



Press release
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Geneva, 4 December 2018

Geneva Annual Blockchain Congress: high-calibre speakers for a promising first edition on 21 January 2019 at Palexpo

Don Tapscott, *Co-Founder and Chairman of the Blockchain Research Institute (CA)*, **Patrick Odier**, *Associate of Banque Lombard Odier (CH)*, **Daniel Haudenschild**, *CEO of Swisscom Blockchain (CH)*, **Jarod Koopman**, *Director of Cybercrime, Internal Revenue Services, Criminal Investigation (USA)* and **Carlos Moreira**, *CEO WISeKey (CH)*, all accepted the invitation to participate in the 1st **Geneva Annual Blockchain Congress** at Palexpo SA on 21 January 2019. These five personalities will present their visions of the Blockchain revolution alongside the 30 other speakers already billed. Their mission: to present concrete blockchain solutions as they apply to four fields of activity: identity and e-government; education; FinTechs; raw material sourcing and the supply chain.

Don Tapscott, the world's most influential digital thinker

Co-Founder and Chairman of the [Blockchain Research Institute](#) (BRI), Don Tapscott is one of the foremost experts in the field of new technologies and their impact on business and society. Author of 16 books, including *Wikinomics: How Mass Collaboration Changes Everything* (translated into over 25 languages) and *Blockchain Revolution* (the global best seller on blockchain into over 15 languages), he was one of the first intellectuals to focus on blockchain technology and cryptocurrencies. Since he sees Blockchain as not just a new technology, but rather a true revolution, he joined his son Alex Tapscott in co-founding the BRI, an independent organisation including international experts of which the objective is to provide concrete solutions to both the private and public sectors. He is the guest of WISeKey.

Patrick Odier, a major Swiss figure of finance and philanthropy

Chairman of the executive board since 1 January 2014, Patrick Odier has been the senior managing partner of Groupe Lombard Odier since 1 July 2008. He joined the group in 1982 and finished his training in Zurich, New York City and Montreal before becoming a managing partner in 1986. He holds an economic

degree from the University of Geneva and an MBA in finance from the University of Chicago.

Patrick Odier was chairman of the Swiss Bankers Association from 2009 to 2016. He is a member of the executive board and the board of directors of economiesuisse (a federation of Swiss companies). He is also a member of the executive board of several Swiss and international academic institutions and philanthropic organisations.

Daniel Haudenschild, key expert in FinTechs

Daniel Haudenschild is the CEO of Swisscom Blockchain AG. With more than 20 years of experience as a consultant for the “Big Four” in his role as consulting partner at the financial department of Ernst & Young, Daniel Haudenschild is a key expert in technological transformation, FinTech strategy and digital solution development.

Jarod Koopman, head of cybercriminality at the bureau of Criminal Investigation of the Internal Revenue Services, a federal governmental agency of the United States

Bearing an accounting degree with a major in finance, economy and information systems, Jarod Koopman began his career as a special surveillance agent, and has worked on a number of penal cases. He was quickly recognised and sought out for his skills and knowledge, particularly in matters of financial criminality, money laundering, tax evasion and terrorist financing. He leads criminal investigations in such a way as to reinforce trust in the fiscal system and to dissuade infractions to fiscal law. Today he is in charge of the IRS-CI (Internal Revenue Service Criminal Investigation) for which he has created a new inquiry department.

Carlos Moreira, national and international cybersecurity specialist

Co-founder and CEO of W/SeKey, Carlos Moreira is one of the pioneers of the international digital scene. His 17 years of cybersecurity work for the United Nations and his extensive experience in the diplomatic community have enabled him to become a cybersecurity expert. Driven by the conviction that the Internet should remain a universal network and yet a secure one, he examines the technologies that can provide this security. His work also extends to philanthropic projects.

[Programme and ticket sales available on the website.](#)

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