

## +++ Press release +++

## The Payments Group Holding – Launch of strategic cooperation with Bluecode technically and economically successful

- A nearly worldwide deployable payment app from a leading European mobile payment service with around 160 million acceptance points
- Cooperation with international networks such as Alipay+ and Discover Global Network and member of the European Mobile Payment Systems Association (EMPSA)
- Launch of extensive marketing campaigns, incl. the new 'Travel Wallet'

**Frankfurt/Main, 15 August 2025** – The strategic cooperation between The Payments Group (TPG) and Bluecode, a leading European payment system, has got off to a successful start. TPG has provided a highly scalable software solution seamlessly integrated into the Bluecode app and interoperable with international payment services such as Alipay+. During the initial rollout, technical challenges were resolved and systems and processes optimized.

Within the first weeks, TPG's prepaid solution already recorded a remarkably high number of users who loaded funds into their Bluecode-compatible wallet at Calida Financial Ltd., a TPG subsidiary - well before active marketing had even begun. The partners are now launching the prepared, large-scale marketing campaigns. The attractive global payment option enabled by the Calida prepaid solution will be positioned, among other things, as a "Travel Wallet" for frequent travelers, a completely new area of application outside of Bluecode's established network of acceptance points.

The Payments Group Holding (PGH) was founded in 2012 and rebranded in August 2024. In the same month, PGH agreed to acquire four cooperating FinTech and PayTech companies that now jointly form The Payments Group. Following the approval already granted, which is assumed to be final, closing of the transaction is expected in the coming months subject to the MFSA's confirmation.

## **About The Payments Group Holding**

The Payments Group Holding (PGH) is a holding company and venture capital provider based in Frankfurt am Main founded in 2012 and renamed in August 2024.

In August 2024, PGH signed a share purchase agreement for the acquisition of four PayTech companies, which is expected to close in summer 2025 subject to certain conditions precedent. After closing of the transaction, PGH will form a group of four operating PayTech companies:

Funanga AG, Campamocha Ltd with its 100%-owned subsidiaries TBWS Ltd and Calida Financial Ltd as well as Surfer Rosa Ltd form a fast-growing, vertically integrated e-Money PayTech group of companies - The Payments Group (TPG). TPG provides proprietary closed and open (branded and white-labelled) prepaid payment services to hundreds of online merchants worldwide. The synergy between these companies positions TPG as the future market leader in embedded financial products and prepaid solutions. Calida Financial Ltd. is the regulated company within TPG, having received an e-money license from the Malta Financial Services Authority (MFSA) in August 2024. This license entitles Calida Financial Ltd. to offer innovative e-money services and products across Europe.

TPG employs over 50 people and operates globally. TPG's customers make use of more than 550,000 POS cash payment points and the global online prepaid card network to process cash and cashless online payments.

Furthermore, PGH operates an Al-focused company builder called 'Softmax Al' together with Al experts via its future 25% stake in German Al Projects GmbH. In addition, The Payments Group Holding holds from its history as a leading German venture capital provider under the German Startups Group brand a heritage VC-portfolio of minority stakes in partly promising German startups via its wholly owned subsidiary German Startups Group VC GmbH.

More information: www.tpgholding.com.

Investor Relations Contact Rosenberg Strategic Communications Alexander Schmidt a.schmidt@rosenbergsc.com