

## Technology: our digital transformation gathers momentum

Ardian invests continuously to develop IT tools that will deliver major advances in security and efficiency.



**MATHIAS BURGHARDT**  
Head of Ardian Infrastructure and in charge of technological development, Member of the Executive Committee

We devote significant resources and investment to technology development. Our IT team has more than 50 permanent staff – nearly 10% of Ardian’s total headcount – supported by up to 90 contractors and external consulting firms. They are working on multiple projects that touch every part of our organization and are on course to deliver major new tools during 2020 that will transform our internal processes and the way we engage with our investors.

Alongside our investment in digital innovation, we are always focused on identifying and managing cybersecurity risks. The security of our investors is a key concern in every project, and we use world-leading external security experts to complement our two in-house cybersecurity specialists.

**“We must use digital technology to become more efficient, manage risk more effectively and deliver an even better service to our investors. This is critical for Ardian’s future.”**

To ensure we can deliver the IT functionality our teams require, during 2019 we reorganized the IT department and placed it under the leadership, at Executive Committee level, of Mathias Burghardt, Head of Ardian Infrastructure. The central aim of this reorganization was to create the closest possible collaboration between the business teams who will use our new IT tools and the IT professionals who will build them. We have created a group of Business Relationship Managers within the IT team, led by Vincent Joly, Head of IT, who will form the bridge between IT and the wider organization.

### The major projects we will deliver during 2020 include:

- Our online investor relations portal, which will deliver a customized dashboard for each LP. This will show all their investments with Ardian in a single view, as well as individual data and reports and a digital subscription process for new fund investments. This will also speed up our onboarding of new clients significantly.
- A cash flow projection tool that will replace the manual projections our investment teams currently produce for LPs. This will allow Ardian and our investors to gain a clearer view of future cash flows and enable LPs to plan their reinvestments into new funds more easily. This tool will be extended to our Mandates activity in early 2021.



- A new digital tool that will take over more than 95% of the processes within the Fund of Funds team that are currently carried out using platforms like Microsoft Excel.

Beyond these very large projects, our IT team is also working on around 25 other projects with virtually every part of the company. The aim in each case is to achieve operational excellence by automating as many of our internal processes as possible. This will hugely reduce the number of manual operations we carry out, improve our ability to manage risk and greatly increase our teams’ productivity. Strengthening our internal operations in this way is an essential step to enable the next phase of Ardian’s growth.

“We are working on a dedicated platform for the Fund of Funds investment teams. All their investment monitoring and pricing were previously done via spreadsheets. This project aims to automate hundreds of Excel spreadsheets and streamline a huge number of repetitive manual tasks. It will standardize our processes and ensure uniformity in the data – as well as allow investment teams to focus on activities that create more value.”



**CÉLESTIN VALLOIS**  
IT Project Manager