Re-inventing the container

AELER
Thinking the box out

The metal transportation container is the same today as it was 60 years ago when it was introduced and enabled the rise of the global economy. Result? The hot, often rusty, unconnected metal box is out of sync with the demands of both business and the environment today.

Founded in 2018, AELER is a Swiss-based, LogTech company that has created the first transportation container made of composite. This makes AELER's UNIT ONE container stronger, better insulated, lighter and smart, drastically reducing both operational costs and CO2 emissions. State-of-the-art electronics are also embedded inside it offering both visibility and intelligence over the container and its cargo.

To achieve this lighter yet stronger container, AELER partnered with top universities such as EPFL's Labs that developed the composite for Solar Impulse, the plane that circumnavigated the globe without fuel.

The AELER container has been CSC certified, patents for PAS rail impact test are pending and this innovation is certified by the Solar Impulse Foundation.

An aspiring leader in LogTech

LogTech is a new industry sector that strives to improve and disrupt traditional logistics services through the use of technology. Many analysts agree that the potential for change through technology in logistics is enormous. While Amazon and others have innovated the last mile, AELER is leading the way in revolutionizing the upstream supply chain.

Key facts:

- 80% of the world's goods transit through a container
- The container is one of the two most standardised objects in the world (together with the barcode)
- The logistics industry is worth three trillion dollars
- The shipping industry is responsible for around 940 million tonnes of CO2 annually
- Half the weight of a container-carrying vessel is its cargo
- A 25,000 TEU vessel carries an average of 17,000 containers

The foundational insight

Co-founders and co-CEOs Naïk Londono and David Baur met as students at the EPFL, one of the world's leading engineering schools. Looking for solutions to reduce global warming, their foundational insight was that there is a lot of innovation going into container-carrying vessels but very little on the container itself. They saw the opportunity to change this with composite and IoT and founded Aeler.



Naïk London, co-founder, co-CEO

- Swiss, he studied neuroengineering and AI at EPFL
- Naïk quit school aged 14 and moved, alone, to South America to pursue a career in tennis
- He became an entrepreneur to finance his tennis training. This led him to head up an industrial IoT startup on returning to Switzerland
- In the run-up to incorporating Aeler, Naïk spent seven months in Singapore to research the supply chain industry and build Aeler's early network
- Today, Naïk is responsible for sales and company strategy.

David Baur, co-founder, co-CEO

- Swiss, he studied microengineering and management at EPFL
- David has always had a managerial streak, taking on various projects to renovate the family home when still a teenager
- As a student, he developed a solution for patient monitoring in ambulances which was then commercialised by a company in the field.
- David did his master thesis on the feasibility of a composite container
- Today, David is responsible for product and company strategy.

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