invest Neuchâtel



ROBOTICS

Where precision comes to life

Canton of Neuchâtel

Canton of Neuchâtel

For over 250 years, the Neuchâtel industrial DNA has been one of mastered movement. From Jaquet-Droz automata to current automated systems, the region cultivates the same skills: micromechanics, motion control, miniaturization, and reliability.

Today, this heritage fuels an ecosystem specialized in precision robotics and industrial automation. Within a compact territory, your project gains access to component manufacturers, machine builders, integrators, R&D partners, and qualified talent.



Precision

Micromechanics and systems designed for the most demanding applications.



Support

A single public contact point for your establishment project.



Motion

Direct drives, micromotors, and motion control.



Proximity

Companies, R&D partners, and training centers gathered in one canton.

ECOSYSTEM

“From micromotors to automated systems, everything is here. In **robotics** and **precision automation**, performance lies in the details: **actuation**, **motion control**, **sensors**, **vision**, **assembly** and **integration**. **Neuchâtel brings these critical skills together within just a few kilometers** – **your partners are your neighbors.”**

ECOSYSTEM

Skills & Positioning

Mastering movement, from component to automated system

Neuchâtel’s specialization lies at the intersection of precision robotics and industrial automation. It is based on historical skills — micromechanics, microelectronics, precision assembly, low-power systems — serving industries where reliability, repeatability, and miniaturization are decisive: medtech, pharma, semiconductors, machine tools, laboratory automation, and watchmaking.

The ecosystem covers the entire chain, from applied research and prototyping to components, special machines, integration, and industrial production.

250 years+

years of precision engineering, from automata to robotics

1st

patent density in Switzerland, per 100,000 inhabitants (IPI 2021)

2nd

Most exporting canton in Switzerland (2024)

1'000+

Researchers at the heart of the innovation district

46%

of cantonal GDP from the industrial sector

< 90 min

to access a broader talent pool between Lausanne, Bern, and Basel

ECOSYSTEM

Interconnected actors, at every stage

Components	ETEL (Môtiers) · Unimec (La Chaux-de-Fonds) **Direct drives, automation elements, torque motors, linear motors, micromotors and control electronics.**
Machines	Mikron Automation (Boudry) · Rollomatic (Le Landeron) · IMA Automation · CIPOSA **Assembly lines, special machines, ultra-precision machining, flexible feeding and integration.**
Applications	Medtech & surgery · Pharma & assembly · Machine tools · Semiconductors · Lab automation · Watchmaking **Environments where precision, repeatability and reliability are critical.**
Research	CSEM · EPFL · University of Neuchâtel · HE-Arc **Applied research, technology transfer and training of technical profiles.**
Support and guidance	Innosuisse · Horizon Europe · invest Neuchâtel · Finergence · Cautionnement romand **Identification of relevant programs and networking with the appropriate organizations according to the nature of the project.**

ECOSYSTEM

Value chain

Research & technology transfer

The **CSEM** and EPFL offer cutting-edge resources in micro- and nanotechnology. **EPFL Neuchâtel** houses a significant part of the Institute of Electrical and Microengineering. A technological safety net for your developments. The **Neuchâtel ecosystem** brings together components, machines, and integration within a few kilometers — from the micromotor to the integrated robot.

Industrial actors & technologies

- **ETEL – Môtiers**: 100% dedicated to direct drive (torque motors, linear motors, motion control). Global leader for semiconductors.
- **IMA Automation – La Chaux-de-Fonds**: integration of automated assembly lines for medtech and the precision industry.
- **Mikron Automation – Boudry** : 600+ employees on site (50% engineers), medical device assembly lines at over 100 parts/minute.
- **Rollomatic – Le Landeron**: high-precision CNC machines, micro-tools down to 0.03 mm, 15,000 m² site. Joint innovation cell with EPFL.
- **Network of SMEs** – precision subcontracting: a dense network of SMEs also participates in the design, at all levels of maturity (TRL).

