Funding, Growth and Profitability: Tech Start-ups finding the right balance

Venture Capital and Start-ups in Germany 2016

VC Trends initiative by EY
Welcome
Funding, Growth and Profitability

In 2016, the German Tech start-up industry evolved as an integral part of the national economy. Fast-growing companies are acting as pioneers of the digital transformation across the country.

After years of tremendous growth in funding, partly driven by a few young ventures, the German start-up ecosystem is becoming an own segment. We see a well-balanced supply of early-stage financing contributed by VC funds, family offices and business angels. Liquidity from recent success stories is coming back to the market and helping new ventures to develop.

We are observing a strong trend towards B2B business models and an increasing engagement of established Corporates in the ecosystem, acting as the key exit channel for founders and their early-stage investors. Going forward, a further enhancement of the later-stage funding environment in Germany will help to make successful ventures really big before being sold in rather early stages of the development.

We consider the market development in 2016 as healthy. The German ecosystem proved to manage upcoming challenges and is well on track to find the right balance between funding, growth and profitability.

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Top 100 German start-ups in terms of funding account for USD 5.9bn financing

Not long ago, only a few large-sized ventures represented the German start-up scene in terms of funding volume. Lately, however, in the slipstream of these firms, a broad base has evolved in the national ecosystem. Fast-growing and innovative companies are operating successfully in mass-markets but also in newly established market niches. We have analyzed the Tech start-up ecosystem and have ranked the largest ventures in terms of total funding volume. The overview is based on public information, mainly from the Crunchbase venture database.

The Top 100 start-ups (before exit or IPO) have attracted a funding volume of more than USD 5.9bn since their foundation. This ranges from global food-delivery player Delivery Hero with USD 1.4bn funding to start-ups such as Scalable Capital, COBI or Smeet with ~USD 10m. From a long-term view, the German market has seen a strong push in creation of enterprises following the financial crisis in 2008. About 70% of the start-ups in our Top 100 list were founded in the period from 2009-2015 and have managed to gain market relevance.

The business models are diverse, but trend patterns can be observed. Market trends such as Food, Retail, FinTech or AdTech have been very prominent in the last years and translated into material funding rounds, fueling competition on European ground. Berlin remains the heart of the ecosystem. About two thirds of the Top 100 ventures are based in the German capital due to the high density of digital success stories (e.g. HERE or ImmobilienScout24), investors and other stakeholders. Munich, Hamburg and Frankfurt are next on the list.
The market has gone through a transition phase over the course of the last years. Funding volumes and individual tickets have increased steadily, with a lot of fresh money flowing into seed and early-stage companies. Growth and later-stage financing rounds are still led by international investors in most of the cases, indicating future potential in terms of the development of the German growth finance market.

The top list is characterized by portfolio firms linked to Rocket Internet, including Delivery Hero, HelloFresh, Westwing and Home24. In recent years, the company builder has acted as the driver for marketable digital ideas and as a nucleus for the Berlin ecosystem in terms of digital education and business execution. Other top ventures are backed by renowned international venture capitalists or investors such as DN Capital, DST Capital, Goldman Sachs, Index Ventures, J.C. Flowers & Co., Kleiner Perkins, TCV, Union Square Ventures, Victory Park Capital or Värde Partners.

The outlined development is promising and indicates that the German market is in a leading position in Europe. However, in the GP.Bullhound European Unicorn league table, the country is in third position, behind the UK and Sweden with five ventures valued more than EUR 1bn (Zalando, Delivery Hero, HelloFresh, Rocket Internet, AUTO1 Group), and emerging unicorns such as Check24, Kreditech and SoundCloud.

### Top 10 start-ups

- **Delivery Hero:** Established in 2011, Delivery Hero has received USD 1.4bn in funding since its foundation. The company is operating in more than 47 countries and is among the candidates for an exit on a large scale, especially after the acquisition of local rivals pizza.de and Foodpanda.

- **HelloFresh:** Established in 2012, the firm is a food subscription company that sends its customers pre-portioned ingredients for weekly meals. With a total funding of USD 364m, the company plans to further grow in existing and new markets.

- **Westwing:** Established in 2011, the shopping club for home and living products has attracted millions of members. The firm operates globally, has more than 1,500 employees and a total funding of USD 237m.

- **Auxmoney:** Established in 2007, the firm is an online peer-to-peer loan marketplace. The company assesses the risk of borrowers by using its own algorithms. The firm has a total funding of USD 198m and operates in the same market as Smava in Germany or Lending Club in the US.

- **SoundCloud:** Established in 2007, the firm is a social networking service for music. Over the course of the last few years, the venture has raised USD 193m, with the latest cash injection of USD 70m coming from Twitter Ventures in 2016. Despite the maturity of the firm, SoundCloud is one of the flagships in the German digital scene, with a user base of roughly 175m active monthly users who are passionate about music.

- **Home24:** Established in 2009 and now with more than 1,000 employees, the firm has become one of the largest European online furniture stores. The venture has attracted a total funding of USD 173m.

- **Kreditech:** Established in 2012, the firm is a consumer finance technology group that uses big data to score the creditworthiness of customers. The FinTech venture has a total funding of USD 163m, with a major debt financing injection in 2015.

- **GoEuro:** Established in 2012, the travel planner and booking platform has become an established player in the European market. GoEuro’s overall mission is to simplify longer-distance European travel. The firm received big cash injections in 2016 (EUR 70m) and 2015 (EUR 45m), and shows a total funding of USD 146m.

- **AUTO1 Group:** Established in 2012, the firm is an innovative venture that focuses on trading cars. The firm had been off the radar for most of the people in the national start-up scene but received a lot of attention after the announcement of a USD 118m funding in April 2015. The firm was valued at more than USD 1bn in the outlined financing round. According to a press article, the AUTO1 Group has secured a new investment in December 2016 based on a valuation of possibly up to USD 2bn.

- **Auctionata:** Established in 2012, the firm operates an online auction platform for luxury goods, art, antiques and collectibles, with a total funding volume of USD 96m. In 2016, the venture merged with UK-based Paddle8.
Venture ideas are diverse with business models mainly linked to Food, Retail, FinTech and AdTech

Top 100 start-ups located in Germany (based on total funding value in Q4 2016 before exit or IPO)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Target name</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Target profile</th>
<th>Founding year</th>
<th>Total funding value in USD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Delivery Hero</td>
<td>Berlin</td>
<td>Food delivery service</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>1,391(^1) million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>HelloFresh</td>
<td>Berlin</td>
<td>Food boxes</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>364 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Westwing</td>
<td>Munich</td>
<td>Retail for furniture</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>237 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Auxmoney</td>
<td>Dusseldorf</td>
<td>Peer-to-peer lending</td>
<td>2007</td>
<td>198 million</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>SoundCloud</td>
<td>Berlin</td>
<td>Music streaming</td>
<td>2007</td>
<td>193 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Home24</td>
<td>Berlin</td>
<td>Retail for furniture</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>173 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Kreditech</td>
<td>Hamburg</td>
<td>Big data credit scoring</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>163 million</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>GoEuro</td>
<td>Berlin</td>
<td>Travel search engine</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Auto1 Group</td>
<td>Berlin</td>
<td>Car retailing platform</td>
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<td>118(^2) million</td>
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<td>Household services</td>
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<td>Fitness products</td>
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<td>Personal shopping service</td>
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<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Tado(^b)</td>
<td>Munich</td>
<td>Heating application</td>
<td>2011</td>
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<td>Arago</td>
<td>Frankfurt</td>
<td>Automation of IT operations</td>
<td>1995</td>
<td>55 million</td>
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<td>24</td>
<td>N26</td>
<td>Berlin</td>
<td>Banking technology</td>
<td>2013</td>
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<td>25</td>
<td>Dreamlines</td>
<td>Hamburg</td>
<td>Platform for cruises</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>53 million</td>
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<td>26</td>
<td>Brillen.de</td>
<td>Wildau</td>
<td>Retailer for glasses</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>50 million</td>
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<td>27</td>
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<td>Berlin</td>
<td>Moving services</td>
<td>2015</td>
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<td>28</td>
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<td>Aachen</td>
<td>Fashion e-commerce</td>
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<td>45 million</td>
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<td>Berlin</td>
<td>Payment system technology</td>
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<td>31</td>
<td>Open-Xchange</td>
<td>Nuremberg</td>
<td>Communication software</td>
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<td>32</td>
<td>EnOcean</td>
<td>Oberhaching</td>
<td>Sensor solutions provider</td>
<td>2001</td>
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<td>33</td>
<td>FinanzCheck</td>
<td>Hamburg</td>
<td>Comparison platform</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>38 million</td>
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<td>34</td>
<td>NumberFour</td>
<td>Berlin</td>
<td>SaaS services</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>38 million</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Crunchbase, December 2016

\(^1\) According to a press release by Rocket Internet in December 2016, another EUR 800m have been invested into Delivery Hero since 2015.
\(^2\) According to a press article, the AUTO1 Group has secured a new investment in December 2016 based on a valuation of possibly up to USD 2bn.
Most of the Top 100 start-ups (regarding funding-volume) are based in Berlin, followed by Hamburg and Munich

