

PARIS, September 14th 2017

AXA Strategic Ventures invests in an end-to-end encryption solution for securing cloud-hosted data.

AXA Strategic Ventures (ASV) announces today it has participated with Idinvest, Kima Ventures and Allianz's strategic fund (InnovAllianz) in a **€6m** round of financing for **Tanker**, the first "Encryption as a Service" platform for SaaS editors.

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"Security is becoming a key element in businesses' digitisation strategies and is now a fully integrated part of the applications used by every firm, from multinationals to start-ups and SMEs, rather than just the nth layer of additional infrastructure," explains **Guillaume Pontallier**, co-founder of Tanker. "This capital increase confirms the growing need for a business that can offer SaaS developers a security standard that is simple to integrate, certified and therefore reassuring for their users," he continues.

Formed in March 2015 by Guillaume Pontallier, Clément Ravouna and Cédric Gestes, Tanker provides software developers and publishers with an encryption solution and key management platform, which can be integrated as an SDK. The solution is implemented directly in the code of SaaS applications, thus securing data that is managed through cloud platforms 'by design', without affecting the user experience. It can be integrated without any particular understanding of security issues. End-to-end encryption guarantees businesses a very high level of security: as a result, Tanker is revolutionising the cybersecurity market, by removing the need for businesses to install additional infrastructure that is cumbersome to manage, and often mitigating the lack of trust in the public cloud.

"We are very pleased to welcome Tanker in our portfolio. The start-up has started to demonstrate its capacity to provide on the security market a unique encryption solution. End-to-end encryption is a must for industries for which privacy of customer data is critical, like insurance », explains **François Robinet**, Managing Partner at AXA Strategic Ventures.

"The trust our investors have placed in our solution will allow us to support businesses in their digital transformation and on the final straight as they work to bring themselves into compliance with the GDPR*," says **Clément Ravouna**, co-founder of Tanker.

Tanker has built a team of 15 engineers and developers specialising in security. Funds raised will enhance technical skills by the end of 2018. The business is responding to an ever-increasing demand for security. As a European pioneer in its market, Tanker also aims to speed up its international growth, particularly in the United States.

Tanker had already raised €1.5 million from private investors such as Philippe Delmas, Stéphane Fouks, Patrick Bertrand and René Proglio, who have been closely involved in supporting the business and its development.

**The entry into effect of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) in May 2018 marks a fundamental shift in how businesses manage and store personal data. At a time when massive amounts of data are being migrated to the cloud, there are new obligations on businesses, such as ensuring the highest level of protection by default, or “privacy by design”.*

ABOUT TANKER

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Tanker is the first platform specialising in end-to-end encryption (Encryption and Key Management as a Service). Tanker guarantees the ownership, security and integrity of their data to users of SaaS services. Formed in March 2015 by Guillaume Pontallier, Clément Ravouna and Cédric Gestes, Tanker works closely with the encryption research centres at ENS Ulm and INRIA, and is resolving the dilemma between maximum data security and the ease of use of SaaS applications. Tanker won the BPI France award for digital innovation in 2016, and employs 15 staff. It is already attracting major cloud players such as Wimi, and several groups listed on the CAC 40 French stock market index.

Learn more at www.tanker.io

ABOUT AXA Strategic Ventures

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AXA Strategic Ventures (ASV) is the venture capital fund backed by AXA, the leading global insurer and asset manager. ASV manages \$275M and invests in enterprise software, fintech, consumer technologies and digital health, as well as other technologies relevant to insurance and asset management. With offices in San Francisco, New York, London and Paris, ASV invests globally.

Learn more at www.axastrategicventures.com

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