+++ PRESS RELEASE +++ 8 exciting tech startups ready for innovation with leading companies - TechFounders Accelerator Program starts with Batch #15 +++ January 2022 +++ LF GmbH & Co. KG +++

Munich, January 2022. Eight promising tech startups from Europe and the Americas have been carefully selected (from over 120 applicants) to participate in the 15th cohort of the TechFounders startup accelerator program. The Munich-based accelerator program of UnternehmerTUM, Europe's leading center for innovation and business creation, will support these young companies in their growth over the next 20 weeks. The startups were scouted in cooperation with the TechFounders Batch #15 corporate partners CLAAS, Datev, HP Tech Ventures, Knorr-Bremse and Miele.



Over the next five months, TechFounders will support the startups with individual training, coaching and mentoring to scale their companies and prepare them for the next round of financing. The program ensures that sustainability is anchored at the core of every company: A variety of different program modules enables the participating startups to think about their overall economic and ecological impact. In this way, the startups can maximize their positive social contributions while reducing negative externalities. The selected startups will also conduct a pilot project with one of TechFounders' corporate partners - a recipe for ensuring long-term success.

The future of the selected startups looks bright: 86% of the 137 alumni startups of the TechFounders program are still active. Since 2015, TechFounders alumni startups have raised a total of almost EUR 470 million in funding capital and created over 3.000 Jobs, which contributes significantly to the growth of the European startup ecosystem.

Success stories like Konux, ProGlove, Arculus or Inveox prove that the TechFounders concept works.

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LF GmbH & Co. KG with their brand LIQFRIC® develops tailor-made compounding solutions for the friction industry with the aim of reducing energy consumption and improving carbon neutrality. The product is a versatile friction material (focus: vehicle brakes), which significantly reduces fine particle emissions and is capable of reducing CO_2 emissions by at least 85% during the manufacturing process, as it is cast rather than pressed (industrial partner: Knorr-Bremse).

UnternehmerTUM - Europe's leading center for innovation and business formation

UnternehmerTUM is a unique platform for the development of innovations. UnternehmerTUM actively identifies innovative technologies and initiates new business through the systematic networking of talent, technology, capital and customers. UnternehmerTUM offers founders and startups a complete service from the initial idea to the IPO. A team of over 300 experienced entrepreneurs, including scientists and investors, supports startups in founding a company, entering the market and financing - also with venture capital. For established companies, a team of experienced consultants offers access to the UnternehmerTUM ecosystem. UnternehmerTUM has many years of expertise in the development of innovation strategies and the implementation of technology-driven business ideas. Founded in 2002 by the entrepreneur Susanne Klatten, the non-profit UnternehmerTUM GmbH is the leading center for innovation and business startups in Europe with more than 80 high-growth technology startups every year - including Celonis, Konux, Lilium and Isar Aerospace.

TechFounders

TechFounders is the 20-week tech startup accelerator program that strategically coaches startups, brings them together with established companies and prepares them for the next round of financing with individual coaching and a broad mentor network. A total of 137 startups have taken part in the accelerator program since 2015. With TechFounders, UnternehmerTUM strengthens its role as a central platform for cooperation between startups and established companies. TechFounders also runs the SAP.iO accelerator program in Munich and the RESPOND accelerator program for the BMW Foundation Herbert Quandt.

LF GmbH & Co. KG was founded in Germany in March 2016 and follows the strategic idea of producing friction materials based on a liquid friction compound that can be hardened at room temperature (or faster at higher temperatures) to make high-temperature stable friction lining materials for automotive, rail, and clutch- as well as industrial applications. The company has entered into development projects and collaborations with some key players in the brake- and clutch industry in Europe and especially in Germany. LIQFRIC® is a registered trademark of LF GmbH & Co. KG.

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