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Target name</th>
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<th>Founding year</th>
<th>Total funding value in USD</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>Orderbird</td>
<td>Berlin</td>
<td>iPad POS system</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>37 million</td>
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<td>36</td>
<td>Thermondo</td>
<td>Berlin</td>
<td>Heat and power technology</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>37 million</td>
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<tr>
<td>37</td>
<td>relayr</td>
<td>Berlin</td>
<td>Internet-of-things platform</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>37 million</td>
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<td>38</td>
<td>Webtrekk</td>
<td>Berlin</td>
<td>Data intelligence solutions</td>
<td>2003</td>
<td>35 million</td>
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<td>39</td>
<td>Azubu</td>
<td>Berlin</td>
<td>Media sports company</td>
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<td>35 million</td>
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<td>Berlin</td>
<td>Car classifieds platform</td>
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<td>Knowledge network</td>
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<td>Signavio</td>
<td>Berlin</td>
<td>Business process management</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>34 million</td>
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<td>FinanceFox</td>
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<td>Insurance brokerage</td>
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<td>34 million</td>
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<td>AEVI International</td>
<td>Paderborn</td>
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<td>Berlin</td>
<td>Mobile games</td>
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<td>32 million</td>
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<td>Raisin</td>
<td>Berlin</td>
<td>Deposit brokerage platform</td>
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<td>47</td>
<td>Babbel</td>
<td>Berlin</td>
<td>Language learning application</td>
<td>2007</td>
<td>32 million</td>
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<td>48</td>
<td>Searchmetrics</td>
<td>Berlin</td>
<td>SEO</td>
<td>2007</td>
<td>32 million</td>
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<td>49</td>
<td>Clue App</td>
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<td>Female health app</td>
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<td>Hotel data and analytics</td>
<td>2013</td>
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<td>HomeToGo</td>
<td>Berlin</td>
<td>Vacation rental platform</td>
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<td>52</td>
<td>Bettermarks</td>
<td>Berlin</td>
<td>Online mathematics platform</td>
<td>2003</td>
<td>30 million</td>
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<tr>
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<td>BrandMaker</td>
<td>Karlsruhe</td>
<td>Marketing resource management</td>
<td>1999</td>
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<td>54</td>
<td>adjust</td>
<td>Berlin</td>
<td>Analytics and BI platform</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>29 million</td>
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<td>Marley Spoon</td>
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<td>Celonis</td>
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<td>Vacation rentals platform</td>
<td>2014</td>
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<td>Netbiscuits</td>
<td>Kaiserslautern</td>
<td>Platform for app development</td>
<td>2000</td>
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<td>Zimory</td>
<td>Berlin</td>
<td>Cloud technology</td>
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<td>59</td>
<td>Move24</td>
<td>Berlin</td>
<td>Professional moving platform</td>
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<td>Shopgate</td>
<td>Butzbach</td>
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<td>2009</td>
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<td>EyeEm</td>
<td>Berlin</td>
<td>Photography community</td>
<td>2011</td>
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<td>62</td>
<td>Junike</td>
<td>Berlin</td>
<td>Art marketplace</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>24 million</td>
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<td>63</td>
<td>Lesara</td>
<td>Berlin</td>
<td>Online retailer</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>24 million</td>
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<tr>
<td>64</td>
<td>Deposit Solutions</td>
<td>Hamburg</td>
<td>Fintech platform</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>24 million</td>
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<td>65</td>
<td>Simfy</td>
<td>Cologne</td>
<td>Music platform</td>
<td>2006</td>
<td>23 million</td>
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<td>66</td>
<td>Chrono24</td>
<td>Karlsruhe</td>
<td>Luxury watches</td>
<td>2003</td>
<td>23 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>67</td>
<td>B2X Care Solutions</td>
<td>Munich</td>
<td>Customer care solutions</td>
<td>2007</td>
<td>23 million</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Crunchbase, December 2016
The tail of the top ventures – predominantly early-stage – has attracted at least a two-digit USDm funding volume.

### Top 100 start-ups located in Germany (based on total funding value in Q4 2016 before exit or IPO)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Target name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>68</td>
<td>Flare Games</td>
<td>Karlsruhe</td>
<td>Online games</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>23 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>69</td>
<td>Mediakraft Networks</td>
<td>Cologne</td>
<td>Online television network</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>22 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70</td>
<td>Azeti Networks</td>
<td>Berlin</td>
<td>IoT and M2M</td>
<td>2006</td>
<td>21 million</td>
</tr>
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<td>71</td>
<td>Onefootball</td>
<td>Berlin</td>
<td>Football community</td>
<td>2008</td>
<td>20 million</td>
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<td>AppLift</td>
<td>Berlin</td>
<td>App marketing platform</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>20 million</td>
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<td>Traxpay</td>
<td>Frankfurt</td>
<td>Financial payments</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>19 million</td>
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<td>Urbanara</td>
<td>Berlin</td>
<td>Home decoration</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>18 million</td>
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<td>Cologne</td>
<td>Students as temp workers</td>
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<td>Munich</td>
<td>Broker and comparison portal</td>
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<td>77</td>
<td>Watchmaster</td>
<td>Berlin</td>
<td>Luxury watches</td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>17 million</td>
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<td>Berlin</td>
<td>Mobile games</td>
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<td>17 million</td>
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<td>2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>83</td>
<td>Friendsurance</td>
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<td>Cash back bonus services</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>15 million</td>
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<td>84</td>
<td>Trademob</td>
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<td>Mobile advertising</td>
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<td>15 million</td>
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<td>85</td>
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<td>Berlin</td>
<td>Insurance platform</td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>15 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>86</td>
<td>Spotted</td>
<td>Mannheim</td>
<td>Social discovery app</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>15 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>87</td>
<td>Shopwings</td>
<td>Berlin</td>
<td>Groceries delivery services</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>14 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>88</td>
<td>Shore</td>
<td>Munich</td>
<td>Solutions for local providers</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>14 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>89</td>
<td>Mambu</td>
<td>Berlin</td>
<td>Cloud banking platform</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>13 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90</td>
<td>Nestpick</td>
<td>Berlin</td>
<td>Real-estate platform</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>13 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>91</td>
<td>Spreadshirt</td>
<td>Leipzig</td>
<td>Customized fashion</td>
<td>2002</td>
<td>13 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>92</td>
<td>Brille24</td>
<td>Oldenburg</td>
<td>Retailer for glasses</td>
<td>2007</td>
<td>13 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>93</td>
<td>asgoodasnew</td>
<td>Frankfurt</td>
<td>Consumer electronics</td>
<td>2008</td>
<td>13 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>94</td>
<td>Govecs</td>
<td>Munich</td>
<td>Electric vehicle technology</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>13 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>95</td>
<td>TVSmiles</td>
<td>Berlin</td>
<td>Mobile advertising technology</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>13 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>96</td>
<td>Springlane</td>
<td>Dusseldorf</td>
<td>Retailer for cookware</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>12 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>97</td>
<td>Medigo</td>
<td>Berlin</td>
<td>Medical travel platform</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>12 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>98</td>
<td>Smeet</td>
<td>Berlin</td>
<td>3D-entertainment platform</td>
<td>2006</td>
<td>12 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>99</td>
<td>COBI</td>
<td>Frankfurt</td>
<td>Connected biking</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>12 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100</td>
<td>Scalable Capital</td>
<td>Munich</td>
<td>Digital investment service</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>12 million</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Crunchbase, December 2016
Various tech ventures have managed to raise capital on a large scale in 2016. This can be seen in the largest fundings in 2016, spanning from USD 34m (FinanceFox) to USD 88m (HelloFresh). The tickets are in general smaller than in 2015, when DeliveryHero collected EUR 730m and various other firms collected more than EUR 200m each, including HelloFresh, FoodPanda (acquired by Delivery Hero in December 2016) or Zencap (acquired by Funding Circle in October 2015).
Start-up newcomers in Top 10 funding volumes

- **Spotcap**: Established in 2014, the firm is an online credit platform that provides short-term loans for SME companies. The firm is located in Berlin but the majority of operations focusses on the Spanish market, the Netherlands and Australia.

- **eGYM**: Established in 2010, the Munich-based start-up offers cloud-connected gym technology with supporting cloud software to connect gym equipment with an app for the fitness training market. It claims 1,000 of Germany's 6,000 gyms use its products and service.

- **N26**: Established in 2013, the online bank has more than 200,000 customers and wants to become a major consumer-facing bank in Europe. The company has already expanded to other European countries and partnered with Wirecard and TransferWise.

- **Finanzcheck.de**: Established in 2010, the firm is an online comparison site for personal loans and private financial products (with up to 35 banks). The start-up's platform aims to make the loan process in Germany more efficient and transparent.

- **FinanceFox**: Established in 2014, the firm is one of a number of InsurTech start-ups who are attempting to digitalize insurance. FinanceFox offers insurance brokerage processes and enables users to store all insurance policies in a single app.

- **Tado°**: The intelligent home climate control provider was established in 2011. According to a study by Frost & Sullivan, the European smart thermostat market is forecast to reach USD 2.5bn by 2019.

- **HomeToGo**: Established in 2014, the vacation-rental search engine offers more than 6m rentals based on partnerships with more than 250 providers in over 200 countries. The platform aims to make it easy for users to select their accommodation and book through the best provider.