Training & Talent

- **EPFL** – Microengineering and embedded systems, on the Microcity campus (EPFL)
- **UniNE** – AI & autonomous systems: applied research in machine learning
- **HE-Arc** – Mechatronics: engineering and micro-techniques (HE-Arc Engineering)
- **CPNE – TI** – Technicians and practitioners in micromechanics, micro-techniques, and microelectronics trained locally
- **90 minutes** – to access a wider pool of talent: Lausanne, Bern, Basel

ECOSYSTEM

Concrete results. These global leaders were born in Neuchâtel.

Mikron
Boudry

Global leader in automated assembly

www.mikron.com

ETEL
Môtiers

Global leader in direct drive

www.etel.ch

CIPOSA
Hauterive

Special machines & precision integration

ciposa.com

Rollomatic
Le Landeron

Ultra-precision CNC machines, globally recognized

www.rollomatic.ch

INNOVATION

Research & Development

R&D from prototype to product

State-of-the-art direct drive
Motors that deliver at least 20% more torque for the same size, with up to 30% fewer losses. World-class expertise.

Embedded micro-actuation and motorization
Motors and control electronics reduced to the minimum, optimized for torque, footprint, and consumption. At the heart of the most compact medical and robotic devices.

Precision machining & Industry 4.0
Laser cutting of ultra-hard materials, micro-tools down to 0.03 mm, and customized automated loading. Joint innovation cell with EPFL.

Compact loading robotics
Camera-driven assembly and flexible component feeding for production lines.

Academic foundation
EPFL and CSEM: flexible mechanisms, microrobotics, and space robotics with the CSEM PULSAR demonstrator.

ESTABLISHMENT

Microcity – The Neuchâtel innovation district, spanning 1 km²

Microcity

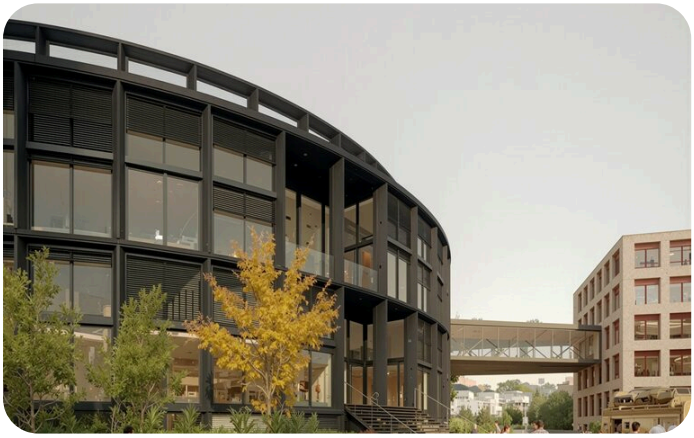
The Innovation Hub

Setting up here means joining the largest microtechnology competence center in Europe – and the national innovation network.

Switzerland Innovation Park West EPFL – Neuchâtel is part of it via Microcity SA,

- **EPFL** · **CSEM** · **HE-Arc** · **UniNE** · **CPNE** gathered on-site, with the economic promotion agency.
- MicroLean Lab – demonstrator for the industry of the future: collaborative robotics, industrial vision, AI, and flexible production.
- **JD7** – the new flagship building of the district, dedicated to high-precision companies and their R&D cells.

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1 km2
of district dedicated to innovation

6
education and research institutions

1000+
researchers

7'000
students

“From **Jaquet-Droz automata** to the **smart factory**, Neuchâtel transforms the **mastery of movement into high-precision automated systems**.”

ECOSYSTEM

They chose Neuchâtel!

IMA Automation

Two sites: La Chaux-de-Fonds & Boudry

Automated assembly solutions for the medical and precision industry.

The Swiss subsidiary of the IMA group relies on the Neuchâtel microtechnical fabric and its qualified talent.

imautomation.com

Aranow international SA

Located in Neuchâtel - Headquarters in Barcelona

Innovation center for pharmaceutical packaging machines (stick-packs).

