

/ Wellington Partners finances Siemens AG spin-off: EnOcean /

Munich, April 17, 2002. Munich-based venture capital specialist Wellington Partners is participating in the first round of financing for EnOcean GmbH of Munich. The company, which was formed in the autumn of 2001 and today employs six people, develops and markets innovative wireless sensors that are powered solely by their environment. The underlying technology enables information to be wirelessly transmitted over a radio link, without the need for maintenance or batteries in the transmitter. The energy required for operating the transmitter and the radio link is generated by the change in energy entropy produced by the event to be transmitted. In the case of wireless light switches, for example, the energy required for transmitting the radio signal is produced solely by the act of pressing the switch.

The EnOcean founders developed this power-free and wireless switch and sensor technology in the late 1990s as employees of Siemens AG. Siemens AG patented the technology and played an active role in forming the company in the autumn of 2001 by contributing the patents to the start-up. Siemens Technology Accelerator assumed a key role in the formation of the company. General Manager Thomas Lackner explains the motivation: "EnOcean's technology represents a fascinating combination of energy transformation and radio technology that will spread from the market for building technology to numerous and varied applications. We were pleased to support the formation of EnOcean with a view toward profitably marketing this cross-industry technology in the markets of the world. In addition, various Siemens groups can now also easily and cost-effectively integrate the components into competitive products."

Its power-free and wireless switch and sensor technology will afford EnOcean access to any number of large markets: In addition to building technology, where up to 80 percent of the costs of conventional re-cabling can be avoided in connection with building renovations, this technology can also be employed in shipbuilding, industrial sensor applications, as well as in the automotive sector.

Wellington Partners is investing in the first round of financing together with Düsseldorf-based venture capital specialist enjoyventure Management. Wellington Partner Jörg Überla views EnOcean as an extremely exciting investment: "A revolutionary, patented technology, world class technology partner Siemens, an experienced management team and any number of addressable markets – that's a constellation you don't often see."

About Wellington Partners

Wellington Partners invests venture capital in young start-ups throughout Europe in the fields of information and communication technology and life science. The Munich-based company manages venture capital funds with a total volume of €260 million. €100 million of this funding is available for new investments or follow-on financing of existing holdings. Formed in 1991, the company is presently invested in over 30 companies, and in the past has already accompanied such successful enterprises as chip broker ACG or biotechnology company Actelion in going public.

About Siemens Technology Accelerator

Siemens Technology Accelerator GmbH (STA; <http://www.sta.siemens.com>) coaches and supports technology-based business ideas during the seed phase with the objective of forming venture capital-financed start-ups. Established in February 2001, this wholly-owned subsidiary of Siemens AG utilizes a brief acceleration phase of up to 12 months to develop innovative product and business ideas that offer a unique technology selling point, clear customer benefits and strong market potential to a point at which external backers can invest in them. The ideas can come from Siemens Corporate Technology, the Siemens groups or from the external environment (e.g. universities, local business plan contests, etc.). STA promotes around 6-8 business ideas per year with a maximum of € 500,000 each.

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