

PRESS RELEASE

Serial Founders Announce Merger To Create GERMANTECH And Launch Of GERMANTECH FOUNDATION

Berlin, 4 July 2019

On 4 July, GTEC, the German Tech Entrepreneurship Center, celebrated its fourth birthday as part of an exclusive event with about 200 guests, including successful entrepreneurs and well-known representatives from the political, public, and social sectors.

Cause for celebration gave not only this anniversary but also the announcement of a few innovations:

The central subject of the evening was the launch of the GERMANTECH FOUNDATION and the merger of corporate company builders GERMANTECH DIGITAL (GTD) and GTEC into GERMANTECH. The new company will be fully integrated into the newly created foundation. Furthermore, the GTEC Foundation gGmbH was founded as a subsidiary for the implementation of non-profit projects.

The GERMANTECH'S shareholders and the management emphasized the positive effect that technology and entrepreneurship will have on society. From now on, the combined forces will be used to strengthen this goal. Together with partners from the private, public, and social sectors, their work will leverage potential and shape real change for the future.

GERMANTECH is about more than digital transformation and disruptive technologies: its stated goal is to implement innovative projects, develop digital products, and create the jobs of the future. The new company's mission is: INSPIRE. BUILD. GROW.

Thanks to the broad range of experience within the GERMANTECH team, it will thus from now on be possible to map and accompany the entire innovation life cycle. Companies and startups, as well as the public sector, political institutions, and NGOs, will be able to rely on the expertise of the team and the network.

GTEC and GTD were founded by successful tech entrepreneurs in 2015 and 2016, respectively, to pass on their own experiences and innovative strengths to corporates and SMEs. Why? Because they are the most important employers. Knowledge-sharing has demonstrably fostered active participation in digital transformation and will continue to do so. This path is the only way to create the jobs of the future and technology leadership in new segments.

Much has already been achieved in recent years. To date, GTEC has worked with six of the DAX30 companies, large SMEs, and family businesses on technology, disruption, and innovation issues. GTD has now built five corporate startups in the banking, energy, and telecommunications sectors, with more than 100 new jobs created.

GTEC has taken its entrepreneurial responsibility even further and invested all its profits in the promotion of technology-based startups as well as in Germany's most extensive public open-lecture series on entrepreneurship. More than 20,000 people have participated and learned directly from entrepreneurs. Several Innovation Awards have distributed more than EUR200,000 in prize money to startups from around the world. Nearly 100 entrepreneurs from 25 countries received GTEC support, and hundreds of jobs were created.

Now the team will focus on the following tasks: the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) clarify which challenges have to be overcome in the coming decades. Germany and Europe are massively behind schedule. At the same time, we are experiencing a lack of digital literacy with regards to politics and social helplessness expressed in radical positions.

The entrepreneurial answer to this is GERMANTECH.

Through GERMANTECH, the entire innovation lifecycle can be accompanied and designed – from education and training to idea development to launch and scaling. A non-profit limited creates the ability to extend the spectrum of activity to the public and social sectors. The conviction that technology and entrepreneurship will lead to a better life will now be promoted across all sectors.

The purpose of the foundation, which incorporates the existing organizations, is to serve the well-being of society through education on technology and entrepreneurship. The unique network of more than 300 successful tech entrepreneurs will continue to be involved in the realization of this purpose. To further publicize the 17 UN SDGs, there will be an event series branded WORLDCHANGERS IN TECH.

ABOUT GERMANTECH



We create digital ecosystems for a sustainable future. We believe in the positive power of technology and entrepreneurship for society. We work with partners from the private, public, and social sectors to unlock their potential and make real changes for the future. We go beyond digital transformation. We are committed to bringing innovative projects to life, developing digital products, and creating jobs for tomorrow. We do this in three easy steps: INSPIRE. BUILD. GROW.

The GERMANTECH founding team looks back on more than 80 years of collective experience as entrepreneurs. Oliver Clasen, Ludwig Preller, Benjamin Rohé, Myriam Locher, Michael Gröger, and Maria Gross have raised more than EUR200 million for tech companies, invested in more than 100 startups, and fostered dozens of successful launches with 1,000 jobs created as well as successful M&A transactions and an IPO. The GERMANTECH FOUNDATION now puts this experience at the service of society.

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