Chose Neuchâtel for its applied innovation ecosystem (CSEM, Microcity, EPFL).

aranow.com

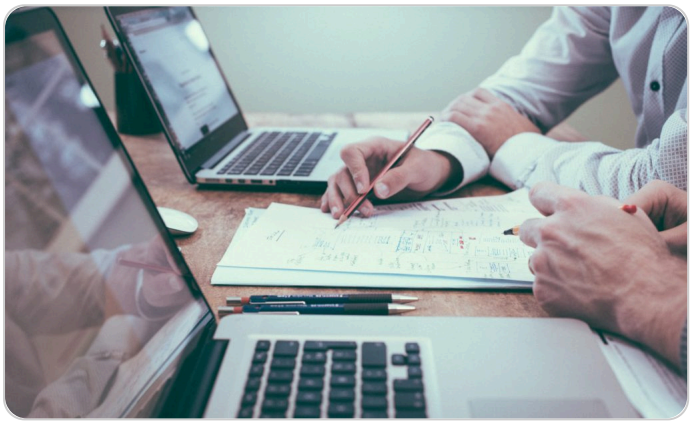
LIVING IN NEUCHÂTEL

Neuchâtel, a canton to live in

Bordered by a lake and surrounded by mountains, the region offers a perfect balance between nature and urban life. This privileged setting allows researchers and professionals to enjoy an environment conducive to creativity, inspiration, and well-being.

NEUCHÂTEL IS NOT ONLY A PLACE OF INNOVATION, BUT ALSO A PLACE WHERE IT IS GOOD TO LIVE, WORK, AND RESIDE.

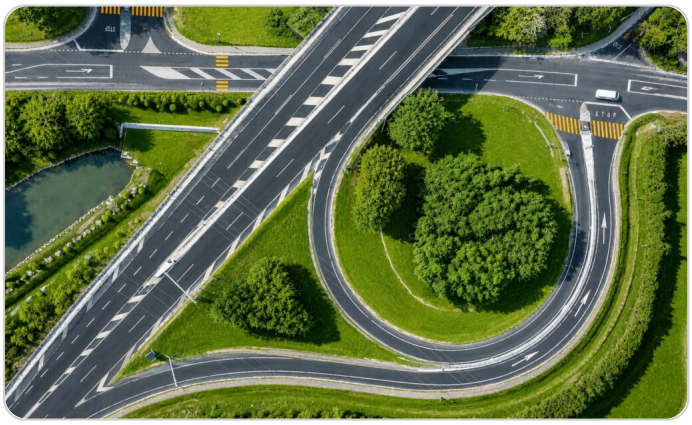
neuchatel-un-canton-a-vivre.ch



Competitive taxation



Pool of talent



Accessibility



Quality of life

F.A.Q

F.A.Q

Why is the canton of Neuchâtel a reference hub for robotics?

The canton of Neuchâtel masters the entire robotics value chain, from micromotors to integrated systems. It brings together world leaders in direct drive and automated assembly, a dense network of precision subcontracting SMEs, as well as EPFL and CSEM for flexible mechanisms and microrobotics.

What differentiates Neuchâtel from other regions for robotics?

Robotics specifically leverages the disciplines that Neuchâtel has been cultivating for generations: micromechanics, microelectronics, precision assembly, and reliability. Neuchâtel is the second largest exporting canton in Switzerland and boasts the highest density of patents per capita. A local specialty: SMEs participate in the design phase, not just production.

What are the concrete advantages of setting up in Neuchâtel?

Neuchâtel applies a corporate tax rate of 13.57%, one of the most competitive in Switzerland, within a cost-effective environment compared to the rest of Switzerland – business real estate, land, and operating expenses. The canton is at the heart of Europe: Lausanne, Bern, and Basel are accessible in less than 90 minutes, and the international airports of Geneva, Zurich, and Basel are within direct reach. Furthermore, it offers dedicated industrial infrastructure and a precision subcontracting network that is immediately mobilizable.

How to set up a business in the canton of Neuchâtel and what support is available?

invest Neuchâtel, supported by the Department of Economy and Social Cohesion, is the official single point of contact for any establishment. Its support is confidential: search for premises and land, networking with the ecosystem, access to public funding, work permits and authorizations, project coaching. **Contact invest Neuchâtel for an initial no-obligation meeting.**

invest Neuchâtel – Your official contact

As a state entity, the Economic Development Office of the Canton of Neuchâtel facilitates, coordinates, and accelerates every stage of your establishment.

- Search for land and premises
- Networking within the ecosystem
- Access to public funding
- Work permits and authorizations
- Project coaching and support

CONTACT

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