

## **TechFounders launches batch #10 of its startup accelerator program**

**Munich, July 16, 2019. Today is the kick-off for the 10th batch of the Accelerator Program TechFounders. The Accelerator Program of UnternehmerTUM, Germany's leading center for innovation and business creation will host 10 innovative technology startups over the next 20 weeks in Munich.**

The future of the selected startups looks promising: 93% of the alumni companies of the TechFounders program are still active. Success stories like Konux, ProGlove or Inveox prove that the TechFounders concept works. The combination of highly individual coaching, projects with industry leaders on real use cases and a rich network of experienced mentors give startups a massive kick-start at an early stage. At the same time, the established corporate partners can use the startups' solutions to develop innovative products and digitize their traditional business models.

### **The startups of Batch #10 are:**

Berlin-based **AIPark** offers an AI-powered platform that delivers a dynamic map of urban parking spots both for individual users as well as for mobility providers or cities. Founder Julian Glaab and Johannes Riedel have founded the company in 2017 and gained extensive mobility experience in their previous jobs at MAN Truck & Bus SE and Siemens Mobility. (Corporate partner: ADAC)

**Cyclic Design** from the German city of Leipzig creates concepts for sustainable packaging solutions. Cyclic Design's product is a

refillable packaging solution for personal care products, such as shampoo or shower gel. Marilu Valente and Nina Masson, the two Managing Directors, work according to the motto: “Sustainability meets Creativity”. (Corporate partner: ALDI Nord & ALDI SÜD)

**MergerSpot** from Munich develops a new generation of market research software. They are the one-stop solution for understanding and analyzing the SME market. The founders Alexander Schmitt, Ingo Mayer, and Julian Wolz already participated in the UnternehmertUM incubator XPRENEURS and are now joining the TechFounders program to conduct a pilot project with DATEV eG. (Corporate partner: DATV eG)

Automated analysis of manual working processes through mobile sensors, beacons and deep learning is provided by the German startup **MotionMiners**. The startup already won awards such as the VDI-Innovation Logistic Award 2019 and the Digital Logistics Award 2017 and is working with established companies like Škoda Auto or Rhenus Logistics. (Corporate partner: Festo)

Satellite navigation for automated driving is enabled by **NAVENTIK** from Chemnitz, Germany. The four founders’ mission is to bring GNSS reference navigation technology for automated and autonomous driving into series production. In 2017, NAVENTIK won the IQ Innovationspreis Mitteldeutschland. In the TechFounders accelerator program the German startup tests their solution with Knorr-Bremse. (Corporate Partner: Knorr-Bremse)

The German startup **OGATA** invented PaperJohn, an innovative retail bag, which can be used as a backpack. Made entirely from recycled paper, PaperJohn offers an ingenious new way of carrying goods. Founders Cornelius Voss and Dennis Rasch combine expertise in sustainable design, creativity and private equity to offer a new branding experience with their product and have already won the German Design Award Gold 2018. (Corporate partner: ALDI Nord & ALDI SÜD)

**Ondewo** from Vienna developed a Conversational AI fully automate human-machine conversations. Andreas Rath and

Alexander Schult, both McKinsey alumni, founded the company in June 2017 and closed their first investment round with Catalysts, an international software company, in July 2018. (Corporate partner: ADAC)

**Refresherboxx** is an environmentally-friendly aesthetic cabinet for disinfecting, drying and refreshing clothes with a fresh scent. Founders Stefan Chang, Gernot Sümmermann, and Marko Kloiber of the Aachen-based startup work together with various partners like Fraunhofer Ventures, digitalHUB Aachen and now TechFounders. (Corporate Partner: Miele)

**ReVibe Energy** turns vibrations into electricity with the purpose of powering IoT application/sensor systems. SAAB is a vital asset for ReVibe as a strategic investor and as a technical partner. The Swedish startup will now be working with Knorr-Bremse in the TechFounders program. (Corporate Partner: Knorr-Bremse)

Munich-based startup **Wisefood** substitutes plastic straws and helps companies to become more sustainable. They do not only offer a plastic straw alternative, but also offer a variety of marketing materials especially to hotels and restaurants. In 2018, the startup won the biggest European food award EIT and is officially supported by the EU since then. Wisefoods' superstraw is already used in various hotels and restaurants such as ibis in Berlin or LeBurger in Vienna. (Corporate partner: ALDI Nord & ALDI)

#### **Press Contact**

Markus Bosch  
Communications Manager  
UnternehmerTUM GmbH  
Tel +49 89-18 94 69-1327  
bosch@unternehmertum.de

## **UnternehmerTUM –**

### **Europe's leading Center for Innovation and Business Creation**

UnternehmerTUM is a unique platform for the development of innovations. UnternehmerTUM actively identifies innovative technologies and initiates new business through the systematic networking of talents, technologies, capital and customers.

UnternehmerTUM offers founders and startups a complete service from the initial idea to IPO. A team of 240 experienced entrepreneurs, including scientists and investors, supports startups with business creation, market entry and financing – also with venture capital. For industry partners, UnternehmerTUM is a central platform for cooperation with new companies, and for expansion of their innovative strength and culture.

Founded in 2002 by the entrepreneur Susanne Klatten, UnternehmerTUM is the leading center for innovation and business creation in Europe with more than 50 high-growth technology startups every year - including Celonis, Konux and Liliium.

## **TechFounders**

TechFounders is a 20-week tech-startup accelerator program that strategically coaches startups, brings them together with established businesses, and prepares them for the next venture capital round with a broad mentoring network. A total of 91 startups have joined the Accelerator Program since 2015. With TechFounders, UnternehmerTUM strengthens its role as a central platform for cooperation between startups and companies.

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