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27 May 2021

POELLATH advises Cusp Capital on the launch of a new venture capital fund

Venture capitalist Cusp Capital with offices in Essen and Berlin has successfully held the first closing of its first fund. The fund's investment focus is on early-stage investments in technology and software companies in Europe. A particular focus of the investment activity is on companies at the interface of digital technologies and sustainability.

Cusp Capital was founded by the experienced VCs Christian Winter, Jan Sessenhausen, Helmut Klawitter and Wilken Engelbracht. Prior to founding Cusp Capital, the team was responsible for two successful VC funds financed from the Tengelmann Group's balance sheet. During this time (over 10 years), the team invested more than EUR 400m in companies that have often become market leaders in their respective industries, including Zalando, Delivery Hero, Klarna, Westwing, Scalable Capital, data Artisans, Global Fashion Group and brands4friends.

With the new fund, the Cusp Capital team is opening up for the first time to external investors in addition to the Tengelmann group. The investor base at first closing includes the European Investment Fund (EIF), KfW Capital, the RAG-Stiftung, the NRW.Bank as well as various German family offices and private investors.

POELLATH advised Cusp Capital on all contractual, tax and regulatory aspects of the fund structuring and marketing as well as on investor negotiations with the following Berlin private funds team:

- Dr. Philip Schwarz van Berk (partner)
- Dr. Philip Mostertz (senior associate)
- Dr. Christian Hillebrand (counsel)
- Laura Baaske (associate)

In setting up the management company, the Cusp Capital team was advised by a team led by Munich-based venture capital partner Christian Tönies:

- Christian Tönies (partner)
- Dr. Sebastian Gerlinger (counsel)

Helmut Klawitter – general partner and general counsel at Cusp Capital – coordinated the internal legal process for Cusp Capital. As notary, Dr. Christian Löhr of KÜMMERLEIN accompanied the process.

About us

POELLATH is a market-leading international business and tax law firm with more than 150 lawyers and tax advisors in Germany. We stand for high-end advice on transactions and asset management. We offer legal and tax advice from one source. In our selected and highly specialized practice groups, we not only know the law, but shape the best practice in the market together with our clients. National and international rankings regularly list our professionals as leading experts in their fields.

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