Press release

Rhonexum receives CHF 150,000 from Venture Kick to make cryogenic microchips extremely easy

St.Gallen/Zurich/Lausanne, July 8, 2026 — The EPFL spin-off Rhonexum has obtained CHF 150,000 from Venture Kick to develop electronic systems that operate at ultra-low temperatures inside quantum computers. The technology aims to overcome a key bottleneck in quantum computing by bringing control electronics closer to quantum processors, enabling larger and more powerful systems.

Quantum computers rely on qubits, highly sensitive components that must operate at temperatures colder than outer space. Today, the electronics that control these qubits remain outside the cooling system, creating technical limitations that increase complexity and restrict the number of qubits that can be managed simultaneously. As a result, scaling quantum computers remains a major challenge.

Rhonexum addresses this challenge by developing electronic chips designed to operate directly at cryogenic temperatures. By moving key control functions closer to the qubits, the technology reduces system complexity, improves efficiency, and supports the development of larger quantum computing systems. The same approach could also benefit advanced sensing and high-performance computing applications.

Rhonexum aims to bring miniaturization to quantum computing, much as semiconductor integration transformed classical computing decades ago. Its main customers are quantum computer integrators and quantum infrastructure providers that need scalable, low-power electronics to control an increasing number of qubits. Market estimates point to strong demand for such enabling technologies: the cryogenic electronics market for quantum computing is projected to reach USD 3.5 billion by 2035. By addressing the electronics bottleneck inside cryogenic systems, Rhonexum positions itself at the intersection of these fast-growing markets and supports the next generation of scalable quantum machines.

Venture Kick's funding will accelerate Rhonexum's path toward product-market release. The team is actively developing its first cryogenic control circuit, designed to operate inside quantum computing systems and address the electronics bottleneck that limits today's architectures. This new funding will support the next stages of circuit design, testing, and validation, with the objective of preparing the first product for commercialization by the beginning of next year.

The team includes co-founders Vicente Carbon (CEO) and Hung-Chi Han (CTO), COO Maurice Gaillard, IC designers Georgios Bantemits and Ali Meimandi, and communications lead Carolina Magalhães. Together, they combine expertise in cryogenic electronics, chip design, quantum technologies, and business development.

“Venture Kick has been a highly valuable experience for Rhonexum. For a university spin-off in Switzerland, it provides a clear and structured path into the startup ecosystem, while giving founders an early understanding of venture capital, investor expectations, and the discipline required to build a scalable business. As we progressed through each stage, we gained maturity, sharpened our message, and strengthened the way we communicate our vision. We are proud to have successfully completed the final stage and grateful for Venture Kick’s support throughout this important milestone,” highlighted CEO Vicente Carbon.

CEO Vicente Carbon and CTO Hung-Chi Han

Rhonexum’s profile on Venture Kick

About Venture Kick

The Venture Kick philanthropic initiative provides more than 1 million in seed funding to Swiss startups and offers a well-structured entrepreneurial path toward building a winning business. Startups pitch to Venture Kick juries in three stages to obtain CHF 150,000, gain direct feedback, and access a network of 250 international investors. Winners of Venture Kick are eligible for an InnoBooster grant of CHF 150,000 and an additional CHF 850,000 investment from the Kickfund.

Since its launch in 2007, Venture Kick has supported 1,286 Swiss startup projects with CHF 103 million from private donors. Thanks to financial support, coaching, and networking with investors, this initiative has led to the emergence of 1,000+ thriving startup companies and the creation of 16,100+ jobs. Venture Kick alumni companies have attracted investments of CHF 10.2 billion and represent 66 companies ranked in the Top100 Swiss Startups in 2025 (https://www.top100startups.swiss).

Venture Kick is an initiative by the Kick Foundation, supported by a private consortium and operated by Venturelab. The supporting foundations and private philanthropic partners include Gebert Rüf Stiftung, Ernst Göhner Stiftung, Fondation ALCEA, Hauser-Stiftung, André Hoffmann, Hansjörg Wyss, Martin Haefner, Fondation ProTechno, ESA BIC Switzerland, Swisscom, Lichtsteiner Foundation, and Deep Tech Nation Switzerland Foundation.

Find more information on venturekick.ch, with all startup projects supported by Venture Kick, and follow the success stories of our startups on LinkedIn.

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