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**[data+service] Newsletter 05/2018**

1 message

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**Swiss Alliance for Data-Intensive Services** <newsletter-editors@data-service-alliance.ch>

8 May 2018 at 14:15

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Swiss Alliance for  
Data-Intensive Services**Newsletter #7****08.05.2018**

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Welcome to this month's Newsletter!

Our alliance is all about **boosting innovation**. This is why the board decided to put forward three new initiatives for its members: "**From ideas to projects**" to support you in transforming vague ideas into concrete actions, a **Match-Making-Event** to bring together academic and industrial expertise as well as a **Startup Grant** to support small companies. Read about it in detail in the [first article below](#).

Also, Euro-CASE [announces it's annual conference](#) (with sponsoring possibilities), a call by Innosuisse for joint [Korean-Swiss projects](#) and a warm welcome to our [new members](#).

Don't forget: only **4 weeks to our SDS conference**: [register now](#) if you haven't done already!

And in case you missed it last time: we have a new website! Check it out [here](#) and let us know what you think. Especially the [blog](#) is now regularly updated with further interesting content.

Questions, remarks or contributions for the newsletter? Reach out to [the editors](#).

Happy reading!  
The Editors

*Make sure to scroll all the way down -- don't-miss-it-goodie at the end!*

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## Upcoming Events

- [24.05.2018](#) - [DE] **Trust Square meets Swiss Data Alliance:** Datenportabilität - Optionen für die Schweiz. Mehr Information [hier](#).
  - [06.06.2018](#) Data+Service Alliance **General Assembly**. More information [here](#).
  - [06.06.2018](#) **Deep-Learning Workshop** in Bern. Register [here](#).
  - [07.06.2018](#) **5th Swiss Conference on Data Science** in Bern. Register [here](#).
  - [12./13.06.2018](#) **3rd Swiss Text Analytics Conference**. Register [here](#).
  - [14.06.2018](#) **Innovation & Cyber Security** - Inputs and Support of the Swiss and Israeli Innovation Authorities. Register [here](#).
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## Boosting Innovation - new initiatives

by Christoph Heitz & Gundula Heintz Bürki

The main goal of the Swiss Alliance of Data-Intensive Services is pushing forward innovation for data-based value creation in Switzerland, in particular innovation created by the members of our Alliance.

For increasing the innovation speed and creating even more innovation projects, the board has decided recently to launch three new innovation initiatives. They are shortly explained in the following. If you want to learn more about it, please contact the office ([info.office@data-service-alliance.ch](mailto:info.office@data-service-alliance.ch)).

## **1. Innovation Initiative “From ideas to projects”**

The Innovation Initiative “From ideas to projects” is specifically shaped for Industrial members. The objective of this initiative is to support Industrial members developing vague ideas into a concrete project proposal, to define a roadmap, to set up a suitable project team by involving the different competencies within the Alliance, to go the first steps towards a solution, and to help getting funding. The initiative will support companies in the first steps of the innovation process.

The initiative is set up as a three-step process where each step may be supported by the Alliance with specific funding. Industrial members can apply for this support via the office.



### **A1: Explore**

Goal: The goal of the “Explore” step is to define a validated first idea for an innovation project, and to formulate a realistic project goal. In addition, funding opportunities (e.g. Innosuisse funding, or other funding programs) will be explored.

Content: This step typically consists of an one day workshop with an expert from outside the company. The expert will help to validate the idea and show ways to realize it. Questions could be: What is a realistic goal? What is needed to reach the goal?

Support for Alliance Industrial members:

- The office helps identifying an appropriate expert within Data+Service.
- The Alliance will fund this expert for his work.

- In many cases, the industrial member can apply for up to 15 kCHF from Innosuisse for digging into technological issues (Innocheck program). With this funding, the “Explore” step can be largely extended. The office will support for the application process.

## **A2: Deep Dive**

Goal: The goal of the “Deep Dive” step is to go a first step towards a solution and develop a first Proof-of-Concept. An additional result of this step is a preliminary project plan for a larger innovation project.

Content: This step consists of a one week Deep Dive with experts from outside the company (e.g. from a university institute). The main elements of the solution approach are explored and the general feasibility is checked. Furthermore, a goal of this step is to get a clear understanding which elements of the solution can be taken from the shelf, and which elements have to be newly developed - the result is a clear roadmap for reaching the final goal.

Funding: The Alliance will fund 5 working days of external experts. .

## **A3: GO**

Goal: The goal of the “GO” step is to get funding via [Innosuisse](#) or [EURResearch](#) and start a project within the next 6 months, depending upon the application process.

Support: The office will support a call for participation to find appropriate project partners, which may be other Industrial members or researchers from the Academic members.

The board has defined a restricted budget for funding these steps. We encourage all of our Industrial members to profit from this offer. Please contact Gundula Heinatz Bürki ([gundula.heinatz@data-service-alliance.ch](mailto:gundula.heinatz@data-service-alliance.ch)) directly for the next steps.

## **2. Match-Making Event: Academia & Industry**

The Match-Making Event is shaped for all Alliance members. The objective

is to bring together different ideas from Academic and Industrial members, sharpen them in a joint discussion, and find best fits among industrial and academic experts for pushing them forward and create tangible innovation.

The event is set up in the form of a workshop. Every participant will share innovation idea for which he searches partners within Data+Service. Academic members can present ideas based on their research results, for finding appropriate application partners for a research project, or for getting useful data from industry to support the research.

For Industrial members, the event is an opportunity to discuss ideas, get feedback or inspiration for solution approaches, and of course to find appropriate project partners among the researchers or experts from other companies.

The first such event will be organized in autumn 2018. Stay tuned and don't miss the call for participation.

