

Deutsche Börse acquires stake in banking service provider figo – IEG as exclusive financial advisor to figo

- DB1 Ventures, the investment arm of Deutsche Börse, has participated in a Series B financing round and acquires a significant minority stake in figo
- Further investors are reputable German business angels
- Figo raised around EUR 6.8m
- IEG – Investment Banking Group acted as exclusive financial advisor to figo

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DB1 Ventures, the Corporate Venture Capital arm of Deutsche Börse Group, has participated in a Series B financing round for the Hamburg-based FinTech company figo GmbH and is investing a seven-digit amount for a significant minority stake. Further investors are reputable business angels from Germany. figo raised around EUR 6.8m in total in the current financing round.

figo is a banking service provider focused on building the banking infrastructure of the future. In addition to the Banking API, the company offers clients and partners various products and services within the context of the amended Payment Services Directive 2 (PSD2).

"The team led by André Bajorat has made clear the opportunities that exist for virtually every player in the financial sector and the enormous potential that PSD2 implementation offers to the European industry," said Ankur Kamalia, MD & Head of Venture Portfolio Management and DB1 Ventures, Deutsche Börse, about the investment. "In a changing financial landscape, figo has established itself as a reliable partner and has built up an fantastic FinTech ecosystem around itself. We are looking forward to supporting their growth and also learning from the innovation they are driving."

"Deutsche Börse represents a perfect partner for figo - a financially involved investor that is at the same time a strategic partner. No other player of this type in the financial services sector stands for neutrality and is at the same time an infrastructure provider. With Deutsche Börse as a partner, figo will gain new enhanced visibility in the industry," said André M. Bajorat, CEO of figo GmbH, to the new investors. "With the funds from the Series B financing round, we will push ahead with the internationalization of the company and further expand our products around PSD2 and other regulatory requirements."

"We have been watching figo for several years now. It is a great confirmation for us to see how a company can develop when the right people come together with a common vision at the right time. The figo team has shown how successful you can be with the right mindset," said Dr. Marc Umber, investment manager at the High-Tech Gründerfonds.

IEG – Investment Banking Group acted as exclusive financial advisor to figo.

About IEG – Investment Banking Group

IEG – Investment Banking Group is one of the leading, global independent investment banking boutiques focused on Mergers & Acquisitions, Financing & Principal Investment for Internet, Technology & Services. Locally present in the key international growth regions and/or emerging markets, IEG – Investment Banking Group is a unique, influential and trusted partner for growth companies and larger, international corporates. Founded in 1999 and owned by its partners, IEG now employs more than 100 professionals around the world. For more information about IEG – Investment Banking Group refer to: www.ieg-banking.com.

About figo

figo is Europe's first banking service provider and offers third parties innovative services with banking functions. By integrating the figo Banking API, they can quickly link their applications, products and services to more than 3,100 financial sources. This interface is the key to a multi-banking financial platform which guarantees users a comfortable and, above all, secure handling of banking data. With the "Banking as a Service" platform, figo is bridging the gap between the modern services of its customers and more than 55 million online banking accounts in Germany and Austria. In addition to FinTecs, banks and large companies are already using the solution to integrate banking into user-friendly contexts. figo's positioning is pioneering in the context of PSD2 and the related topic of XS2A. figo has developed a dynamic FinTech ecosystem and has generated a new standard for linking financial data. In this, figo has succeeded in reducing complexity, integrating banking services into third-party products, and providing new touchpoints between players in the financial sector and the end customer. Their technology is already in use at well-known companies. For more information about figo refer to: www.figo.io.

About Deutsche Börse Group

Deutsche Börse Group is one of the largest exchange organizations worldwide. It organizes markets characterized by integrity, transparency and safety for investors who invest capital and for companies that raise capital – markets on which professional traders buy and sell equities, derivatives and other financial instruments according to clear rules and under strict supervision. Deutsche Börse Group, with its services and systems, ensures the functioning of these markets and a level playing field for all participants – worldwide. For more information about Deutsche Börse Group refer to: www.deutsche-boerse.com/dbg-en.

About High-Tech Gründerfonds

The High-Tech Gründerfonds invests venture capital in new, promising technology companies that implement promising research results in an entrepreneurial way. With seed funding, the start-ups develop an R&D project into a prototype or "proof of concept", or to market launch. The fund initially invests EUR 600k; a total of up to EUR 2m is available per company. Investors of the public-private partnership include the German Federal Ministry of Economics and Energy, the KfW Bankengruppe and the 18 economic companies ALTANA, BASF, Bayer, B. Braun, Robert Bosch, CEWE, Daimler, Deutsche Post DHL, Deutsche Telekom, Evonik, Lanxess, Media + more venture Beteiligungs GmbH & Co. KG, METRO, Qiagen, RWE Innogy, SAP, Tengelmann and Carl Zeiss. The High-Tech Gründerfonds has a total fund volume of around €576 million (€272 million Fund I and €304 million Fund II). For more information about High Tech Gründerfonds refer to: www.high-tech-gruenderfonds.de/en.