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CEO for a Day

Learn more about the participants of the 2017 edition of CEO for a Day organized jointly with Odgers Berndtson!

About this year's CEOs



Jean-François Heris

President & CEO - AGC Glass Europe

Jean-François Heris graduated from ULB and has a degree in Management from Harvard University. Since 2007, Jean-François Heris is Managing Executive Officer at Asahi Glass Co., Ltd. and President & Chief Executive Officer at AGC Glass Europe SA.

Since 2008, Jean-François Heris is also the President of the Belgian Federation of the Glass Industry. In 2010, he become a Chairman of "Glass for Europe", the the trade association for Europe's manufacturers of building, automotive, and transport glass.

Finally, he is also the President of "Union Wallone des Entreprises" (UWE).

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About CEO for a Day

Using a rigorous selection process, Odgers Berndtson Brussels chooses five top students of the Solvay Brussels School of Economics and Management to spend a normal working day shadowing CEOs of five well-known Belgian companies.

The aim is to help these students accomplish their career objectives and to show that they do not need to go abroad to find great opportunities.

What about the selection process?

The selection process is divided into **four phases**:

- The jury looks for leadership initiatives in the applicants' resumes
- 2. An on-line Hogan leadership assessment is conducted
- 3. Telephone interviews help to sharpen the impression of the applicants
- 4. Semifinalists spend a half day in the Odgers Berndtson Brussels offices, interacting with all partners and participating in group exercises and speed interviews

The jury carefully matches the selected finalists and CEOs, considering key elements such as sector affinity and personal/cultural fit.

More details of the event here.

Philippe Masset

CEO - Bank Degroof Petercam

Philippe Masset started his career as Managing Director of the stockbroker firm Masset, Vermeulen & Co in 1986. In 2001 he took the helm at Vermeulen-Raemdonck, a stockbroker firm 80% owned by BBL. As from 2003 he was in charge of ING Western Europe Equity Markets, to become Global Head of Financial Institutions at ING Belgium in June 2007. In September 2008 he was appointed Managing Director of ING Belgium, responsible for Commercial Banking Belgium. In March 2011, he became responsible for the Products & Operations department within the Executive Committee. He held this position until his appointment, on the 1st of January 2013, as head of Commercial Banking of ING Belgium. Today, he is the CEO of Banque Degroof-Petercam Luxembourg.



"I am excited to be a part of the 'CEO for a Day' initiative because it promotes and underlines the importance of young people to dare to dream and to aim high. We have very talented people in our country and we should seize every opportunity to stimulate their entrepreneurial spirit."

- P. Masset



Muriel De Lathouwer

Managing Director & CEO - EVS

Muriel De Lathouwer is the Managing Director & CEO of EVS since 2014 and a member of its Board of Directors since 2013. Before joining EVS, Muriel De Lathouwer spent almost 20 years in the telecom, high tech, IT and media industries. She started her career as an IT consultant at Accenture followed by seven years at McKinsey, where she became Associate Principal and advised major cable and telecom operators, as well as media and high tech companies around the world. Most recently, Muriel De Lathouwer was the Chief Marketing Officer and a member of the executive committee of the Belgian mobile telecom operator BASE. She is an Engineer in Nuclear Physics (ULB, Brussels), and holds an MBA from Insead (Paris).

"Thanks to this initiative, I will be happy to share my experience and maybe inspire a future leader."
- M. De Lathouwer

Jean-Pierre Clamadieu

Chairman of the Executive Committee and CEO - Solvay

Jean-Pierre Clamadieu began his career in France in the Ministry of Industry and as a technical advisor to the Minister of Labor. He joined Rhône-Poulenc in 1993 where he held several positions, including President of Rhodia Chemicals Latin America, President of Rhodia Eco Services, Senior Vice-President Corporate Purchasing, and President of the Pharmaceuticals & Agrochemicals Division.