- **Junique**: Established in 2014, the marketplace for curated art has attracted funding at a large scale. The firm plans to use the cash for tech and product development.

- **Watchmaster**: Established in 2015, the marketplace for buying and selling luxury watches is growing fast. The company sources watches from both consumers and watch dealers and provides services.

- **Dubmash**: Established in 2014, the audio network for sharing videos with friends and family has become a viral hit over the last two years; also thanks to celebrities from the United States using the app in social media.

Other ventures with material funding in 2016

- **Finanzcheck.de**: Established in 2010, the firm is an online comparison site for personal loans and private financial products (with up to 35 banks). The start-up’s platform aims to make the loan process in Germany more efficient and transparent.

- **FinanceFox**: Established in 2014, the firm is one of a number of InsurTech start-ups who are attempting to digitalize insurance. FinanceFox offers insurance brokerage processes and enables users to store all insurance policies in a single app.
Market Quotes

While still underserved by global standards, early-stage financing in Europe and Germany has gone through a tremendous development during the past five years, to a well-balanced supply of liquidity in Seed and Series A rounds.

Pawel Chudzinski, Managing Partner at Point Nine Capital

In the light of low interest rates and the attractiveness of the German start-up and VC market, it might make sense to unlock liquidity from the private and governmental pension system and allow more alternative investments.

Nikolas Samios, Chief Investment Officer German Startups Group

Starting with Series B, Germany is still reliant on foreign investors who have the liquidity but also the experience in later-stage venture capital financing.

Otto Birnbaum, Principal at Partech Ventures

We observe different risk-taking attitudes between European and US investors, which have to be managed. A bit more risk appetite at the expense of short-term profitability would help the German ecosystem and facilitate the development of additional global players.

Tobias Streffer, CFO at Mister Spex

There is a lot of money in the market. Private Equity funds have set up designated teams who push into the venture scene for growth financing. We observe high investment pressure and a lack of investment alternatives for PE funds.

Thomas Taherkhani, CFO at Dreamlines

There exists a gap for growth financing in the German market. Companies looking for growth financing mostly rely on foreign, especially American, investors.

Sebastian Pollok, Founder & Managing Director at Amorelie
Thoughts on funding

Start-ups increasingly look for smart money. A broad international network, technological expertise and a strong track record in supporting successful businesses are key to becoming a trusted partner for the best start-ups and founder teams.

Friedrich Neuman, Founder & CEO at Makers

The market for early-stage financing in Germany is pretty well-developed with various investors and steadily growing experience. Starting with Series B and C financing rounds, however, German start-ups are still reliant on foreign investors’ money. Fortunately, they are happy to come to Germany and fill the gap, which can also be considered proof of the attractiveness of the market.

Nikolas Samios, Chief Investment Officer German Startups Group

The market for early-stage financing in Germany is well-developed, with an increasing number of VC players. We observe more and more competitive deals in seed and series A, which sometimes lead to higher company valuations.

Otto Birnbaum, Principal at Partech Ventures

International financial investors ensure a professional financial management even at an early stage of the development. Getting the numbers right is key for them.

Thomas Taherkhani, CFO at Dreamlines

The increasing competition among Seed and Series A investors has led to increasing valuations in early-stage financing rounds. The supply of financing opportunities in Series B and Series C is much lower in Germany, forcing start-ups to raise money abroad.

Friedrich Neuman, Founder & CEO at Makers
Investors
Germany remains highly attractive for the national and international VC scene

In the last 12 months, several new funds were announced by German and international VCs that are committed to young and dynamic technology companies in Germany. The volumes of funds or fund-of-funds total up to nine-figure USD amounts, as can be seen with key players such as Atomico, Accel, BMW, e.Ventures, EQT, KKR, Partech Ventures, Rocket Internet, Sapphire Ventures, Siemens or Verdane Capital.

National VC players and corporate vehicles

› Siemens, the largest engineering company in Europe, has set up a venture fund with a volume of EUR 1bn for a time period of five years. Focus areas for investments include artificial intelligence, autonomous machines, interconnected mobility, decentralized electrification and blockchain applications.

› BMW, the German automotive manufacturer, increased its venture capital fund BMW i Ventures from EUR 100m to EUR 500m. The fund is based in Mountain View (Silicon Valley) and focuses on electric mobility, autonomous driving, digitalization, cloud services, mobility services and artificial intelligence.

› High-Tech Gründerfonds, set up by the German government in 2005, revealed plans to raise EUR 300m. The money is intended to continue the start-up-backing strategy. The seed financing provided is designed to enable ventures to take an idea through prototyping and to market launch. Famous investments by the firm are 6Wunderkinder, Plista, Raumfeld, Tiramizoo or windeln.de.

› Rocket Internet Capital Partners has closed various funding rounds with a total commitment of USD 869m. The company has a strong portfolio and is currently managing European ventures such as HelloFresh, Westwing or Home24.

› The German Ministry for Economics, EIF and KfW launched instruments to raise more venture capital in Germany. The Coparion fund totals EUR 225m and is aimed at companies in the start-up and early growth phase.

› Cherry Ventures, a Berlin-based venture capital firm, raised a new fund worth about EUR 150m. The firm has bet on start-ups that include used-car marketplace AUTO1 Group and long-distance European bus service FlixBus. It also invested in restaurant-booking app Quandoo, sold for EUR 200m in 2015.

› Heilemann Ventures and Earlybird Venture Capital have merged their tech teams to launch the Earlybird Digital West Fund with a funding of EUR 150m. With more than EUR 700m under management, Earlybird is one of the most active VCs in Europe.

› Robert Bosch Venture Capital, the VC company of the Bosch Group, has set up another fund with EUR 150m. With the raised capital, the firm will continue to invest in innovative start-ups and in selected industry-specific venture capital funds in Europe, the US, Israel, and China.

Foreign players with VC operations in the German market

› EOT Ventures, a Swedish Private Equity player with investments in Booking.com, Uber, King, Spotify, Riskmethods or Holidu, raised USD 566m to support fast-growing tech-enabled companies across Europe throughout all stages of growth. In 2016, EOT Ventures led the funding round of Service Partner ONE in Berlin.

› Partech Ventures, a global investment firm, completed the final closing of its Partech Growth fund, with a total of EUR 400m. The firm is based in San Francisco, Paris and Berlin. The portfolio includes Auxmoney and Chronext.

› Accel, a leading venture capital firm, announced Accel London V, a USD 500m fund raised to invest in ventures in Europe and Israel. Portfolio start-ups include price comparison service Check24 or food delivery business Deliveroo.

› Atomico, the venture capital firm started by Skype co-founder Niklas Zennström, has set out to raise USD 750m, to be invested in promising European start-ups. The firm has already invested in German players such as GoEuro or Hem.

› Sapphire Ventures, the independent venture-capital firm that spun out of SAP, said it closed on USD 1bn to invest in expansion-stage technology start-ups. For SAP’s part, the fund provides insights into technologies and fosters start-up partnerships.
VCs with investment activities in the German market have disclosed funds with a volume of almost EUR 6.2bn in 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Investor</th>
<th>Fund Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Volume Announced</th>
<th>Announced</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Accel</td>
<td>Accel London V</td>
<td>London</td>
<td>USD 500 million</td>
<td>April 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Allianz</td>
<td>Allianz X</td>
<td>Munich</td>
<td>EUR 430 million</td>
<td>December 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Atomico</td>
<td>Fund IV</td>
<td>London</td>
<td>USD 750 million</td>
<td>March 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>BlueYard Capital</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Berlin</td>
<td>USD 120 million</td>
<td>April 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>BMW AG</td>
<td>BMW i Venture Capital Fund</td>
<td>Silicon Valley</td>
<td>EUR 500 million</td>
<td>November 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>ILB</td>
<td>BFB Brandenburg</td>
<td>Potsdam</td>
<td>EUR 70 million</td>
<td>November 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Cavalry Ventures</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Berlin</td>
<td>EUR 20 million</td>
<td>June 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Check24</td>
<td>Check24 Ventures</td>
<td>Munich</td>
<td>EUR 60 million</td>
<td>October 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Cherry Ventures</td>
<td>Cherry Ventures II</td>
<td>Berlin</td>
<td>EUR 150 million</td>
<td>May 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Creandum</td>
<td>Creandum IV</td>
<td>Stockholm</td>
<td>EUR 180 million</td>
<td>February 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Deutsche Börse Group</td>
<td>DB1 Ventures</td>
<td>Frankfurt</td>
<td>undisclosed</td>
<td>February 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>e.Ventures</td>
<td>Early-stage Fund</td>
<td>Berlin</td>
<td>USD 150 million</td>
<td>May 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Earlybird &amp; Heilemann Ventures</td>
<td>Earlybird Digital West Fund</td>
<td>Berlin</td>
<td>EUR 150 million</td>
<td>April 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>EQT</td>
<td>EQT Ventures Fund</td>
<td>Stockholm</td>
<td>EUR 566 million</td>
<td>May 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>BMWi, ERP-Sondervermögen, KfW</td>
<td>Coparion</td>
<td>Cologne</td>
<td>EUR 225 million</td>
<td>March 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Fly Ventures</td>
<td>Early-stage Venture Capital</td>
<td>Berlin</td>
<td>EUR 30-50 million</td>
<td>October 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>High-Tech Gründerfonds</td>
<td>HTGF II</td>
<td>Bonn</td>
<td>EUR 300 million</td>
<td>June 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>HMW/MIG</td>
<td>MIG Fonds 1.4</td>
<td>Munich</td>
<td>EUR 100 million</td>
<td>August 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Merck Ventures</td>
<td>Merck Ventures</td>
<td>Amsterdam</td>
<td>EUR 150 million</td>
<td>June 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>OHB SE</td>
<td>OHB Venture Capital</td>
<td>Munich</td>
<td>undisclosed</td>
<td>May 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Partech Ventures</td>
<td>Partech Growth</td>
<td>Berlin</td>
<td>EUR 400 million</td>
<td>June 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Porsche Digital</td>
<td>Porsche Digital Lab</td>
<td>Berlin</td>
<td>undisclosed</td>
<td>August 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Project A Ventures</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Berlin</td>
<td>EUR 120 million</td>
<td>April 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>rent24</td>
<td>rent24 Ventures</td>
<td>Berlin</td>
<td>EUR 20 million</td>
<td>November 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Robert Bosch VC</td>
<td>RBVC III</td>
<td>Stuttgart</td>
<td>EUR 150 million</td>
<td>April 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Rocket Internet</td>
<td>Capital Partner Funds</td>
<td>Luxembourg</td>
<td>USD 869 million</td>
<td>November 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>SAP</td>
<td>Sapphire Ventures</td>
<td>Palo Alto</td>
<td>EUR 1,000 million</td>
<td>September 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Siemens AG</td>
<td>next147</td>
<td>Munich</td>
<td>EUR 1,000 million</td>
<td>June 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Stadt Hamburg</td>
<td>Innovations-Wachstumsfonds</td>
<td>Hamburg</td>
<td>EUR 100 million</td>
<td>January 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>TRUMPF GmbH + Co. KG</td>
<td>TRUMPF Venture</td>
<td>Ditzingen</td>
<td>EUR 40 million</td>
<td>September 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>Verdane Capital</td>
<td>Verdane IX</td>
<td>Oslo, Stockholm</td>
<td>EUR 320 million</td>
<td>October 2016</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sources: Mergermarket, OneSource, LexisNexis, EY Analysis
The investor landscape has become more diverse with players across the different development stages.

