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+++ Corporate News +++

for immediate publication

## German Startups Group Berlin GmbH & Co. KGaA: Accompanying statement regarding the postponement of the IPO

Berlin, 21 July 2015 - German Startups Group Berlin GmbH & Co. KGaA, a venture capital provider to innovative startups in Germany, just announced in a quasi adhoc release that it postpones its planned IPO.

Founder and CEO Christoph Gerlinger comments:

"Of course, we are extremely disappointed that we had to make the decision to postpone our planned IPO today after long, intensive preparations. Various companies have already changed or put their IPO plans on ice in recent weeks. Both we and our banks were convinced until only recently that we would be able to cope with what is currently an extremely difficult market environment due to the fact that our operational business is not affected by it. Unfortunately, we have seen that our estimation of the situation was apparently too optimistic. Investors' feedback shows, that besides the Greece crisis, the demand was also affected by a dramatic decline in prices on the stock exchanges in China and a decline in prices in a German company from the startup scene that was perceived to be similar to us in our opinion despite all of the structural differences while we were conducting our meetings with investors since mid-June.

Due to the fact that the holidays are now beginning, postponing this again was no longer an option. Considering our successful business model, we were also unwilling to accept any compromises in the volume or offering price of our shares simply because of unfavorable timing. In other words, we saw no chance to have the company listed on the stock exchange at a adaquate price and achieve the desired overallotment, in other words excess demand, before the general summer break. In our opinion the possibilities for capital market participants to benefit in the work of German startups therefore will remain rather limited for the time being.

We will continue to follow the capital market environment very closely in order to be able to resume our plans in a flexible and short-term manner under the appropriate circumstances. In the meantime, we will continue to pursue what is actually important to us, namely our operational business. That will give us the timely chance to prepare the quarterly financial statements for the second quarter of 2015 and include the expected positive course of business in our securities prospectus."

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## About German Startups Group Berlin GmbH & Co. KGaA

German Startups Group is an 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 German startup scene. The geographical focus is on the German-speaking region. Since it commenced with operations in 2012, German Startups Group has managed to assemble what it considers to be a diversified portfolio of shares in young companies and grown to become the second most active venture capital investor in the tech segment in Germany (CB Insights, The 2014 European Tech Report). As of 15 June 2015, the company held shares in 43 operationally active companies (including one solely as a convertible loan). According to the group, its investment portfolio reflects a cross-section of extremely promising German startups of various maturity stages ("Seed," "Early" and "Growth Stage," by the company's own definition) and includes some of the most successful and best-known German startups.

More information is available on our website under http://www.german-startups.com

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