



N! Business Forum, Lausanne March 31 – April 2nd: NEXUS sets collaboration as key to value creation in the automotive aftermarket



Geneva, 2026, April 2nd – NEXUS Automotive International’s global event, the NEXUS Business Forum, took place at the SwissTech Convention Center, Lausanne, Switzerland, between March 31 and April 2.

The NEXUS Business Forum gathered 300 companies and more than 700 attendees from 96 countries.

It included the 4th edition of the NEXUS Climate Day, “The future is Ours” plenary session, and more than 3,000 speed date meetings that created new business opportunities and strengthened relationships within the N! Community.

Gaël Escribe issued the “Lausanne Appeal”, urging the N! Community to embrace greater collaboration, particularly in these unpredictable times; by working closer together, the N! Community can achieve even greater success and contribute even more positively to the overall Automotive Aftermarket industry.

The future is ours: an unprecedented discussion hosted by NEXUS

During “The Future is Ours” plenary session, NEXUS Automotive International hosted a unique roundtable, bringing together, for the first time, the world’s most influential aftermarket associations — Bill Hanvey from AutoCare and Chris Gardner from MEMA, representing the United States; Frank Schlehber from Clepa and Sylvia Gotzen of Figiefa, representing Europe; and Wilson Ni,

the Chinese Automotive Intelligence Society. This unique gathering reaffirms NEXUS' position as the industry's central hub, capable of transforming a global vision into tangible momentum for the industry.

During the session, the leaders of these organizations shared their insights into the short- and medium-term challenges that are redefining the industry. Beyond identifying trends, they established a framework for cross-functional collaboration designed to advance the entire aftermarket ecosystem, turning regional concerns into a collective drive for progress.

A major highlight of this edition was the exclusive "The Wise Guys" session including Arnd Franz, CEO of Mahle; Neil Fryer, Vice President & General Manager Global Aftermarket for PHINIA; Todd Hertzler, Regional President MA North America Bosch, Cedric Dackam, President and General Manager, Automotive Aftermarket MANN+HUMMEL; Randy Buller, Co-founder and Chairman The Parts Authority and Gaël Escribe, NEXUS Automotive International's CEO. This high-level platform featured industry key players who took the stage to share their raw, unfiltered perspectives on the market's evolution.

In a rare display of strategic transparency, these leaders dissected the short- and medium-term challenges redefining the ecosystem. By establishing a framework for cross-functional collaboration, they transformed individual concerns into a collective drive for progress, reinforcing the N! Community's role as the vanguard of the industry.

NEXUS Climate Day: from competitive advantage to value creation

The fourth NEXUS Climate Day convened more than 300 participants to develop tangible solutions and share best practices. The event brought together sustainability specialists, suppliers and members of the N! community, representing the entire NEXUS value chain.

Panel discussions and proof-of-concept (POC) projects developed by Bosch, Mann+Hummel, SKF and TotalEnergies provided concrete guidelines for embedding sustainability within the industry.

Gaël Escribe appealed for the foundation of an alliance to structure the battery repair in Europe and territories where the EV car park will generate main maintenance soon. While individual efforts within the industry are shaping up, forming alliances across ecosystems can create the only answer to this major challenge is collaborative approach.

Redesigned Award Ceremony

The annual NEXUS award ceremony named DRiV as Supplier of the Year, and Goldwagen as Member of the Year. In the Heavy-Duty category, Europart & Wijnhuizen were both recognised as Members of the Year. Exceptional leaders of the industry received individual honours: Sukhpal Singh Ahluwalia from GSF was awarded Man of the Year, while Elodie Luce from TotalEnergies and Hasmeet Kaur from MANN+HUMMEL were both awarded Woman of the Year.

North American partners, Randy Buller from Parts Authority and Robert Roos from The Pronto Network were recognised with a Leadership Excellence Award and NEXUS Commitment Excellence Award.

ElringKlinger and MANN+HUMMEL shared the Growth Champion in the Strategic Supplier category, while Purflux Group took the award for Preferred Supplier and ZF for Heavy Duty. The bilstein group was named Customer Experience Champion.

Gaël Escribe, NEXUS CEO said: « *This Business Forum reflects the growing maturity of NEXUS and the new stage we are entering. We are becoming a group fully structured around high-value creation for our supplier partners, members, and the wider aftermarket ecosystem, in a context defined by transformation, growth, and collaboration. The 2026 NEXUS Business Forum has acted as a catalyst for building a more resilient aftermarket of tomorrow.* »

About NEXUS Automotive International

Established in 2014 by CEO Gaël Escribe, NEXUS Automotive International, the leading automotive aftermarket (AA) global community, is shaping the future of the AA.

Thanks to an entrepreneurial, innovative and agile mindset, N! disrupts the industry bringing innovative solutions for a more sustainable, digital and connected mobility. At the same time, it supports its community of more than 605 members in 146 countries, allied with more than 90 global suppliers, by providing services to accelerate their growth.

N! is offering new approaches and new ideas for a connected, global and consolidated world of tomorrow to accelerate the success of car and heavy duty spare parts and services distributors and manufacturers, through 18 regional structures that connect them.

NEXUS' consolidated turnover was more than 53 billion euros in 2025.