### Investors categorized by typical funding size (selected examples)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Incubators/Accelerators</th>
<th>Seed – Series A</th>
<th>Series B and later</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Axel Springer Plug&amp; Play</td>
<td>• b-to-v</td>
<td>• Acton Capital Partners</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Finleap</td>
<td>• BlueYard Capital</td>
<td>• Global Founders Capital</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• GTEC</td>
<td>• Capnamic Ventures</td>
<td>• Index Ventures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• HitFox Group</td>
<td>• Cavalry Ventures</td>
<td>• Kinnevik</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Hub:Raum</td>
<td>• Cherry Ventures</td>
<td>• Kite Ventures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• MAKERS</td>
<td>• e.ventures</td>
<td>• Lakestar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Project A Ventures</td>
<td>• Earlybird VC</td>
<td>• Phenomen Ventures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Rheingau Ventures</td>
<td>• Fly Ventures</td>
<td>• Rocket Internet Capital Partners</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Rocket Internet</td>
<td>• German Startups Group</td>
<td>• Scottish Equity Partners</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Techstars Metro Accelerator</td>
<td>• Holtzbrinck Ventures</td>
<td>• Target Global</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Venture Stars</td>
<td>• HTGF</td>
<td>• TCV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• War-speed Ventures</td>
<td>• IBB</td>
<td>• Tengelmann Ventures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Mangrove Cap. Partners</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Join Capital</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Northzone</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Key Partners Capital</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Partech Ventures</td>
<td></td>
<td>• La Famiglia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Paua Ventures</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Littlerock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Point Nine Capital</td>
<td></td>
<td>• MAKERS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Project A Ventures</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Motu Ventures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Redstone Digital</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Next47 (Siemens)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Rheingau Founders</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Picus Capital</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• SevenVentures</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Pioneers Ventures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Target Partners</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Porsche Digital</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• UnternehmerTUM</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Rocket Internet Capital Partners</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Saarbruecker21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Seed &amp; Speed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Starstrike Ventures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Think.Health Ventures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Vito Ventures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Warpspeed Ventures</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: EY Analysis

The national Venture Capital landscape in Germany has further developed in 2016, and the market has seen intense activities from established and new players alike. In the early-stage area, the frequency of funding has increased significantly, also fueled by state-controlled or private accelerator programs or specialized investment arms of banks. Despite the solid provision of funding in the seed phase, only a few national funds are able to make investments greater than EUR 5m. This accounts for the vehicles of Rocket Internet that have participated in the majority of the largest instances of national funding over the last years. Other investors with similar strength are Earlybird, Lakestar or Holtzbrinck. Funding rounds of over EUR 10m are usually led by foreign investors who are increasingly allocating time and resources to the German scene. Alternative funding includes Private Equity or family offices, who engage in early-stage but do also late stage investments.

In addition to the established firms that focus on start-ups across the different financing stages, there are new vehicles that have tapped into the market. Among them are corporates and serial entrepreneurs that have institutionalized their investment activities.

**New VC players in 2015/2016 (selected examples)**

- 32nd Floor
- Atlantic Food Labs
- Berliner Volksbank Ventures
- BlueYard Venture
- Building10
- Cavalry Ventures
- Cherry Ventures
- Davidson Technology Growth Debt
- DB1 Ventures (Deutsche Börse)
- Diehl Ventures
- Digital Health Ventures
- Digital Leaders Ventures
- Fly Ventures
- Hype Ventures
- Jochen Schweizer Venture
- 32nd Floor
- Atlantic Food Labs
- Berliner Volksbank Ventures
- BlueYard Venture
- Building10
- Cavalry Ventures
- Cherry Ventures
- Davidson Technology Growth Debt
- DB1 Ventures (Deutsche Börse)
- Diehl Ventures
- Digital Health Ventures
- Digital Leaders Ventures
- Fly Ventures
- Hype Ventures
- Jochen Schweizer Venture
Key players that are active in the German start-up scene (1/4)

Area: Berlin and Potsdam

- 32nd Floor
- Ace Ventures
- Apollo Beteiligungsgesellschaft
- Asgard Capital
- Atlantic Food Labs
- Atlantic Internet
- Atlantic Labs
- Atlantic Ventures
- AvaCapital
- Axel Springer Digital Ventures
- Axel Springer Plug and Play Accel.
- BC Brandenburg Capital
- Bergfürst AG
- Berlin Hardware Accelerator
- Berlin Partner
- Berlin Startup Academy
- Berlin Technologie Holding
- Berlin Venture Partners
- Berlin Ventures
- Berliner Business Angel Fonds.
- Berliner Volksbank Ventures
- Betahaus
- BeYond GmbH
- BF BeteiligungsFonds
- BFB Brandenburg
- BFB Frühphasenfonds Brandenburg
- BFB Wachstumsfonds Brandenburg
- BlueYard Capital
- bmp media investors
- Brandenburg Ventures
- Bsy Invest
- Building10
- b-to-v Partners AG
- CALDONA Vermögensverwaltung
- Campus Venture Beteiligungsg.
- capiton AG
- Catagonia Capital
- Cavalry Ventures
- CCC Seed
- Cherry Ventures
- CoLaborator
- Companisto
- Covus
- Davidson Technology Growth Debt
- DB Accelerator
- Digital Health Ventures
- Earlybird Venture Capital
- ECONA
- Epic Companies
- estag | Capital AG
- Etventure
- EuropeanPioneers Accelerator
- eValue Group
- EyeFocus Accelerator
- FinLeap
- Flutz Ventures
- Fly Ventures
- Found Fair Ventures
- FoundersLink
- Funke Digital
- German Startups Group
- GMPVC German Media Pool
- GO:Incubator
- Grupo Intercom Berlin
- Grusche1 Ventures
- GTEC
- Hasso Plattner Ventures
- Heilemann Ventures
- helios.hub
- HitFox Group
- hub:raum
- Hype Ventures
- IBB Beteiligungsgesellschaft
- iEG (Deutschland)
- join Capital
- K · New Media
- Kamran Capital
- K-Invest BeteiligungsgmbH
- KMB1 Beteiligung
- Königisinsch Unternehmen
- Lakestar
- Leverage Media
- M Cube
- MAKERS
- MAMA
- MCUBATE Growth Experts
- Microsoft Ventures Accelerator
- MINE Innovation Engineering
- Mittelständische Beteiligungsgesellschaft Berlin-Brandenburg
- Möller Ventures
- Motu Ventures
- Mvc Unternehmensbeteiligungsg.
- Newten Ventures
- Next station
- Odeon Management-Partners
- Partech Ventures
- Paua Ventures
- Peppermint Venture Partners
- Picus Capital
- Point Nine Capital
- Porsche Digital
- Portus Corporate Finance
- Project A Ventures
- Project Flying Elephant
- Puchta Petersen
- Reber Capital
- Redstone Digital
- Rheingau Founders
- RI Digital Ventures
- Richmond View Ventures
- Rocket Internet
- Saarbruecker21
- Sapinda Group
- Seedcamp Berlin
- Siemens Technology Accelerator
- Sizzi
- Sky & Sand
- Sobera Capital
- Spreefactory
- Spree-Media.Net
- Springstar
- SSUV Assets
- Starstrike Ventures
- Startup Autobahn (Daimler)
- Startupbootcamp Berlin
- Target Global
- Team Europe
- Techstars METRO Accelerator
- UnitedArts Ventures
- Vattenfall Europe Venture
- VB-Business-Group
- VC Fonds Kreativwirtschaft Berlin
- VC Fonds Technologie Berlin
- VC-POINT GmbH
- Venturecapital Sachs
- Vogel Ventures
- Warspeed Ventures
- Wattx (Vlessmann)
- WestTech Ventures
- XLHEALTH
- Yamas Ventures
- You is Now
Key players that are active in the German start-up scene (2/4)

