

## **Connecting today's most promising tech startups with leading corporates - The TechFounders Accelerator Program launches its 14<sup>th</sup> batch**

**Munich, July 26, 2021.** Ten up-and-coming tech startups from around Europe are joining the 14th cohort of the Startup Accelerator Program TechFounders. The Munich-based accelerator program of UnternehmerTUM, Europe's leading center for innovation and business creation, will host these novel startups over the next 20 weeks. The startups were selected together with the TechFounders corporate partners ALDI Nord, Festo, Knorr-Bremse, Miele, and Wacker Chemie.

During the upcoming five months, TechFounders will support the startups with individual training, coaching, and mentoring to scale their companies and prepare them for their next financing round. Further, the TechFounders program helps to embed sustainability in the core of every business: Different program modules enable the participating startups to reflect upon their full economic, environmental and social impact, maximizing the positive impact and reducing negative externalities, and ensuring their long-term success. In addition, the selected startups will conduct a pilot project with one of the TechFounders' corporate partners. In the upcoming batch, TechFounders also supports an additional startup that is promoting mental wellbeing and lifting the stigma surrounding mental health. The selected startup joins the program to receive support from TechFounders to develop their product ready-to-use and to further distribution.

The future of the selected startups looks promising: 85% of the TechFounders program's alumni companies are still active. Since 2015, TechFounders alumni startups have collected in total close to €420 million financing capital and created over 3,000 jobs and therefore contributed significantly to the growth of the European startup ecosystem. Success stories such as Konux, ProGlove, Arculus, or Inveox prove the TechFounders concept works.

### **The TechFounders Batch #14 Startups are:**

#### **Aladyn System**

Aladyn System has developed an award-winning wireless charging technology that will transform the way consumers and industries charge and power electronic devices at home, offices, and in their cars. Their system differs from conventional wireless power systems by delivering power at a distance and to multiple devices, without being affected by walls or fluids. (Corporate partner: Miele).

## **Eatron Technologies**

Eatron Technologies develops AI-powered intelligent components to drive the future of mobility. Their solutions enable longer battery life and higher usable energy densities for electric vehicles and a more natural feel for Advanced Driver Assistance Systems (ADAS). The software can be used in production applications to support automotive and non-automotive serial programs. (Corporate partner: Knorr-Bremse).

## **Matter**

Microfibers are the most abundant form of microplastic pollution in our rivers and oceans. Unlike microbeads, which are easily excluded from our toiletries and cleaning products, microfibers are formed through damage to a vital resource, our clothes. Matter is pioneering technology solutions for capturing, harvesting, and recycling microplastics from domestic, business, and industry settings. (Corporate partner: Miele).

## **MINDZEIT**

To reduce stress in the long term, it is important to integrate mental training into everyday life. MINDZEIT offers a personal relaxation room that you can take with you wherever you go. Their intelligent and emotion-sensitive anti-stress app responds to the individual and acute needs of the user and promotes self-reflection and a sustainable positive mindset.

## **PANTOhealth**

PANTOhealth offers a predictive maintenance solution for railway infrastructures to prevent damage while saving time and costs. Their product collects real-time data from pantograph and catenary and presents it on a user-friendly analytical dashboard to predict the best time and type of maintenance action. (Corporate partner: Knorr-Bremse).

## **Sencept**

Sencept develops a novel 4D radar sensor for autonomous systems. Their innovation can detect objects in 3D space and estimate their speeds from the Doppler frequency. The radar design is based on novel hardware and software architecture that enables high resolution radar imaging in dense environments. (Corporate partner: Knorr-Bremse).

## **Software Defined Automation**

Software Defined Automation democratizes industrial automation by offering a cloud-based open collaboration platform to optimize production processes and to increase flexibility. Their platform implements OT/IT convergence and allows to automate re-programming of industrial automation

components, which is a major step towards realizing fully autonomous production. (Corporate partner: Festo).

### **Solid 3D Engineering**

SOLID 3D Engineering makes robots see. Their Artificial Intelligence 3D image processing industrial solution integrates with leading automation technologies to allow high precision image recognition and positioning. The solution supports multiple sensors including cameras, lasers, light-sensing sensors, and more. (Corporate partner: Wacker Chemie).

### **Viezo**

Viezo is developing vibration energy harvesting technology for powering wireless IoT sensors to extend their lifetime significantly. Their solution cuts down unnecessary costs and stress of the battery changes and customers gain major added value in the form of sustainable and long-living wireless IoT. (Corporate Partner: Knorr-Bremse).

### **Voltfang**

To drive the energy transition, decentralized battery storage systems are essential. At the same time, the number of registrations of electric cars is growing without certainty of what will happen to all the rechargeable batteries from electric cars when they no longer provide the desired power. Voltfang's sustainable energy storage system is made from used electric car batteries and tailored for the needs of commercial customers. (Corporate Partner: ALDI Nord).

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At the end of the program, the startups will present themselves at the Ultimate Demo Day on December 09, 2021, in front of an audience consisting of venture capital firms, business angels, industry representatives, experienced founders, and the media.

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### **TechFounders**

TechFounders is the 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 individual coaching and a broad mentoring network. A total of 127 startups have joined the accelerator program since 2015. With TechFounders, UnternehmerTUM

strengthens its role as a central platform for cooperation between startups and companies. Together with UnternehmerTUM's innovation consultancy UnternehmerTUM Business Creators, TechFounders also operates the SAP.iO accelerator program in Munich and the RESPOND Accelerator Program for the BMW Foundation Herbert Quandt.

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### **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 over 300 experienced entrepreneurs, including scientists and investors, supports startups with business creation, market entry 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 gGmbH is the leading center for innovation and business creation in Europe with more than 80 high-growth technology startups every year - including Celonis, Konux, Lilium and Isar Aerospace.

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