

For immediate release

## Twinlife disrupts mobile messaging and telecom services, and raises 300 K€ from IT-Translation

Paris, France, May 2016 – Twinlife, a French start-up founded by two experienced entrepreneurs with the mission to disrupt mobile communications just raised 300 K euros from IT-Translation Investment, a seed fund dedicated to technology-driven startups.

**Twinlife: a communications service with no phone number, no directory, where each user manages his/her identifiers on the network**

Everybody is now reachable all the time on their smartphone. Our mobile number is virtually our new social security number and yet it is public and shareable by all our contacts. This raises many privacy questions regarding the protection of our and our contacts' personal information.

With its *twinme* mobile messaging application, Twinlife proposes a new paradigm: a communications service with no phone number, no directory, where users define how they are identified on the network for each of their individual contacts. *twinme* is freely available on iPhone/iPad/iPod and Android mobile devices.

Twinme value proposition to its users: "You can chat and make high definition voice and video calls but with a lot more privacy and control over your contacts. Each contact knows you with a unique code that is specific to him/her. He/she cannot transfer this code to a third party. Moreover, you can revoke any of these codes at any time. With *twinme*, you keep control over your contacts (and vice versa).

Contents are encrypted and exchanged in peer-to-peer, with no server in-between storing data. When you clean a conversation because it has become irrelevant or you don't want to leave traces, exchanged messages are removed simultaneously on your contact's device.

Finally, you are not asked to provide any personal information to use the service (no sign-up). The end result is no advertising, intimacy, and High Definition quality voice/video calls on top".

As Michel Gien, Twinlife co-founder and CEO points out: "*We are regularly bothered on the phone by calls to change our windows, pay less taxes, or call back a premium number to spend money listening to dubious messages. Such daily harassment on fixed lines is coming now on mobile, and there is no black list to protect us. Leaving your mobile number to a careless friend once, makes you a regular target of unsolicited calls and text messages. twinme removes all that burden. No one can get in touch with you unless you have allowed it. And you can opt-out at any time.*"

He continues: "*This is particularly important to parents who would like to make their kids happy with their first smartphone, while eliminating risks. With twinme and a data-only SIM card offered free of charge for tablets by most operators to the parents, kids can interact with their friends and family as they would on a regular phone but without the possibility to be contacted by strangers, since they do not have a phone number. And since our children are defining the standards of the future, we hope they'll make twinme viral...*"

**300K€ to establish twinme as the new generation mobile communications service, giving you "Freedom & Privacy"**

Funds provided by IT-Translation will allow the company to complement the functionalities of its *twinme* application and accelerate its adoption. Twinlife plans to propose paying options for commercial use of its opt-in/opt-out relationship model, in various market segments. Professionals can use *twinme* to sell services and digital content more easily to customers who don't need to provide any personal information, just like when entering a store today.



According to Laurent Kott, IT- Translation: *"We were impressed by the profiles of the two Twinlife co-founders, Christian Jacquemot and Michel Gien, serial entrepreneurs, experts in communications systems, international experience. Plus their innovation leverages state of the art technology on distributed multimedia object systems, and meets a real need of user-controlled online personal data."*

According to Michel Gien, Twinlife co-founder & CEO, *"IT-Translation already helped us turn our disruptive technology innovation into a mobile messaging application focused initially on a specific target market. This investment will allow us to launch twinme effectively and accelerate its adoption"*.

### **About Twinlife**

Founded by two experienced entrepreneurs, Twinlife is about "freedom & privacy of online communications", with the vision to interact on-line just like in-person. Twinlife develops *twinme*, a free mobile messaging application allowing to make High Definition voice and video calls without providing any personal information to access the service while keeping full control over one's contacts. All exchanges are encrypted. They happen in peer-to-peer (no server in-between) and can be wiped out from both communicating devices at any time to enforce privacy. "You" are in control and you "own your life online"!

<https://twinlife-systems.com>, <https://twin.me>

### **About IT-Translation**

IT-Translation is the investor and co-founder of techno-digital startups stemming from public or private research. The originality of the model? Ultra-initiator, IT-Translation gets involved as soon as the initial idea gets formulated: co-founder of companies, IT-Translation then invests up to 300 K€ via the IT-Translation Investissement fund. IT-Translation was created 5 years ago by CDC Enterprises (Bpifrance) and INRIA, and was joined in 2013 by the European Investment Fund (EIF). More information at: <http://www.it-translation.fr>

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