**Area: Greater area of Dusseldorf and Leverkusen**
- agile Accelerator
- BASF Venture Capital
- Business Angels Agentur Ruhr
- Cresces
- Devario Assets
- Devexo
- ELS Fonds GmbH
- EnjoyVenture
- Grants4Apps
- Innogy Venture Capital
- Littlerock
- Madou Early Ventures
- NRW Bank Investment
- NRW Bank Kreativwirtschaftsfonds
- SeedCapital Dortmund
- Seven Miles
- Statkraft Ventures
- S-VentureCapital Dortmund
- TakeOff VC Management
- Tengelmann Ventures
- TEV Global Invest
- Triginta Capital
- KlickVentures
- MairDuMont Ventures
- Media Investment
- Media Ventures
- Menden Ventures
- netSTART Venture
- Pecunia
- Rewe Digital
- RTL interactive
- Schwetje Invest GmbH
- Startplatz
- STS Ventures
- The Angel Club
- TS Ventures
- Venista Ventures
- VHB Digital
- Whitestone Venture Capital
- Wirtschafts- und Infrastrukturbank Hessen

**Area: Greater Munich**
- 7Travel
- Acton Capital Partners
- Allgeier Gruppe
- Allianz Digital Accelerator
- Alternative Strategic Investments
- Ananda Ventures
- Arcus Capital
- Astutia Ventures
- Aurelius AG
- BambooVentures
- BayBG Bayerische Beteiligungsg.
- Bayern Kapital
- BayernLB Capital Partner GmbH
- BayTech Venture Capital
- BMW Ventures
- BonVenture Management
- Breed Reply
- Burda Digital Ventures
- Cartagena Capital
- Castik Capital Partners
- Cipio Partners
- Clover Venture
- Clusterfonds Innovation
- Cutback Ventures
- Deutsche Venture Capital
- Digital + Partners
- DLD Ventures
- Ecommerce Alliance
- Emeram Private Equity
- Equistone Partners
- Equity Gate
- European Founders Fund
- Extores
- Forbion Capital Partners Germany
- Fraunhofer Venture
- Gimv
- Global Founders Capital
- Grey Corp
- Holtzbrinck Digital
- HV Holtzbrinck Ventures
- HW Capital
- Jochen Schweizer Ventures

**Area: Bonn and Cologne**
- Betafabrik
- Brainweb Investment
- Burgey Business Group
- Capnamic Ventures
- ColognInvest
- Colonia Private Equity
- Crossventures
- Curtis newton labs
- Deutsche Post Ventures
- Deutsche Telekom Capital Partners
- Dieter von Holtzbrinck Ventures
- Dimensional Beteiligungsg.
- e42 Ventures
- Flossbach von Storch
- Founders Capital
- Greven Medien
- Guano
- High-Tech Gründerfonds
- Hitmeister
- iSteps App Ventures
- Accelerator Frankfurt
- Allianz Global Investors
- Baigo Capital GmbH
- Beyond Capital Partners
- Brockhaus Private Equity
- Commerzbank AG
- CommerzVentures
- DB1 Ventures
- DB Lab
- Deutsche Bank AG
- Deutsche Beteiligungsg AG
- Econnoa
- ECM Equity Capital Management GmbH
- FS Vencube
- Gauly Dittrich van de Weyer Bet.
- HCS Beteiligungsgesellschaft
- Heliad Equity Partners
- HEP Beteiligungsg
- HQ Trust
- HR Alpha Venture Partners
- KfW Bankengruppe
- KP TECH Corporate Finance
- Main Incubator
- Omnis Mundi
- P2C Private to Corporate
- Steadfast Capital
- Tempus Capital
- VCDE Venture Partners
- VR Equitipartner
- 7Travel
- Acton Capital Partners
- Allgeier Gruppe
- Allianz Digital Accelerator
- Alternative Strategic Investments
- Ananda Ventures
- Arcus Capital
- Astutia Ventures
- Aurelius AG
- BambooVentures
- Kites Industriebeteiligungen
- La Famiglia
- Maxburg Capital Partners
- Mercura Capital
- Mic AG
- MIG Fonds
- Munich Venture Partners
- Muzungu Capital
- Next 47 (Siemens)
- NFQ Ventures
- Paragon Partners
- PiNOVA Capital
- Prince Invest
- ProSiebenSat.1 Accelerator
- ProSiebenSat.1 Media
- Puccini Germany
- Reimann Investors Advisory
- Riverside Europe Partners
- Safia Corporate Finance
- S-Beteiligungsgesellschaft
- Senovo
- SevenVentures
- SevenOne Intermedia
- Siemens Venture Capital
- Sixt e-ventures
- Smac partners
- Smart digits
- SpaceNet AG
- Star Ventures Management
- Target Capital
- Target Partners
- Tech. Beteiligungsfonds Bayern
- TechFounders Accelerator
- Think. Health Ventures
- Tiburon Unternehmensaufbau
- Tomorrow Focus AG
- TVM Capital
- UnternehmerTUM Fonds
- V+ Beteiligungs GmbH
- Venture Stars
- VIO Management
- Vito Ventures
- W1 Forward InsurTech Accelerator
- Wayra Accelerator
- Wellington Partners
- Xange Private Equity
Area: Hamburg

- Attia Ventures
- Aura Capital Management
- Bauer Venture Partner
- Beaufort Capital
- BTG Beteiligungsgesellschaft Hamburg
- CatCap
- Centuere Beteiligungs-AG
- Cinco Capital
- Cleanventure
- Deutsche Druck- und Verlagsg.
- Digital Pioneers Germany
- dpa-infocom
- e.ventures
- Equity Seven Beteiligungsg.
- eVentures Capital Partners
- Fat Locust Invest
- Fielmann Ventures
- FRW Bach Invest GmbH & Co.KG
- FundersClub
- Genui Partners
- GLG Green Lifestyle
- Gruner + Jahr AG
- H2 Investments
- HackFWD Capital
- Hanse Ventures
- IFB Innovationsstarter
- Innovationssstarter Hamburg
- iVentureCapital
- J.C.M.B. Beteiligungs GmbH
- J.F. Müller & Sohn AG
- Jahr Assetmanagement
- M.M. Warburg
- Neuhaus Partners
- Next Media Accelerator
- Pacama
- Parklane Capital
- Quotas Beteiligungsg.
- SCG Beteiligungsg UG
- Schmidt von Ahlen Capital
- SGLB Beteiligungs- & Beratungsg.
- Shortcut Ventures
- Start 2 Ventures
- Stroer Digital
- Tivoia Ventures
- TruVenturo
- VCmed AG
Key players that are active in the German start-up scene (3/4)

