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for immediate publication

## **German Startups Group will move to the new Deutsche Börse quality segment Scale for small and medium-sized enterprises on 1 March 2017**

**Berlin, 16 February 2017** - German Startups Group, the most active private venture capital investor in Germany in the time period since 2012 (CB Insights 2015, PitchBook 2016), will move to the new exchange segment Scale for small and medium-sized enterprises of Deutsche Börse AG on its start per 1 March 2017 and will be listed there as one of only approximately 40 companies. The new exchange segment will replace the Entry Standard, in which the company has been listed up to now.

Christoph Gerlinger, CEO of German Startups Group, comments, „Scale promises to become a platform through which strongly growing startups will be able to gain access to the capital market and present themselves to a broad public. The newly introduced quality standards are to contribute to this, too. The independent research paid by Deutsche Börse will also provide all investors in the segment with the benefit of objective comparability and therefore further heighten the attractiveness of Scale. We see German Startups Group as a good fit to this environment. We are thus looking forward to Scale and believe it will bring our share more attention and trading liquidity. We hope that the discount to the net asset value per share included in the share price will decrease as well.“

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**German Startups Group - We Love Startups!**

German Startups Group is a listed investment company based in Berlin that focuses on young, fast-growing companies, so-called startups. The company acquires majority and minority shareholdings mainly by providing venture capital. The portfolio companies that German Startups Group holds also stand to benefit from German Startups Group's expertise, experience and network with respect to strategy development, financing rounds, restructuring necessities, M&A transactions or selling the company, including a possible IPO. According to its own assessment, German Startups Group provides startups with so-called "smart



money” by acquiring a shareholding. Its focus is on companies whose products or business models represent a disruptive innovation, allow for a high degree of scalability to be expected, and in which it has a great deal of trust in the entrepreneurial abilities of the founders to whom it feels that it obtains early access to due to its close relationships to relevant players in the startup scene. The geographical focus is on the German-speaking region. Since it commenced with operations in 2012, German Startups Group has in its opinion built up a diversified portfolio of investments in young companies and become the most active private venture capital investor in Germany since 2012 (CB Insights 2015, PitchBook 2016). 25 of the 47 minority stakeholdings in operationally active companies are of particular significance to German Startups Group and together comprise 89% of the total value of all 47 active minority stakeholdings. The ten core holdings alone make up 60% of the value of all active minority stakeholdings. According to German Startups Group, its investment portfolio reflects a cross-section of promising German startups of various maturity stages ("Seed," "Early" and "Growth Stage," by German Startups Group's own definition) and includes some of the most successful and best known German startups.

More information is available on our website at [www.german-startups.com](http://www.german-startups.com).