

<press release>

b<>com Governance: Rémi Kaepelin appointed Chairman of the IRT

Rennes, April 2, 2026 – **Rémi Kaepelin, CTO of TDF’s TowerCo business unit and CEO of its subsidiary ITAS, has been appointed Chairman of the b<>com IRT (Technology Research Institute) as of April 1, 2026, for a one-year term. He succeeds Orange, which was represented by Guillaume Tardiveau, Director of Value Creation and Communication, as Chair of b<>com. His appointment is part of the shared governance model among industrial members introduced by the IRT last year.**

Rémi Kaepelin has served on b<>com’s Board of Directors since 2025, where he has contributed in particular to overseeing the IRT’s transformation plan and accelerating its engagement with SMEs and mid-sized companies.

A graduate of Centrale Supélec and the University of Cambridge, Rémi Kaepelin joined the TDF Group’s Industrial Division in 2010 as Head of Asset Management. Seven years later, he became Director of Real Estate and Infrastructure, before being appointed CTO of the Group’s TowerCo business unit. In 2023, he also became CEO of ITAS, an industrial engineering and telecom infrastructure company.

TDF, a telecommunications infrastructure and broadcasting operator for over 50 years, is one of the founding members of the b<>com IRT.

Shared governance to drive synergies

Introduced in 2025, the shared governance model is part of b<>com’s transformation strategy, aimed at supporting the technological transition of companies of all sizes across key areas such as industrial process efficiency, digital twins, applied AI, computer vision, connectivity, and decarbonization. This rotating chairmanship fosters synergies among the IRT’s investor-members and aims to strengthen the co-development of ambitious R&I projects that are essential to technological sovereignty.

Rémi Kaepelin, Chairman of b<>com, stated: *“I am both honored and excited to take on the role of Chairman of b<>com’s Board of Directors. I would like to commend Guillaume Tardiveau, whose work has helped build strong collective momentum within the Board. My priority will be to sustain and build on this momentum. More than ever, it is through collaboration that we will make b<>com a true driver of innovation for all its members. I am also committed to supporting the development of b<>com’s strategic technology areas, particularly digital sovereignty and artificial intelligence, which is transforming the industrial landscape.”*

"As a driver of innovation, b<>com has always sought to innovate in both its processes and areas of expertise. This unique governance model reflects our commitment to exploring more agile and effective management approaches. Sharing the leadership of a research institute like ours has reinvigorated exchanges and enhanced our working methods." explained **Emmanuelle Garnaud-Gamache, CEO of b<>com.**

"This one-year term at the head of b<>com has enabled us to advance a priority that is particularly important to me, opening the IRT to SMEs: Eight companies joined in 2025, marking a major success! This SME/large group synergy underscores the IRT's role as a key and agile partner, capable of supporting all companies in strengthening their competitiveness." explains **Guillaume Tardiveau, Director of Value Creation and Communication at Orange.** "I look forward to continuing this commitment within the Board of Directors chaired by Rémi and contributing to this momentum." he concluded.



Rémi Kaepelin – Photo credit: TDF

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About b<>com

As a trusted research and innovation partner for businesses, b<>com is a Technology Research Institute (IRT) specializing in next-generation digital technologies for decarbonization: connectivity, AI, imaging, human factors, cloud computing, digital technology, and society.

Its collaborative model fosters both technology and competitiveness while mitigating the risks associated with innovation.

With its network of industrial and academic partners, b<>com and its investors develop innovative technologies for SMEs and large corporate groups across several sectors: Industry 5.0, defense, healthcare, cultural and creative industries, and agriculture.

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