### **3. Startup Grant 2018/2019**

We will launch a specific support program for startups for allowing small companies with restricted financial means to become member of Data+Service and enrich the community with their creative potential. The main idea is that startups may receive a free membership for 2 years if they engage in an innovation project with another member of the Alliance. So, if a startup is active in creating innovation within the context of the Alliance, they are doing exactly what the Alliance is made for, and they are made a member of our innovation community even if they cannot afford a regular membership.

The Startup Grant has been approved by the board of Data+Service for the next two years, and each year five startups will be supported with this grant. These startups can profit from the knowledge and expertise of the other members of the Alliance, while bringing in their own expertise at the same time.

Startups may apply via the office ([info.office@data-service-alliance.ch](mailto:info.office@data-service-alliance.ch)). The office will search the appropriate project partner via call for participation within the Alliance. Additionally, the office will support in getting funded via [Innosuisse](#) or [EURResearch](#) or through direct financing. As soon as the

project is started, the startup will become Silver member, while the membership fee is covered by the Alliance for maximum 2 years.

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## Euro-CASE 2018 conference: Artificial Intelligence

by Manuel Kugler

Every year the [European Council of Academies of Applied Sciences, Technologies and Engineering Euro-CASE](#) is holding an annual conference to bring together academics as well as business and political decision makers. This is a **high-profile annual conference** with top keynote speakers from **science, business and politics**.

On **24th September 2018**, the [Swiss Academy of Engineering Sciences SATW](#) will organise **Euro-CASE 2018 conference on Artificial Intelligence** to take place at the Swiss Re Center for Global Dialogue in Rüslikon (Zurich). The Swiss Alliance for Data-Intensive Services supports the conference as a knowledge partner.

If you're interested in becoming a partner, we are happy to offer several [sponsoring-packages](#). If you want to find out how AI will shape our future, you should save the date in your calendar. More details will be announced shortly.

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## KIAT Innosuisse Call

This is on behalf of KTT Innosuisse which will start this year a **bilateral call** between the **Korea Institute for Advancement of Technology** (KIAT) and the **Swiss Innovation Agency** (Innosuisse) for joint science-based innovation projects between **research and economic partners from South Korea and Switzerland**. The call is open for all topics. However, projects in following topics are particularly appreciated:

- Biotech and Medtech
- Renewable Energy
- Mobility
- Digitalisation, Industry 4.0 and InternetOfThings

- Additive Manufacturing
- Smart Materials and Innovative surfaces
- Augmented Reality and Virtual Reality

More information can be found [here](#).

For any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Alain Dietrich of Innosuisse ([alain.dietrich@innosuisse.ch](mailto:alain.dietrich@innosuisse.ch)).

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## Welcome new members!

We cordially welcome three new members that joined our Alliance in the last month:

### SAP

Represented by **Michael Probst**, we welcome SAP as Gold Industrial Member. SAP is the market leader in enterprise application software and helps companies of all sizes and industries run better. From back office to boardroom, warehouse to storefront, desktop to mobile device – SAP empowers people and organizations to work together more efficiently and use business insight more effectively to stay ahead of the competition.

By joining the Alliance, they believe to interact with the most relevant ecosystem in Switzerland. They bring in know-how and expertise and are open to help interested members to set up innovation project with their solution. Expert Group meetings are also welcome and could be hosted by SAP in Regensdorf.

### University Zürich, Digital Society Initiative

Represented by PD Dr. Markus Christen, we welcome the Digital Society Initiative of University Zurich as Academic Member. The Digital Society Initiative (DSI) covers the whole spectrum of data research, from conceptual and technical to social science based approaches. Currently they are preparing a public “Yellow Pages” database, where interested persons of the Alliance can search for expertise and competences in the several domains, as disciplines that use digital technology, computation, data handling and analytics, digital tools, language and media, qualitative research, regulation and evaluation,

research methodology and society. They take over the Academic Lead for Expert Group “Data & Ethics” and will develop this group further. They provide data ethics seminars for the Alliance members.

## **ZHAW, Department for Banking, Finance and Insurance**

Represented by Dr. Anita Sigg, we welcome the ZHAW Department for Banking, Finance and Insurance as Academic Member. The staff at the Department Banking, Finance and Insurance of ZHAW focuses on analytics for financial markets and corporate finance, applied statistics and econometrics, behavioral decision making, service design, business models and processes, risk and insurance. They bring a broad know-how and experience in the Alliance. They are eager to engage in innovation projects with fellow members.

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## **Upcoming Expert Group Meetings**

24.05.2018 - Data Ethics expert group meeting

16:00 to 18:00

Location: ZKB, [Neue Hard 9, 8005 Zürich](#)

25.05.2018 - Software & Tools expert group meeting

14:00 to 17:00

Location: SIX Group, [Pfingstweidstrasse 110, 8005 Zürich](#)

26.05.2018 - Blockchain in Supply Chain Management Expert Group meeting

15:00 to 17:30

Location: ZHAW, [Lagerstrasse 41, 8021 Zürich](#)

27.06.2018 - Service Lunch “Digital Twin - Challenges & Concepts ” by Dr. Christopher Ganz (ABB)

11:45 to 13:15

Location: ZHAW, [Lagerstrasse 41, 8021 Zürich](#), Room ZL 03.08

27.06.2018 - Spatial Data Analytics Expert Group “Kick-off” meeting

15:00 to 17:30

Location: Hochschule Rapperswil (HSR), HSR Bistro [Building 8, Oberseestrasse 10, 8640 Rapperswil](#), <https://osm.org/go/0C0kYzahG?m>

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## Data Science Read of the Month

Das Beste zum Schluss

You can love 'em or hate 'em, but Zuck's company does hell a lot of good AI / ML research. And just last week they open-sourced even more of their AI tech.

♥ [Facebook's AI Tool Library](#) ♥

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