

Dear Madam, dear Sir,

the European Space Agency ESA with its partners High-Tech Gründerfonds Management GmbH and Deutsches Zentrum für Luft- und Raumfahrt e.V. (DLR) are pleased to announce the

**10<sup>th</sup> ESA Investment Forum 2019**

on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2019

at the European Space Operations Centre ESA/ESOC in Darmstadt.

The event aims at fostering the investment climate in Germany within the Space Domain as well as within related Application Domains. It shall serve as a platform for networking as well as matching between innovative space start-ups and investors with a corresponding record of accomplishment.

Since the early 2000s, the ESA Technology Transfer and Business Incubation Office has been seeking entrepreneurs with innovative ideas in using space technologies or developing applications to create new products and services in a non-space environment (spin-off). These efforts are complemented by technology contributions to the space domain from non-space environments (spin-in). Such transfer of technology and know-how continues to increase the competitiveness of Europe as a whole, but also of each participating region by creating new start-up companies and leading to new jobs and growth. The ESA Business Incubation Centres (ESA BIC) in Germany (Hessen, Bavaria, Baden-Württemberg & Bremen) are part of a growing Europe-wide network of 20 ESA BICs in 60 locations. Up to date, this network has supported more than 600 space-connected start-ups, providing financial and business development support as well as technical expertise.

We cordially invite you to join the 10<sup>th</sup> ESA Investment Forum. Within two pitch sessions, 14 selected start-ups will present their offerings and showcase investment opportunities in space. Podium Discussions with Investors, Business Angel Networks and Start-ups will complement the event and address the topics “Entrepreneurship in Space - Why does Germany need a 1 B€ Space Fund?” and “Investment in Space – What are investors currently looking for?” We provide opportunities for networking during the breaks. Please refer to the event program for further details.

Online registration will open in November 2018 and will be announced through a dedicated communication. In order to implement this event to your full benefit and satisfaction, we kindly ask for a financial contribution of 100 € for regular participants. Start-ups that are not older than 5 years or have joined the ESA BIC network as an incubatee or alumnus participate free of charge. We are looking forward to meeting you in Darmstadt!

Best Regards



Frank Salzgeber

Head of ESA Technology Transfer  
and Business Incubation Office



Christian Ziach

Investment Manager  
High-Tech Gründerfonds  
Management GmbH



Dr. Frank Zimmermann

Managing Director cesah GmbH  
managing ESA BIC Hessen &  
Baden-Württemberg