

# Bionomous New Board Organization and Onboarding of the New Chief Business Officer

Villaz-St-Pierre, April 8th, 2025

Bionomous, the Swiss-based startup that builds devices to automate processes in Life Science Research, announces today strategic changes to its Board of Directors and executive team, effective March 27th, 2025. These appointments come at a pivotal time as the company accelerates its commercial expansion, and advances development of its technology platform.

#### **New Board Organization**

Bionomous expresses its sincere gratitude to Nader Donzel, who leaves its Board position, for his invaluable service and contributions during his tenure. Under his leadership, the company has achieved significant milestones, including the launch of the EggSorter and significant amount of funds raised.

To fulfil this crucial position, the Board sought an experienced candidate within the Life Science industry. Therefore, it has been decided that Christian Walter will take the place. Having already been actively involved in Bionomous' activities, his experience and strategic insights make him a perfect fit for the role.

Besides, Bionomous incorporates two new Board members. Bionomous welcomes Wolfgang Trautwein. His deep knowledge and extensive experience within the Laboratory Automation field will bring invaluable insights to strengthen Bionomous' strategy.

Bionomous also welcomes Ana Hernando Ariza, current co-founder of Bionomous, to facilitate communication and ensure well-informed strategic decision-making. Ana's deep knowledge of the company, customers, and markets, as well as her hands-on experience, will bring invaluable insights into Bionomous's growth.

The newly constituted Board of Directors will continue to guide Bionomous in its mission to to automate and accelerate life science research, ensuring long-term value for its stakeholders.

## Onboarding of the new Chief Business Officer

Bionomous is also pleased to announce the appointment of Raghu Behara as its new Chief Business Officer (CBO). In this role, he will be responsible for our commercial strategy and market expansion, particularly in the U.S. and Asia-Pacific regions as well as developing strategic partnerships. Raghu brings extensive experience in Life Science and Industrial



Manufacturing, having previously served as Head of Life Sciences North America at Festo, and has a proven track record in scaling for growth, business development and market expansion.

Frank Bonnet, CEO and co-founder of Bionomous, comments: "These strategic additions to our leadership team will be instrumental as we enter our next phase of growth. The combined expertise of our new board members and our new CBO will help us expand our market reach and develop solutions that address critical needs in life science research and beyond."

"I'm excited to join Bionomous at such a transformative time," said Raghu Behara. "The company has developed unique technology with applications across multiple markets. I look forward to working with the team to accelerate growth and bring these innovative solutions to more commercial and research laboratories worldwide."

### **About Bionomous**

Bionomous is a Swiss startup born at EPFL (Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne). It was founded in November 2019 with the aim of building devices to automate the visual inspection, sorting and dispensing of small biological entities. The company has developed the 'EggSorter' which is designed to handle zebrafish eggs and any small biological entities, and which is now already installed in laboratories in Switzerland, Europe and the United States.

#### **Nader Donzel**

Nader Donzel is a successful entrepreneur and a recognized expert in the field of medical devices and instruments for the life science and clinical research markets.

During his career as an entrepreneur, Nader gained substantial expertise in venture financing and private equity financing, working with investors having diverse backgrounds and needs, including venture capitalists, industrial partners, and family offices. After a successful exit for his first company, Nader spent several years in the US as a professional in R&D and marketing. After co-founding and leading a second venture which raised record funds, Nader is now consulting for SMEs seeking value creation, through breakthrough innovation, entry into new markets, or synergetic acquisitions & licensing.

Nader holds a Master in Engineering from the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (EPFL), and an MBA from Babson College



## **Christian Walter**

With a degree in Chemistry and in Business administration, Christian Walter can bridge the gap between science and business. His current roles as Managing Director of Toolpoint for Lab Science and his mandates as an executive consultant to lab science companies enable him to draw on an extensive network of experts and contacts should the need arise. Christian is a Swiss Citizen and lives with his bilingual family in the Zurich region of Switzerland.

With more than 30 years of experience in the life science tool industry, Christian Walter is well-positioned as a strategic advisor to the executive team. His previous roles have included general management positions in business unit management as well as responsibility for the entire, global commercial organization of a Swiss SME.

## **Wolfgang Trautwein**

Wolfgang Trautwein has over 40 years of extensive experience in the Life Science and Diagnostic Market. He spent 14 years in various roles, including Sales and Marketing, OEM business, and product and project development. Subsequently, he was appointed as General Manager for Germany and Vice President for Europe at Dynex Technologies Inc. In addition to his corporate career, he also ran his own business for four years.

With his expertise in Laboratory Automation and Life Science Applications, Wolfgang is well-equipped to provide strategic insights and drive growth for Bionomous.

## **Ana Hernando Ariza**

Ana Hernando Ariza is the Chief Operating Officer and co-founder of Bionomous, where she plays a key role in bridging the gap between the company's technology and customer needs. With a strong background in Biology and Biomedicine, she combines scientific expertise with strategic leadership to drive the company's growth and innovation.

### Raghu Behara

Raghu Behara brings over 20 years of executive leadership experience in life sciences and industrial automation to Bionomous. Most recently, he was the Head of the Life Sciences business in North America for Festo. He has a proven track record in strategy implementation, market expansion, and building high-performing teams across global markets. Raghu holds a Masters in Engineering from Utah State University and an MBA from Dartmouth college.

His expertise in strategic planning and execution will be instrumental in scaling Bionomous' commercial operations and accelerating growth in key markets.