

OUR REFERENCES

What our portfolio companies say about us



„We opted for High-Tech Gründerfonds as an investor as we were looking for a partner to support us as entrepreneurs in our long-term visions. The fund enabled us to launch our e-commerce platform in the initial phase of founding the company and ultimately co-financed our growth.“

Dirk Hörig, CEO commercetools GmbH



„High-Tech Gründerfonds has a young, dynamic team that works closely with inventors and entrepreneurs to develop and foster the new technologies of the future.“

Dr. John Yianni, CEO cryotherapeutics GmbH



„High-Tech Gründerfonds is an ideal partner for us. In the early phase of Next Kraftwerke, it drew up a clear, well-designed and fair financing concept.“

Hendrik Sämisch, CEO Next Kraftwerke GmbH



„Germany’s young entrepreneurs are the envy of their international counterparts due to High-Tech Gründerfonds – and rightly so. In addition to financing, you also gain valuable contacts and a real partner – professional, friendly and supportive – smart money in the truest sense of the word.“

Prof. Dr. Edith Huland, CEO Immunservice GmbH



„Thanks to HTGF’s support, we were able to press ahead with our development and land our first industrial clients in a very short period of time. Thanks to its excellent expertise, large network and host of valuable investor contacts, HTGF also helps a company take the “next step” in its development.“

Stephan Brack, CEO protected-networks.com GmbH

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High-Tech Gründerfonds invests venture capital in young, high potential high-tech start-ups that can turn promising research findings into business success.

The seed financing provided is designed to enable start-ups to take an R&D project through prototyping and to “proof of concept” phase or directly to market launch. The fund initially invests € 600,000, with the potential for up to a total of € 2 million per company. Investors in the public-private partnership include the German Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy, the KfW Banking Group and 18 companies.



ALTANA

BRAUN

DAIMLER

EVONIK
INDUSTRIAL

m+mv
media + more venture
Development GmbH & Co. KG

SAP

KfW



BOSCH
Technik fürs Leben

.....T.....

innogy

METRO GROUP

TENGELMANN
ventures

BASF
We create chemistry

cewe
BEST IN PRINT

Deutsche Post DHL

LANXESS
Emerging Chemistry

QIAGEN®

ZEISS



STRONG PARTNERS creating value for you

- Our fund investors offer you valuable contacts and strategic options
- Scouts and partners provide strategic and operational support when setting up your company
- Other investors such as seed funds, business angels, investment firms and venture capitalists
- Research institutions and universities support spin-offs and business initiatives
- Business-plan contests help shape entrepreneurs and business ideas
- Networks such as associations and centres of expertise act as start-up catalysts
- Funding programmes support you in financing development projects

High-Tech Gründerfonds

SEED CAPITAL

for young tech start-ups

High-Tech Gründerfonds provides its young tech firms with seed capital and helps them to successfully set up their business and enjoy growth. We shoulder the risks that private and institutional investors only rarely take on in early phases.

What we have to offer:

- Up to €600,000 investment capital in the form of a subordinated shareholder loan (seven-year maturity) designed to provide a financial boost.
- Interest rates (currently 6%) are deferred for four years to safeguard your start-up's liquidity.
- We take a 15% stake in your company, without a company valuation. The loan is converted into equity capital at a later date.
- If required, we will provide €1.4 million in funding in additional financing rounds.
- Outside of our standard model, alternative financing options with other investors are also possible. Just get in touch.
- Well-developed networks comprising side investors, business angels, industry and venture capitalists.



High-Tech Gründerfonds provides you with more than just attractive financing conditions. We also support start-ups in areas such as operations and strategy. If required, start-ups can tap a pool of 1,500 experts who are either active on an operational level or provide external support.

Capital follows vision

The fund focuses on start-up projects that are based on incubated technology, i.e. where the "proof of principle" stage has already been reached. The goal is to take complex and application-based innovation to the prototype or "proof of concept" phase, or market launch, with the help of seed financing. This in turn boosts your appeal among follow-on investors.



The boxes you need to tick:

- Your own contribution to financing equates to 10% of our investment. Half of this money can come from side investors (business angels, regional seed funds, private and public investors).
- Your company started commercial operations no more than one year ago.
- Your company fulfils the European Union criteria for small companies: max. 49 members of staff, and annual revenues or total assets of no more than €10 million.
- The business is based in Germany. Your nationality is irrelevant.
- The technology major competitive advantages as well as market and growth opportunities that will deliver long-term profitability.
- Your team has tech and commercial expertise as well as skills that complement each other.
- Tech focus and high level of innovation.
- You fully and exclusively hold commercial and intellectual property rights, which form part of the company.

THE PATH TO INVESTMENT

The High-Tech Gründerfonds management team has devised a four-stage process to accurately assess your business concept.



As a founder, you can send us your *business plan* or your *pitch deck* directly or via our scouts and partners.



Following the positive assessment of your start-up plans, we will provide you with a *term sheet* detailing our investment conditions. Once you have signed this document, we start the *due diligence* process.



As part of the *due diligence* process, we will assess the patent protection for the technology, the firm's future financing plans, market opportunities and the management team. References and feedback from market players are key to realistically gauging the competitive environment and growth opportunities.



As part of the *decision-making process*, High-Tech Gründerfonds will - together with the founding team - present the start-up project to the *committee*. Afterwards the *committee* will decide on the investment.

