



SAP Founder Hasso Plattner Invests In verwandt.de: Family Network Plans Global Expansion

Hamburg / Potsdam, January 9, 2008 – Hasso Plattner Ventures (HPV) has invested a multi-million sum into verwandt.de, the fastest growing family network worldwide. With their largest investment to-date, HPV is supporting the global expansion of this platform for online family trees, hobby genealogy researchers, and family social networks. The exact amount of the investment has not been disclosed.

Prof. Dr. Hasso Plattner, founder and chairman of SAP, explains his motivation for the investment: „It is seldom that we see a German start-up so successful on a global scale. We are happy to support this global expansion with our investment, our experience, and our contacts.” Daniel Grözinger, founder of verwandt.de, adds why HPV was chosen as an investor: “Entrepreneurs are optimal partners for founders. There are few entrepreneurs worldwide as renowned as Hasso Plattner.”

Over 1.4 million families have already started their family trees since the launch of the verwandt.de platform. These trees contain over 16 million profiles. Dr. Gottfried Neuhaus, first round investor with Neuhaus Partners, is enthusiastic about the platform’s prospects: „The growth of verwandt.de has surpassed all of our expectations. Hence, we were more than happy to participate in this second financing round.”

With this additional capital, verwandt.de plans their further global expansion. In addition to German, verwandt.de is available in Polish, Italian, Portuguese, Spanish, English, and Brazilian Portuguese. “China and India are very attractive markets, while Europe still offers opportunities for growth” adds Sven Schmidt, co-founder of verwandt.de

Über OSN Online Social Networking GmbH

verwandt.de (German), moikrewni.pl (Polish), parentistretti.it (Italian), meusparentes.com.pt (Portuguese), miparentela.com (Spanish), itsourtree.com (English), and meusparentes.com.br (Brazilian Portuguese) are all operated by Hamburg-based OSN GmbH. Co-founders Daniel Grözinger and Sven Schmidt have already successfully founded getgo.de, dialo.de, and Dealjaeger.de. verwandt.de is financed by leading German Business Angels as well as VC-firms Neuhaus Partners and Hasso Plattner Ventures.

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