**B-HIVE – QUOTES FROM INVESTORS**

* B-Hive – Wim De Waele, CEO: “*Economic growth and innovation in the network economy is strongly dependent on collaboration and exchange of knowledge. With the B-Hive initiative we are connecting the different local and global actors that can contribute to that growth. I am pleased we are getting such a broad support for this vision and I am convinced it will make a difference for our region as a digital financial centre.”*
* Cabinet of Finance Belgium – Mr. Johan Van Overtveldt, Minister of Finance: *“I am very pleased with the creation of B-hive, a collaborative innovation platform where finance meets technology. The new platform is the result of a recommendation made by a High-Level Expert Group on the future of finance in Belgium, which I put in place in 2015, and was worked out by a task force last year, led by Johan Thijs, CEO of KBC Bank and Insurance Group.”*

*“B-Hive will put Brussels on the map as the gateway to Europe for international FinTech & SmartTech companies, taking advantage of its central position close to the decision-making centres of Europe and the presence of major financial infrastructure players & talent. The platform will build bridges to other FinTech hubs, such as London and New York, and focus on cybersecurity and identity management, market infrastructures and back-end automation.”*

*“B-Hive will also facilitate the scaling up of promising start-ups in Belgium, turning them into internationally active, high growth companies and creating new jobs locally.*

*“The platform will contribute to the transformation of the financial sector in Belgium, making it more resilient by helping it to embrace new technologies”.*

* SWIFT – Fabian Vandenreydt, Chairman of the Board B-Hive/ [Global Head of Securities Markets, Innotribe & The SWIFT Institute](https://www.linkedin.com/title/global-head-of-securities-markets%2C-innotribe-%26-the-swift-institute?trk=mprofile_title" \o "Learn more about this title): “*Personally, I am very honoured to have been appointed as Chairman of the B-Hive Board. We have a lot of exciting initiatives on our plate. I look forward to working with the institutions and individuals part of the B-Hive ecosystem in Belgium and abroad*.”
* *MasterCard - Valerie Nowak, Belux Country Manager: “We are happy to help improve the Belgian financial services infrastructures by bringing all great products and solutions our Digital & Labs team has developed over the past 50 years. As FinTech innovations continue transforming our lives, this is a great opportunity to develop joint programmes to further connect consumers to the digital future”.*
* The Bank of New York Mellon (BNY’s European Bank in Brussels) – Laura Ahto, CEO: *“As a global investments company with expertise throughout the investment lifecycle, our company is acutely focused on investing in and reimagining the future of finance; not just for our clients, but for Europe’s 500 million citizens who each rely on financial services for their daily banking and long term investment needs.  We are excited about our B-Hive innovation partnership in Brussels as it enables us to explore, test and learn across a number of innovation themes such as blockchain, data analytics, customer experience and regtech. We share a common goal with our B-Hive ecosystem partners to research and design global industry-wide scalable solutions together.”*
* Euroclear - Jo Van de Velde, Managing Director and Head of Product Management : "*B-Hive has become a truly collaborative environment, fostering creativity in Belgium and beyond. Euroclear is proud to be part of this ecosystem that puts Belgium on the map as a Fintech hub and a home for new ideas. As a market infrastructure, we work with third-party innovators in ways that reward their innovation while simultaneously giving us both agility and flexibility to deliver client value in new ways.”*