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**German Startups Group: Annual result in 2016 within the previously announced frame, confident outlook on 2017, and completion of the sale of two shareholdings**

**Berlin, 09 March 2017** - On the basis of the preliminary financial statements (IFRS), the annual result for 2016 of German Startups Group stays within the guidance lastly released on 9 February 2017. Hence, the company records an operating loss of 0.17 euros per share, an extraordinary loss of 0.12 euros per share, and a total loss of 0.27 euros per share for the financial year 2016. The equity per 31 December 2016 thus amounts to just under 2.50 euros per share (IFRS). This does not include hidden reserves from the increase in value of the majority holding Exozet since its acquisition and potential increases in value of shares in startups that have been included in the balance sheet at third-party objectivised valuations and in which the transactions the third-party objectivisations are based on date back for a larger amount of time.

Christoph Gerlinger, CEO of German Startups Group, comments, “2016 was a disappointing year for the German venture capital industry as well as for us. With the conclusion of 2016, this chapter is a thing of the past. In particular, the unpleasant development at our former portfolio company Auctionata is thereby processed and finished. Now we take a look ahead and intend to make use of the opportunities that we see in the German startup scene and our portfolio. Therefore, the management expects a profit for the financial year 2017 again - as was the case in all of the previous full financial years (2013 to 2015) - and sees chances of a successful exit in several portfolio companies of German Startups Group.

The sale of two shareholdings announced by German Startups Group on 25 January 2017 has been completed by now and the purchase prices have already been received. The portfolio companies in question are Pyreg and realbest.

German Startups Group will release the final Annual Report at the end of March 2017.

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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). 24 of the 45 minority stakeholdings in operationally active companies are of particular significance to German Startups Group and together comprise 89% of the total value of all 45 active minority stakeholdings. The ten core holdings alone make up 61% 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).