

MilliDrop is also working on a new generation of in-vitro diagnostics instruments called *MilliDrop DIV*, which will enable users to identify infectious agents and the antibiotic doses required to eradicate them, in order to reduce therapeutic failures associated with choosing the wrong antibiotic or an excessive dose.

**About MilliDrop:** [www.millidrop.com](http://www.millidrop.com)

MilliDrop was spun out of ESPCI Paris Tech in 2015 and is part of the incubator at the Institut Pierre-Gilles de Gennes, a microfluidics research centre that is the only one of its kind in the world. The company develops and markets *in vitro* diagnostics machines that allow the incubation, analysis and manipulation of samples ranging from around 100 nanolitres down to a few picolitres in volume. Its proprietary technology is protected by five patents.

**About Seventure Partners – [www.seventure.fr](http://www.seventure.fr)**

Seventure Partners is an active partner of innovative companies with strong growth potential, and since 1997 has been investing in two main areas of activity: digital technologies in France and Germany, and life sciences throughout Europe. With €600 million under management at 31 December 2015, Seventure Partners is one of Europe's leading players in venture capital. Seventure supports the development of companies from the initial funding or seed capital stage through to technological development capital rounds raising between €500,000 and €10 million per round, up to a total of €20 million per company. Seventure Partners is a subsidiary of Natixis Global Asset Management. Natixis is the international corporate, investment management and financial services arm of Groupe BPCE.

**About the Quadrivium 1 seed fund**

The Quadrivium 1 seed fund is a venture capital fund managed by Seventure Partners. The fund provides seed capital to French companies, as part of the FNA fund's future investment programme, in the fields of life science and digital technologies. Its investee companies have been spun out from or have links with an academic consortium based around UPMC, Université Paris II, Université Paris IV, Museum National d'Histoire Naturelle, IRCAM, ENSCI, Université Technologique de Compiègne, CNRS, Institut Curie, Fondation Pierre Gilles de Gennes, Fondation Voir et Entendre and Paris Sciences et Lettres (PSL).

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**Seventure Partners' Quadrivium 1 seed fund**

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