



Wellington Partners invests €11 million in GameDuell

- With 10 million members, GameDuell is already Germany's most popular Internet gaming site
- Second round of financing to be used for international expansion
- Workforce to be doubled

Berlin, London July 3, 2008. Pan-European venture capital firm, Wellington Partners has invested €11 million in leading games website, GameDuell. Founded in 2003, GameDuell is already the number one online games site in Germany with 10 million members. The investment will be used for expansion into other European countries and the United States building on the success in Germany, France and Spain.

"Our results in France and Spain show that our marketing-strategy is internationally successful and that our know-how in the development of online games and a gamer community drives international demand. We now intend to use this competitive edge in order to expand into further European markets as well as the United States," explains GameDuell co-founder and CEO Kai Bolik.

There are already ten million GameDuell members playing skill-game tournaments online against each other in casual games such as Solitaire, Trivia, Sudoku, Pool and Dart. GameDuell develops and operates games and community platform with all functionalities. The Berlin-based company currently employs 80 employees with plans to double the workforce in the coming months.

The company's strong growth along with the professionalism of the management team, headed up by three seasoned Internet entrepreneurs, Kai Bolik, Michael Kalkowski and Boris Wasmuth, were key reasons to invest for Wellington Partners.

Wellington General Partner Frank Böhnke names the enormous market potential as a further key reason: "Worldwide, more than 200 million people are already using the Internet as a platform to play games, and more and more players want to see how they stack up against others in tournaments. With its sophisticated technology, years of experience and an excellent management team, GameDuell has the opportunity to shape this progressive market worldwide"

GameDuell received an initial round of funding in 2004 from Holtzbrinck Ventures and Burda Digital Ventures. Since then, the company has tapped into the German market with more than 200 media partnerships as well as targeted online advertising. In March 2008, GameDuell was already Germany's third-largest online advertiser. "International expansion is now our next logical step," stresses CEO Bolik.



About GameDuell

GameDuell is Germany's largest games community and most widely visited Internet games site. The GameDuell fast-growing community totals 10 million members. They can test their skills against other players in exciting casual games and win attractive prizes in the process. Formed in 2003, the company is headed up by its founders Kai Bolik, Michael Kalkowski and Boris Wasmuth, and employs a workforce of more than 80 people at its Berlin corporate location. GameDuell numbers among Europe's most innovative Internet companies, winning the Red Herring 100 Europe Award in 2007. Further information is available at www.gameduell.de/presse.

About Wellington Partners

Wellington Partners ranks among the most successful pan-European venture capital firms. With € 800 million under management and offices in London, Munich, Palo Alto and Zurich, the firm invests into opportunities throughout Europe that have the potential to become global leaders, mainly in the areas of Information Technology, Media Convergence, Cleantech and Life Science. Since 1998, Wellington has established a worldwide network to aid its entrepreneurs in building companies on a global scale.

Wellington Partners has invested in more than 100 companies in Europe and Israel, including now publicly traded Actelion, SAF and XING, successful privately held companies like Alando (acquired by eBay) and ImmobilienScout24 (acquired by Deutsche Telekom) as well as current portfolio companies like Adconion Astaro, Qwestico and Truphone. For more information please visit www.wellington-partners.com.

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