**Area: Other areas**
- Albatros Capital (Stuttgart)
- Alstin (Hannover)
- Arena42 (Stuttgart)
- AS Vantage Holding (Rohrbach)
- AXA Innovation Campus (Stuttgart)
- BCM Bruker Capital (Bietigheim)
- Bertelsmann (Gütersloh)
- Beteiligungs-GmbH (Steinfeld)
- Billfinger Venture Capital (Mannheim)
- Black Forest Accelerator (Lahr)
- BLSW Seedfund (Wuppertal)
- bm-t Beteiligungsm. (Erfurt)
- Boehringer Ingelheim Venture Fund (Ingelheim)
- Born2grow (Heilbronn)
- CEWE Stiftung (Oldenburg)
- CFH Beteiligungsgesellschaft mbH (Leipzig)
- Chancenkapi3lafonds der Kreissparkasse Biberach (Biberach)
- Corporate Counsellors (Melle)
- Creathor Venture (Bad Homburg)
- Crossinvest Venture (Boechingen)
- Crowd-Angel Venture (Hannover)
- Deutsche Balaton (Heidelberg)
- Diehi Ventures (Nuremberg)
- Dr. Engelhardt, Kaupp, Kiefer Beteiligungsbäderung GmbH (Stuttgart)
- DS Invest (Stapelfeld)
- DSA Invest (Aachen)
- eCAPITAL (Münster)
- EMBL Ventures (Heidelberg)
- ENECA (Regensburg)
- Engage Key Tech V. (Karlsruhe)
- Erste bwu equity (Osnabrück)
- Evonik VC (Hanau)
- Familie Gräf Holding GmbH (Hürth)
- Forum Media Ventures (Merching)
- Freudenberg VC (Weinheim)
- FSF Beteiligungen (Leutenberg)
- Fundsters VC (Meerbusch)
- Genius Venture Capital (Schwerin)
- getinvest24 (Cottbus)
- Grazia Equity (Stuttgart)
- Grenke Bank AG (Baden-Baden)
- Gründerfonds Bielefeld (Bielefeld)
- Haas New Media (Mannheim)
- Hannover Beteiligungsfonds (Hannover)
- Heidelberg Innovation Fonds Management GmbH (Heidelberg)
- Heidelberg Capital Private Equity Fund (Heidelberg)
- HR Ventures (Dreieich)
- IBC Beteiligungsg (Magdeburg)
- Intan Werbe- und Strukturbank Rheinland-Pfalz (Mainz)
- ISB Rheinland-Pfalz (Mainz)
- Jaja Investment (Poggez)
- Kabs Venture (Seevetal)
- KBBV (Oldenburg)
- KiZOO Tech. Capital (Karlsruhe)
- Klingen-Gruppe (Pforzheim)
- KSH Capital Partners (Lübeck)
- LBBW Venture Capital (Stuttgart)
- Leonardo Venture (Mannheim)
- Lidl Stiftung & Co. KG (Neckarsulm)
- MBG Baden-Württemberg (Stuttgart)
- Media + more venture (Heilbronn)
- Mediabantum International (Heidelberg)
- Mediengruppe Klambt (Baden-Baden)
- Merck Serono Ventures (Darmstadt)
- Metacrew Ventures (Osnabrück)
- MGO Digital Ventures (Bamberg)
- Moacon Ventures (Neuss)
- Monfish Equity (Leipzig)
- Müller Medien (Nuremberg)
- NABRU Ventures (Mettingen)
- Nai8 Medien Ulm (Ulm)
- Netfartbusines (Gröbenzell)
- Nord L/B (Hannover)
- NWZ Digital (Oldenburg)
- OVDL Vermögensv. (Dresden)
- PDV Inter-Media Venture (Augsburg)
- Priority AG (Herford)
- Publishers Partners (Edenkoben)
- Robert Bosch Venture Capital (Stuttgart)
- Röder & Uhl (Stuttgart)
- Saarländische Wagnisfinanzierungsgesellschaft
- SAP Startup Focus (Walldorf)
- SASPO Holding (Dreieich)
- SBG Sachsen-Anhalt (Barleben)
- Schlütersche Verlagssg. (Hannover)
- Schober Holding (Ditzingen)
- Seed & Speed (Hannover)
- Seed Fonds Aachen (Aachen)
- Seedmatch (Dresden)
- Semper fi Investment (Bremen)
- SIB Innov.-Beteilig. (Dresden)
- Sirius Venture Partn. (Wiesbaden)
- S-REFIT (Regensburg)
- Strategon (Lahnstein)
- Stuttgart Internet (Stuttgart)
- S-UBG (Aachen)
- Sympasis Innovation C. (Ettlingen)
- TAKKT Beteiligungsgesellschaft (Stuttgart)
- Technologie-Contor (Gera)
- Technologiefonds MV (Schwerin)
- TFO (Bensheim)
- TGES - Technologiegründerfonds Sachsen (Leipzig)
- TowerVenture (Jena)
- Triangle Venture Capital (Bensheim)
- United Internet Ventures (Montabaur)
- VC Fonds BW (Stuttgart)
- Vogel Business Media (Würzburg)
- Vorwerk Ventures (Wuppertal)
- WagnisKapitalg. der Kreissparkasse Reutlingen (Reutlingen)
- YOSH Invest (Gerford)
- ZFH (Heilbronn)

**Area: International investors**
- 17Capital LLP (UK)
- 360 Capital Partners (FR)
- 3i Group (UK)
- 500 Startups (US)
- 83North (IS)
- ACCEL (UK)
- Accel Partners (US)
- Access Industries (US)
- Advancit Capital (US)
- Advent Venture Partners (UK)
- Allen & Company (US)
- Altpoint Ventures (US)
- AME Cloud Ventures (US)
- Arkley (PL)
- Atlas Venture (US)
- Atlantic Bridge (US)
- ATMOS (IT)
Key players that are active in the German start-up scene (4/4)

- Atomico (US)
- Auden Capital (UK)
- Austria Wirtschaftsservice (AT)
- aws Gründerfonds (AT)
- Axivate Capital (NL)
- Baillie Gifford (UK)
- Balderton Capital (UK)
- Baque Populaire Caisse (FR)
- Battery Ventures (US)
- BBVA Ventures (US)
- BDMI Bertelsmann Digital Media Investments (US)
- Benchmark Ventures (US)
- Bessemer Venture Partners (US)
- Blumberg Capital (US)
- Bridgepoint (FI)
- Bright Capital Digital (RU)
- Cherrie Group (US)
- Cheyne Capital (UK)
- CL Ventures (CN)
- Columbia Lake Partners (UK)
- Creandum (SE)
- CSVJ Ventures Holding (CH)
- Demeter Partners (FR)
- DeNA (JP)
- Digital Currency Group (US)
- Digital Leaders Ventures (LX)
- Dima Ventures (US)
- DN Capital (UK)
- Doughty Hanson & Co (UK)
- Dragoner Investment Group (US)
- DST Global (RU)
- Ecomobility Ventures (FR)
- Emerald Technology Ventures (CH)
- enchant.vc (SG)
- Endeit (NL)
- ENIAC Ventures (US)
- ESO Capital Group (UK)
- EOT Ventures (SE)
- Excclion Investment (LU)
- Exoscale (CH)
- Felix Capital (UK)
- Fidelity Growth Partners Europe (UK)
- Finstar Financial Group (RU)
- First Love Capital (AT)
- Frog Capital (UK)
- Frontline Ventures (IR)
- General Atlantic (UK)
- Gettylab (US)
- GGV Capital (US)
- GMT Capital (US)
- Goldman Sachs (US)
- Google Ventures (US)
- Grey Corporate Investments AG (CH)
- Greycroft Partners (US)
- Greylock Partners (US)
- Groupe Arnault (FR)
- Harbert European Growth Capital (UK)
- HarbourVest Partners (US)
- Hartford Steam Boiler (US)
- Highland Capital Partners (US)
- HOWZAT Partners (UK)
- Hoxton Venture (UK)
- HPE Growth Capital (NL)
- i5invest (AT)
- ieurope Capital (HU)
- IFJ Institut für Jungunternehmen (CH)
- Index Ventures (UK)
- Insight Venture Partners (US)
- Intutional Venture Partners (US)
- Intel Capital (US)
- Inven Capital (CZ)
- InVenture Partners (UK)
- J.P. Morgan Dig. Growth Fund (US)
- Jadeberg Partners (CH)
- K5 Ventures (US)
- Kennet Partners (UK)
- Kinnevik (SE)
- Kima Ventures (FR)
- Kite Ventures (RU)
- KK Incube (AT)
- KKR (US)
- Kleiner Perkins Caufield & Byers (US)
- Kreos Capital (UK)
- Kulczyk Investments (PL)
- LeAD International Sports Accelerator (BF)
- Life.SREDA (SG)
- Lili Ventures (US)
- Logan Capital AG (CH)
- London Venture Partners (UK)
- LOWERCASE Ventures (US)
- Luxor Capital Group (US)
- Macquarie Group (AU)
- Mangrove Capital Partners (LU)
- March Capital Partners (US)
- Martin Equity Partners (UK)
- MCI Capital SA (PL)
- Menlo Ventures (US)
- Merus Capital (US)
- mojo.capital (LX)
- Mosaic Ventures (UK)
- Mountain Partners AG (CH)
- Mutschler Ventures AG (CH)
- NEO (NL)
- New Enterprise Associates (US)
- Nokia Growth Partners (FI)
- Northzone (SE)
- Octopus Ventures (UK)
- Oney Asset Management (UK)
- Omnes Capital (FR)
- OpenOcean (FI)
- Otium Venture (FR)
- Passion Capital (UK)
- Permira (UK)
- Phenomen Ventures (RU)
- Pine Hill Capital (US)
- Piton Capital (UK)
- PostFinance (CH)
- PROfounders Capital (UK)
- Radical Ventures (UK)
- Raine Ventures (US)
- Randstad Innovation Fund (NL)
- Recruit (UK)
- Redalpine Venture Partners (CH)
- Redpoint Ventures (US)
- Ribbit Capital (US)
- Rocket Internet Cap. Partners (LX)
- Ringier Digital AG (CH)
- Route66 Ventures (US)
- RTA Ventures (PL)
- Ruma Capital (RU)
- ru-Net (RU)
- Russmedia (AT)
- Salesforce Ventures (US)
- Scentan Ventures (SG)
- Schlegel & Friends (UK)
- Scottish Equity Partners (UK)
- Seaya Ventures (ES)
- Sequoia Capital (US)
- SET Venture Partners (NL)
- Sevenure Partners (FR)
- Sherpa Capital (US)
- Signta Retail (AT)
- Silver Lake Kraftwerk (US)
- Softbank (JP)
- SoftTech VC (US)
- Spark Capital (US)
- Speedinvest (AT)
- startup300 (AT)
- St. Galler Swiss Founders Fund (CH)
- Summit Partners (US)
- Sunstone Capital (DK)
- TA Associates (US)
- TA Ventures (UK)
- Taishan Invest AG (CH)
- Target Ventures (RU)
- Technology Crossover Ventures (US)
- Tenaya Capital (US)
- Tenderloin Ventures (CH)
- Texas Atlantic Capital (US)
- Thrive Capital (US)
- Time Equity Partners (FR)
- Time for Growth (FR)
- Transamerica Ventures (US)
- Trinity Ventures (US)
- Twitter Ventures (US)
- Union Square Ventures (US)
- Up to Eleven (BL)
- Valar Ventures (US)
- Vækstfonden (DK)
- Valessa Tech Holdings
- Värde Partners (US)
- Ventech (FR)
- Version One Ventures (CA)
- Vert Capital (US)
- Victory Park Capital (US)
- VM Digital (AT)
- Vostok New Ventures (BD)
- Warburg Pincus (US)
- Westcott (UK)
- Yabeo Capital
- Yuan Capital (HK)
- ZKB Start-up Finance (CH)
3 M&A Overview
Focused M&A activities in 2016 after peaks in prior years

Percentage of exits by origin of investor (Germany and rest of the world), based on disclosed deals

After strong years of M&A activities in the German Tech start-up market, 2016 appears as a year with focused deal activities and a clear trend towards industry consolidation in certain areas of the start-up landscape.