He was appointed CEO of the Rhodia Group in 2003 and Chairman & CEO in 2008. After the merger with Solvay, he became a member of the Executive Committee in September 2011 and CEO in 2012.

He holds a degree in engineering awarded by the Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Mines de Paris. Jean-Pierre Clamadieu also holds seats on the Boards of Directors of Faurecia and AXA.





John Porter

Chief Executive Officer - Telenet

John Porter joined Telenet as Chief Executive Officer in April 2013. He currently serves as Chairman and non-executive director on the board of the listed company Enero and oOh!media, Australia's largest outdoor media company. From 1995 to May 2012 he was Chief Executive Officer of AUSTAR United Communications, Australia, a leading provider of subscription television and related products in regional Australia. The company was wholly acquired by Foxtel, a joint venture between News Corp and Telstra, in May 2012. Mr. Porter led the growth of Austar since inception becoming its CEO at the time of the 1999 IPO. Previously John Porter also served as Chief Operating Officer, Asia Pacific for United International Holdings, the predecessor company to Liberty Global. From 1989 to 1994 John Porter was President, Ohio Division, Time Warner Communications. He started his career at Group W Broadcasting and Cable, as director Government Relations before becoming General Manager of Westinghouse Cable Systems in Texas and Alabama.

"I am thrilled to participate in this 'CEO for a Day' program. On the one hand, this is a great opportunity for future leaders to develop themselves professionally. The student will learn how theory is translated in operations and how we translate strategic decisions in specific plans. The student will also see what a day in my shoes looks like. On the other hand, I hope the student will inspire me with his or her ideas. I also look forward to gaining more insights into what drives our young, future talents. I am convinced this will be a win-win for both of us!"

- J. Porter

About our Solvay students



lyas Ait Benhiba Selected student for Bank Degroof Petercam Solvay Master of Science in Business Engineering

Why did you apply to "CEO for a day"?

We live in a complex world in which kids, teenagers, young and older people have more and more difficulties finding their place in society. Since the age of 14, I have always given my best to try to make the world a better place, not only for my friends and family but for everyone. These years of experience in different companies and associations made me understand one important thing: leadership does not mean authority. Leadership is not a rank, it is a choice; the choice to lead by example to inspire as many people as possible.

Lenka Slezakova

Selected student for Telenet
Solvay Master of Science in Management Science

How do you describe your motivation to participate in this event?

I believe it is my determination that sets me apart. I think that my resume serves as a track record to prove that I constantly seek new experiences outside of my comfort zone in order to learn and discover new things. I view the challenges and failures along the road as the best school and I try to learn as much from them, as from everyone I meet in daily life. This is the reason why I am confident that CEOx1DAY would not just be an item on my CV, but a life-enriching learning experience.





Loïk-Maël NYS
Selected student for Solvay
Solvay Master of Science in Business Engineering

How do you describe your motivation to participate in this event?

I believe I'm the right candidate because this event requires some learning agility skills to make the most out of a single day, to be able to see and understand not only what will be said or done but also the underlying reason. I truly believe that my multiple experiences as a piano player, stage performer, athlete, globetrotter as well as being an ambitious hard-worker make me the adequate mentee for a renowned CEO.

Romane Goldmuntz

Selected student for EVS
Solvay Master of Science in Business Economics



How do you describe yourself? I am an eager learner and a highly motivated, ambitious, persevering person who loves challenges and never gives up. I am also a warm, positive person craving feedback, and who will never let you down.



Sebastiano Federighi
Selected student for AGC Europe
Solvay Master of Science in Business Engineering – QTEM Program

How do you describe your motivation to participate in this event?

In order to achieve my dream of becoming the CEO of my own company, acquiring experience and growing are a must. Although this adventure will last only one day, I believe that there is no better place to learn the magnitude of the journey that awaits as well as the work needed than alongside a CEO from a prestigious company. As a consequence I am really motivated to participate in this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.