



Press release

Tezos Board further expanded

Zug, 27 February 2018 – The Tezos Foundation has unanimously appointed Olaf Carlson-Wee, Pascal Cléré, Marylène Micheloud and Hubertus Thonhauser to the Board. The new members are accomplished professionals, who will provide the Foundation with further expertise to advance its mission.

After the recent reorganization of the Board, the Foundation has further expanded the number of Board members. Olaf Carlson-Wee, Pascal Cléré, Marylène Micheloud and Hubertus Thonhauser are experts in their respective fields. These four new members will join Ryan Jespersen (President), Michel Mauny and Lars Haussmann.

Ryan Jespersen, elected as president of the Tezos Foundation on 22 February 2018, is pleased about the expansion of the Board: «The four new Board members bring a tremendous amount of experience and know-how into the Foundation, both in terms of technology and leadership. I am looking forward to working closely with them to assist in the timely launch of the Tezos network».

Olaf Carlson-Wee is the founder of Polychain, the largest crypto-focused investment manager in the world. He is the former Head of Risk and first employee at Coinbase, the largest digital asset exchange in the U.S., where he built a 40-person operations team, conducted agent training on blockchain analysis for the FBI, HSI, and the Treasury Department, and designed fraud prevention and security mechanisms protecting billions of dollars in transactional value occurring in over 30 countries. He received a BA from Vassar College after completing his thesis on distributed networking and financial cryptography.

Pascal Cléré (PhD in Mathematics) is Senior Vice-President of Alstom Digital Mobility, a new global organization that regroups all businesses in Digital Mobility. In October 2012, he was also nominated President of IRT SystemX (Institute of Technological Research) including industrial partners and academics such as Inria. Key Research areas are AI, IoT, Blockchain, simulation, autonomous vehicle. Prior to joining Alstom Transport, Pascal worked for Thales (an electronic systems company) from 2007 to 2010 as Vice President of the Security Solutions and Services Division.

Marylène Micheloud is the first Swiss woman to receive a Master's degree in Computer Science (Geneva University, 1977). After years of activities in research and teaching, her last full-time position was as the director of RERO, the Library Network of Western Switzerland (grouping 4 universities and 6 Swiss cantons). After her retirement in 2014, she has served as the Vice-President of a family fuel retailer business for 3 years. Since December 1, 2017 she is the Co-President of the Valais Academic Association.

Hubertus Thonhauser is Managing Partner of Enabling Future, an early-stage venture capital firm in Dubai. The firm is backed by the two Managing partners' private funds and has a portfolio of 20 companies covering US, MENA and Europe. Enabling Future is the only VC in the United Arab Emirates actively investing in blockchain technologies and the Cryptocurrency sector. Hubertus is an early investor in Swiss crypto-hedge fund manager Base58 Capital and has early backed crypto-fintech company Change Bank as well as decentralized protocols like Tezos and NEO. Hubertus Thonhauser served for 9 years as board member of the Swiss casino association and is very familiar with the Swiss legal and regulatory framework.

About the Tezos Foundation

The Tezos Foundation's primary focus is the promotion and development of the Tezos protocol and related technologies, as well as the promotion and support of applications using the Tezos protocol. It also promotes and develops new technologies and applications in the areas of open and decentralized software architectures.