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CUCULUS
SMART ACCESS TECHNOLOGIES

Press Release

High-Tech Gründerfonds acquires stake in the Cuculus GmbH – Smart Access Technologies

With a Seed-Financing in the Cuculus GmbH, the High-Tech Gründerfonds officially gives the go-ahead for millions of hotspots on the basis of private access points.

Cuculus offers a new platform technology for the usage of embedded devices by several parties. For the first time ever it is now possible to encapsulate a hotspot in millions of private WiFi-able DSL routers. The hardware-independent operating system ZONOS[®], which – based on Linux – has also been developed by the Cuculus GmbH allows for this approach. The core idea for the Cuculus Technology was found in cooperation with the University of Technology in Ilmenau and is assigned for patent. Compared to all other approaches, “encapsulated” means that the embedded hotspot acts like an independent device. Each hotspot can be configured independently and provided with additional software without having any effect on the remaining private area of the original access point. This part may also be freely configured and supplemented with customized software. In spite of the large functional variety, the additional flexibility and high security (Privacy Protected), the end user needs only one click to activate and make his hotspot available to his provider. He is able to immediately benefit from those new possibilities. Similar to other showcases, the end user receives financial compensation by his provider or gets the opportunity to go online - encrypted - with his own DSL account via all hotspots to be found in Germany.

The Cuculus GmbH is not to be seen as a further provider. The company opts for licensing the platform technology and software for established DSL providers and hardware manufacturers. Thus the critical mass is to be convinced of a public WiFi-network as soon as

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possible. For the first time ever, providers are offered a solution which satisfies their technical demands and also conforms to the legal framework in Europe. "The market is ready for such an approach!" In particular, the opportunity to recycle many of the already existing services, developed for other mobile networks like UMTS, makes this approach so attractive", states founder and managing director René Boeringer. He adds: „The opportunity to stand out on the highly competitive DSL market, allows for an utmost positive response by the providers."

Among the founding team, René Boeringer and Gunnar Scharfe manage the company. Together they already founded the IDEO Laboratories GmbH, whose management they now abdicated. Frank Siegmund supports the company as an active business angle with his long standing management experience. Ms. Dr Merle Fuchs assists the team as an accredited coach of the High-Tech Gründerfonds.

The Cuculus GmbH can resort to an experienced management team which has been engaged in the development of IP-based access networks, their protocols and network components for several years. Also Holger Kaerst, one of the ZONOS-founders and specialist for system development has been acquired as the head of the company's development division. On the basis of the first round financing by the High-Tech Gründerfonds, the team has been complemented by international specialists. "The Cuculus GmbH is pleased to announce the renowned High Tech Gründerfonds as a partner. Besides the investment, the valuable network and the active environment of the Fonds are interesting for Cuculus", says Gunnar Scharfe.

Holger Heinen, investment manager of the High-Tech Gründerfonds, resumes the reasons for the investment: „The founding plan allows for a versatile usage of a millionfold of already existing private

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access points through innovative services which able to create a significant turnover potential. The technological lead paired with a business oriented and dynamic founding team, will allow for successful market access“.

About Cuculus

Cuculus is a pioneer for multi-party-platforms for embedded devices. The company has developed ZONOS[®], an operating system which uses lightweight but highly secure independent zones.

The Cuculus platform technology used on DSL routers, residential gateways or IADs enables a secure deployment of ISP's services and applications in private customer devices. Cuculus is therefore an enabler for the new markets of provider-driven in-house service applications.

The Cuculus technology integrates an outstanding communications and security framework and allows for an easy re-use of a huge number of already existing applications, services and service delivery platforms.

Our customers include ISPs, WISP, innovative third party service providers as well as device manufacturers.

<http://www.cuculus.net>

About the High-Tech Gründerfonds:

The High-Tech Gründerfonds invests venture capital into young, promising technology companies, which realize encouraging research findings in corporate approaches. With the so called Seed-Financing of up to 500.000 EUR, Start-Ups are to lead the R&D plan the placing of a prototype or a "proof of concepts" or to a market introduction. Moreover a "Side-Investment" of 20 % of the High-Tech Gründerfonds Investment by the founders and an additional third-party investor is to be expected. Through this equity financing, the Fonds acquires an open stake of 15 % of the capital stock of the portfolio company. The High-Tech Gründerfonds emerged from the initiative "Partners for Innovation" and disposes of a fund volume of about 272,0 m EUR. Investors of the "public-private partnerships" are the Federal Ministry for Economy and Technology, the KfW bank group as well as the six industrial group companies BASF, Deutsche Telekom, Siemens, Robert Bosch, DaimlerChrysler and Carls Zeiss.

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