Details on disclosed deals indicate that international investors are still a relevant exit channel for German Tech companies. Munich-based Fidor Bank, founded in 2009 and one of the pioneers of the German FinTech industry, has been acquired by the French banking group BPCE to foster the digital transformation.

Hamburg-based Gaming company Bigpoint has been sold to the Chinese investor Youzu Interactive at a rumored deal value of EUR 80m. Compared to previous valuations from financing rounds and the cumulated funding volume, the exit shows that the Tech start-up industry is facing the same challenges as other industries. In particular, the strong trend towards mobile internet can also affect rather young companies after years of successful growth.

Conject, a SaaS provider for the Construction and Real Estate industry based in Munich, has been acquired by the Australian investor Aconex. The firm was previously financed by the French VC investor SevenVentures and successfully showed an international buy-and-build strategy before the exit.

The examples can be considered as representative also for other international buy-outs. There is an ongoing interest from investors across the globe, which are keen to acquire German Tech assets as part of their global growth strategies.
Corporate trade sales are by far the most important exit channel, ahead of financial investors or MBOs

The M&A market is clearly dominated by Corporate investors, which represent by far the most relevant exit channel for German Tech Entrepreneurs and their VC partners. We note a strong interest from Private Equity investors acquiring young Tech companies. The spotlight is on and we expect a considerable increase in deal activities from financial investors in 2017.

So far, however, there are only a few financial investors active in takeovers of young German Tech companies; in particular, mid-cap PE funds from the UK and the US looking for buy-and-build strategies with a remarkable entrepreneurial background.

In our view, German entrepreneurs might not have fully realized the value potential of a professional financial investor. The market for digital business models is still very young and offers huge potential from proactive consolidation initiatives.

As per the German proverb, ‘A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush’, we are seeing a trend to sell businesses to Corporate investors at an early stage, rather than making it really big with the financial firepower of a Private Equity partner. Combining different tech businesses through a well-defined buy-and-build strategy is something we do not yet see on a larger scale.

Taking a broader view, this is also related to the fact that the German Tech start-up market is still missing a sufficient number of later-stage VC funds, apart from a handful of German players and selected VC funds from the UK and US, such as Index Ventures, TCV or Scottish Equity Partners, to name but a few.

Given the limited supply of late-stage VC financing and the fact that the large PE funds, especially, are struggling to engage in lower two-digit EURm trade sales, there is room for Corporate investors to invest in rather early stages.

Share of corporates and financials investors 2013 versus YTD September 2016 (based on disclosed deals)

![Graph showing corporate and financial investors share](image)

Source: EY Analysis based on 504 disclosed deals since 2013 where a majority share was acquired

Strong financial investors are crucial to further develop the tech industry in Germany. Compared to Corporates, they act independently and can benefit from a well-diversified investment strategy. Corporates increasingly play an important role by engaging as limited partners in VC funds.

Otto Birnbaum, Principal at Partech Ventures
Media, Technology and Consumer Retail investors are still dominant

In terms of industry sectors, we are seeing a continued trend with Media and Technology at the top of the lists. The national media houses, especially, are still dominant players in acquiring digital assets, as evidenced by the M&A activities of Axel Springer, Funke Mediengruppe, Gruner+Jahr and ProSiebenSat1, and also other, smaller publishers and media companies. The level of digital transformation differs considerably within the German media landscape and we expect further investment activities, however, at a lower level compared to previous years as already indicated by the numbers in 2016.

After seeing a heavy consolidation in the AdTech market, we think that the key discussion points in terms of M&A activities in the media industry will focus on the strong dependence on Google with regard to classified business models and the strategic thrust to seek for global rather than only local reach. Tech takeovers are predominantly driven by takeovers of competitors or a strategic broadening of the service portfolio of existing Tech companies.

Consumer products and retail (CPR) still shows high M&A activity, though at a lower level in 2016, as most of the large CPR players have already implemented digital sales channels and enabling technologies. However, especially the further enhancement of E-Commerce technologies with same-day-delivery and IoT development will further drive investment activities in this sector.

“Other” is mainly driven by Automotive, Life Science and Energy; though still at a low level, indicating the huge potential from these industry sectors in the next years.

Industrial sector distribution of corporates 2013 until YTD September 2016 (based on disclosed deals)

German start-ups are getting more and more attention from Corporates. Apart from the German Blue-chips, especially, the “German Mittelstand” is strongly interested in cooperating with start-ups as a strategic move to adapt to the Digital Transformation.

Carsten Petzold, Founder & CEO Applicata
M&A activities are at high levels in 2016, but transaction deal volumes have dropped when comparing top acquisitions

Selected M&A deals in Germany (2016)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Target Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Target Profile</th>
<th>Buyer Name</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Buyer Profile</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Internetstores</td>
<td>Esslingen</td>
<td>E-Commerce bikes</td>
<td>Signa Retail</td>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>Retail</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Parship, Elite Partner</td>
<td>Hamburg</td>
<td>Dating platform</td>
<td>ProSiebenSat.1</td>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>Media</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Fidor</td>
<td>Munich</td>
<td>Banking</td>
<td>BPCE</td>
<td>France</td>
<td>Banking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Innogames</td>
<td>Hamburg</td>
<td>Online games</td>
<td>MTG</td>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>Media</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Bigpoint</td>
<td>Hamburg</td>
<td>Online games</td>
<td>Youzu Interactive</td>
<td>China</td>
<td>Technology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Conject</td>
<td>Munich</td>
<td>Online project management</td>
<td>Aconex</td>
<td>Austria</td>
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Source: EY Analysis based on 504 disclosed deals since 2013 where a majority share was acquired

For 2017, we see major trends supporting the M&A development

1. Increasing share of national Corporate investors due to digital transformation of German industry
2. Increasing activities from Financial Investors and Private Equity-backed Buy-Outs
3. Increasing investment activities from industry sectors outside Media, Technology and Retail
Corporates are crucial for the German start-up market as it is still the major exit channel. Success on both sides of the table depends on the way of integrating the young ventures into the corporate organization and reporting systems.

*Tobias Streffer, CFO at Mister Spex*

Traditional corporates are a key exit channel for start-ups. They show an increasing interest in takeovers as they are struggling to develop specific tech and digital expertise and to access new technology-driven markets as quickly and thoroughly as is possible through an acquisition.

*Pawel Chudzinski, Managing Partner at Point Nine Capital*

Corporates currently professionalize their activities in the start-up ecosystem. Experience from the first generation of various Accelerator, Incubator and Corporate VC projects is now being leveraged. Still, bridging the incumbent corporate world with agile start-ups is a tricky exercise with many pitfalls, especially the culture clash involved post any acquisition.

*Nikolas Samios, Chief Investment Officer German Startups Group*

Many corporates have literally ignored the shift to digital and are now trying to acquire digital expertise along with start-up mentality to close this gap. Corporates, on the other side, offer new market opportunities and have strong experience in doing sales and building relationships.

*Thomas Taherkhani, CFO at Dreamlines*

During the last 3 years, the start-up scene has gained more and more acceptance from Corporates. Business opportunities and cooperations are much easier to realize than in the past.

*Carsten Petzold, Founder & CEO Applicata*
Thoughts on corporate investors and technology

There are a lot of Tech Hubs in Germany, especially around our excellent Technical Universities. The technological know-how in Germany is absolutely comparable to the US. What’s not comparable is the ability to create successful companies out of that. German technology companies will need to improve their sales and marketing skills to compete on a global level with other tech companies especially from the USA.

Otto Birnbaum, Principal at Partech Ventures

Germany is not lacking technological skills. We have excellent universities with a well-regarded level of engineering expertise. However, developers need to learn how to translate their skills into a scalable business idea. Technology is not an end in itself. It’s about building profitable and scalable businesses and we are still behind the US in this regard.

Friedrich Neuman, Founder & CEO at Makers

Recently we saw quite some hyped start-ups in Germany that failed in the end. I except more focus on quality and long term strategy instead of short term focus. This will be important for Germany (especially Berlin) to become one of the major start-up hubs in the world.

Ulrich Schacht, e-commerce/corporate finance consultant, former MD Elitepartner

Berlin’s strong and active community is one of the leading in Europe and is globally known for its technological expertise in a number of areas, like consumer technologies, ad-tech or blockchain.

