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Press release

Prévention & Retournement and emlyon business school join forces to train future leaders and prepare for business succession and transfer.

In the face of an unprecedented wave of business transfers and failures, the association Prévention & Retournement (P&R) and emlyon business school formalize a partnership to strengthen the training of future leaders. Together, they commit to preparing them for the challenges of the coming decade: acquisition, succession, and entrepreneurial recovery.

A major challenge for the French economy

According to a Senate report*, over the next ten years, between 250,000 and 700,000 businesses will require succession, and 30,000 will disappear annually due to the lack of buyers. Training a new generation of leaders to ensure continuity and growth has therefore become a critical priority.

A partnership to anticipate economic transformations

The partnership between P&R and emlyon is structured around three key pillars:

- Support future leaders in mastering business acquisition, turning succession into a genuine lever for economic sustainability.
- Enhance students' ability to anticipate by teaching them to identify early warning signs of distress and swiftly engage restructuring experts.
- Equip them to intervene effectively during periods of tension, creating the conditions for sustainable recovery.

"The partnership with emlyon business school lies at the heart of P&R's mission: to disseminate best practices in prevention and support future leaders, closely aligned with the needs of businesses and regions." – Éric Étienne-Martin, President of Prévention & Retournement.

A tangible framework serving future leaders

P&R experts will contribute to emlyon programs, both initial and continuing education, through courses, conferences, case studies, and modules dedicated to acquisition and turnaround challenges.

The partnership also paves the way for new career opportunities: P&R will participate in recruitment events organized by emlyon's Career Center, offering internships, apprenticeships, and job positions. This dynamic will be reinforced through joint awareness initiatives on business creation and succession.

*“We are a pioneering institution in entrepreneurship. We were the first French business school to develop an incubator over 40 years ago, and approximately 23,000 businesses have been created within this framework. We are joining forces with P&R to place our academic expertise at the service of those who will acquire and transform the businesses of tomorrow,” emphasizes Isabelle Huault, CEO and President of the Executive Board of **emlyon** business school.*

About Prévention & Retournement

P&R is a professional association whose members come from fields specializing in supporting companies in difficulty (lawyers, judicial administrators, auditors, banks, etc.). Its mission is to define and promote best practices for anticipating and managing business challenges. P&R is based in Lyon, Marseille, and Occitanie and has approximately 220 members.

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About emlyon business school

Founded in 1872 by the Lyon Chamber of Commerce, emlyon business school has an enrollment of over 9,375 students of 135 nationalities across four campuses worldwide (Lyon, Shanghai, Paris, and Mumbai).

The school relies on a Faculty of 178 internationally recognised professors and researchers, and a network of 237 global academic partners, to provide learning tracks of academic excellence open to the world. The school runs a community of 48,000 alumni spread over 130 countries. As a mission-driven company, emlyon aims to “train and support informed leaders, throughout their lives, who are able to transform organisations efficiently for a fairer society and with greater solidarity and respect for the planet”.

The school's pedagogy closely links action and reflection. Skill hybridisation and social responsibility are also at the heart of its training programs, where the best of both socio-economic and academic worlds meet.

The strategic plan, “Resonances 2028”, reaffirms the importance of the “maker spirit” that has been the DNA of emlyon since its creation. The plan is built around the five qualities expected of “makers”, emlyon students, to become entrepreneurs of change, namely: academic excellence; entrepreneurial spirit; engagement; hybrid knowledge; resonance with society.

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