

Digital media entrepreneur Spencer Hyman joins Wellington Partners as its latest Venture Partner

London/Munich January, 20, 2011. Pan-European venture capital firm Wellington Partners has emphasized its leading role in the Digital Media sector with the appointment of Spencer Hyman as a Venture Partner.

Since the 1990's, Hyman has been involved in the development of the European Internet industry as an entrepreneur, investor and executive. From 2005 to 2009, he was the COO of Last.fm with responsibilities including advertising, business development, ecommerce, internationalization, HR, labels negotiation plus content and rights management. During this time, he successfully helped the sale of this online music pioneer for \$280 m to CBS and remained on board to integrate the business into its new parent. From 2002 to 2005, he worked as a managing director for venture capital firm Copan. During the turn of the millenium, he was a General Manager at Amazon, launching its Software, Video Games, Electronics and Toy operations in the UK and heading these stores throughout Europe. Before Amazon, he helped set up Hasbro in Japan (where he supported the translation and launch of Monopoly and Cluedo on the Super Famicom) and was Assistant GM in one of Hasbro's Factories in Thailand making (amongst other toys) Cabbage Patch Dolls. He is or has been an advisor to several successful companies including Plink (sold to Google), LinkedIn, EPOS, Mendeley and Yoyo Games.

Hyman is the twelfth Venture Partner to join Wellington, eight are based in North America and four in Europe. Besides Hyman, the European team includes serial entrepreneur and iPIN/Valista/Paymo (now Boku) co-founder Alexandre Gonthier, former BT executive Royston Hoggarth and former FLAG Telecom and vodafone /o.tel.o communications executive Eberhard Plattfaut. All these high-calibre entrepreneurs as well as their U.S. colleagues advise and support portfolio companies in their areas of expertise on strategic planning, key executive hires and provide a crucial network for business development.

Hyman explains his new role: "The Venture Partner program of Wellington is tailor-made for my ambitions. I become a part of an outstanding team with an amazing track record in digital media and can share and develop my experiences in this sector with some of Europe's best entrepreneurs. At the same time, the Venture Partner status allows me to follow my own entrepreneurial activities."

Wellington Partner Daniel Waterhouse says: "We are delighted to have such an experienced Internet executive as Spencer join us as a Venture Partner. He is incredibly well respected and connected in the digital media space and will help us further build out our network in Europe and the U.S."

About Wellington Partners

Wellington Partners is one of the most successful pan-European venture capital firms. With some € 800 million under management and offices in London, Munich, Palo Alto and Zurich, the firm invests into companies throughout Europe that have the potential to become global leaders, in the areas of Digital Media, Cleantech, Electronics, Software and Life Sciences.

Since 1998, Wellington Partners has invested in more than 100 companies in Europe and Israel, including now publicly traded Actelion and XING and successful privately held companies like Alando (acquired by eBay), Ciao (acquired by Microsoft) and ImmobilienScout24 (acquired by Deutsche Telekom). For more information please visit www.wellington-partners.com.

Contact

Wellington Partners
Spencer Hyman
Venture Partner
T: +44 79 68 801 069
hyman@wellington-partners.com

Wellington Partners
Stefan Schwartz
PR Advisor
T: +49 89 2199 4129
schwartz@wellington-partners.com