Pawel Chudzinski, Managing Partner at Point Nine Capital Startups Group

As complex tech-startups require investors that are more prone to take risks and are willing to be invested over longer times the German market is not fully capable to meet the requirements of tech-start-ups. However, Corporate Venture Capital is a sound financing source and might offer tech-start-ups in Germany the opportunity to grow.

Sebastian Pollok, Founder & Managing Director at Amorelie
Trends
In 2016, the market has experienced new digital trends – both sharp and disruptive

Over the past year, German startups hacked into every digital trend from Food, FinTech, Internet-of-Things, and PropTech to Social Media. There is no doubt that the wheel of innovation is accelerating, and latest funding rounds often give a good snapshot of the startup landscape and their innovative ideas.

- FinTech and InsurTech are poised to continue to be the hot area. There is a good reason to believe that both segments are heading down the path of disruptive innovation. We will see the generation below the age of 30 years as the first movers to adopt FinTech products and to put a big question mark to the traditional financial business, affecting everything from financial transactions, risk assessments to customer interactions.

- Internet of things (IoT) continues to merge the physical with the digital and affects all industry fields, including retail, health, utilities and telecommunication. A lot of ventures have introduced apps in an ecosystem of smartphones, retail stores, households, wearables and more. It can be expected that respective products will continue to mature and gain attractiveness for customers.

- Personalized day-to-day services such as home cleaning, taxi rides or moving support have been a new playground for ventures. Raised VC capital has been used for user acquisition or to grow externally. Further consolidation is likely to come in segments where several ventures compete to become the No. 1 player.

- Augmented reality (AR) and virtual reality (VR) have been hyped technologies for some time but remain in central focus of a lot of ventures. In 2016, various technology firms have launched commercial VR headsets which may set the platform for other products or services by smaller start-ups.

- The number of online travel bookings is growing steadily in Germany. Their potential to disrupt the traditional travel industry is still a big trend but far away from being a secret. Metasearch engines for travel bookings or holiday rentals but also specialized marketplaces (e.g. medical travels) are still of interest for customers and therefore for VC investors.

- Online platforms for art, collectibles and luxury products remain very popular. A group of start-ups have intensified their activities in the areas, due to strong demand by a bourgeoisie target group. A unique selling proposition over physical stores are curated services and a wider selection of offerings, enabling the customer to choose the best product.

- Another rising trend is PropTech, fueled by the booming property market in Germany. Online platforms are specialized in connecting tenants and landlords or providing agent support combining the traditional service with web-based technology.

What can the national Tech start-up scene expect in 2017?

- Self-driving cars: National automotive producers have placed their bets on self-driving technology. The HERE takeover in 2015 by BMW, Daimler and Audi for USD 2.8bn had been a strong wake-up signal to the global community. The focus of the consortium is on developing accurate mapping that will enable automated driving. It is foreseeable that national technology start-ups will take advantage of this momentum.

- eHealth: Digital healthcare is becoming big and it can be expected that this segment is going to continue to see activity in 2017. A lot of ventures have launched mobile apps or other digital services to bring in a new dimension to care giving. This ranges from medical doctor advices via phone to self-tracking tools to monitor health KPIs.

- Cyber Security: The area was frequently in the news in 2016, also due to turmoil’s in global politics and data leakage of renowned tech companies. We anticipate that the segment will grow dynamically since there is a strong demand to manage and protect complex IT systems.
Some business models are very innovative in their market niche, other are rather modification of existing ideas.

### Top 10 Trends in Germany (2016)

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<td>Digital offers in the financial services industry</td>
<td>Digital products focusing on the insurance industry</td>
<td>Professional support for day-to-day services</td>
<td>Online platforms to deliver food or related services</td>
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**Source:** EY Analysis

In addition to the urban start-up hubs such as Berlin, Munich or Hamburg, a growing number of regional start-up scenes are emerging.

Two out of three start-ups support social engagement and more than half attach value to the sustainable development of their venture.

### Digital offensive in Europe

France and Germany announced in December 2016 that they planned to set up a EUR 1bn fund to support start-ups in a bid to boost Europe’s digital economy.

### High attractiveness for internationals

According to the German Start-up Monitor 2016, 30% of German start-up employees are not German citizens. This is driven by Berlin with a 42% share.

### Strong interaction in the ecosystem

About 70% of the start-ups cooperate with established companies and are aiming to gain market- or customer access, reputation as well as expertise.
Methodology and Disclaimer

This study has been prepared by Ernst & Young GmbH Wirtschaftsprüfungs-Gesellschaft (hereinafter “EY”) for the purpose of providing the public with information about developments in the venture capital and start-up sector.

EY points out that the study does not represent an adequate basis for a final decision about the information shown in the study. The study is not to be seen as comprehensive or complete in the sense of containing all the facts which might be of interest in connection with the information described.

The study has been prepared with the usual care and diligence required for such studies. Unless referring to EY itself, the information presented has not been reviewed by EY with regard to its accuracy or completeness. The information has been gathered by desktop research (incl. public sources, disclosed information and acknowledged databases) and interviews, complemented by our own market knowledge, but includes no confidential information in any sense – neither qualitative nor quantitative.

EY is not responsible for incomplete or false information. Thus, readers are recommended to examine all information prior to any decision. EY is not liable for any missing or false information and statements in this study or other oral or written remarks made in connection with the study.

The information in the study has been prepared for a certain target date, prior to its presentation. The main cut-off point for the research is 31 December 2016, with some exceptions relating to research and deals mentioned. Thus, the accuracy at the date of presentation cannot be guaranteed. Any statement regarding future developments is not binding and merely represents an expectation. Stating a value does not represent a valuation as understood in IDW (Generally accepted standards for valuation engagements).

We define M&A activity as mergers and acquisitions in which the targets are German-based companies acquired by either German or foreign buyers (50% +1, with a few exceptions of minority investment with significant market relevance). Specifically, values and volumes used throughout this report are based on completion dates for transactions with a disclosed deal value and supplemented by additional independent research – sometimes based on rumors stated in public sources. We have used a standard exchange rate for EUR to USD of 1:1.1 for all conversions in this document if performed.

Information related to previous periods is updated periodically, based on new data collected for deals closed during previous periods but not reflected in previous data sets.

Information for start-ups, financing, funds and M&A activity includes information for companies which fall into one of the digital sectors. Certain adjustments have been made to the information to exclude transactions that are not specific to digital.

Accordingly, the digital sector comprises companies and information mainly focused on consumer products and services, computer software, IT services, media and entertainment, and retailing/distribution.
Insights

The Innovation Paradox: How can leading enterprises use corporate venture models to solve the innovation paradox? (2016)
The innovation paradox is that for a disruptive idea to take hold, to grow into an economic force, it has to transition from an invention into an executed reality. This EY study into corporate venture explores a rich variety of strategies, approaches and models. By interviewing some of the most dynamic drivers of corporate venture innovation in diverse sectors and geographies, we uncover the strategies that market leaders are using to survive and thrive.

Digital Deal Economy Study: Dealing in a Digital World (2016)
The Digital Deal Economy Study focuses on the impact of digitalization on business and on strategic options to transform business models and operational processes. The results of the 2016 survey, on which the study is based, come from more than 600 interviews with non-technology corporate executives. The research was conducted by the research and publishing arm of the Financial Times Group.

EY Start-up Barometer (2016)
EY and a market research institute ran a survey with a large number of start-up companies to gain representative insights into the current state of the German founders’ scene. The publication includes insights on funding volumes as well as regional distribution and focus areas of investments.
For more information, please contact peter.lennartz@de.ey.com.

Digital Business Models in the Utility Sector (2016)
EY and BDEW, the German Association of Energy and Water Industries, published a comprehensive overview of digital business models with relevance for Germany, Switzerland and Austria. The review includes detailed descriptions of the drivers and the market potential linked to the ongoing transformation.
Events

EY VC Trends Get Together (Germany)
Each year, we host an inspiring and value-adding evening offering the opportunity to interact and delivering insights into the venture capital and start-up scene in Germany. Up to 100 participants from start-up companies, venture capital firms, corporate investors and relevant business associations consider this event a great success. Prominent keynote speakers give exclusive insights and share experiences.
For more information, please contact thomas.pruever@de.ey.com.

Bits & Pretzels (Germany)
Bits & Pretzels is a 3-day event for founders, start-up enthusiasts, investors and business incubators. The event is considered the largest founders’ breakfast in the world, with more than 5,000 participants, and guest speakers from Virgin, Airbnb, Evernote or Zendesk in 2016.
For more information, please contact torsten.blaschke@de.ey.com.

EY Start-up Challenge (Germany)
The EY Start-up Challenge, located in Berlin, provides a unique platform for start-ups in the Internet of Things and Industry 4.0 to grow and scale their business. Winners receive the opportunity to exclusively present their company at topic-related international top-events.
For more information, please contact peter.lennartz@de.ey.com.

EY Entrepreneur of the Year (Global)
The EY Entrepreneur of the Year awards are a global competition that encourages entrepreneurship, and brings together EY EOY country winners, game changers and government leaders. The program helps and supports entrepreneurs to build successful and sustainable businesses in over 60 countries.
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