

Media Information  
1 October 2013

## **BMW Group and UnternehmerTUM bring TechShop to Germany**

Automobile manufacturer supports expansion of Entrepreneurship Centre at Technical University Munich (TUM)

**Munich.** The BMW Group and UnternehmerTUM, the Centre for Innovation and Business Creation at Technical University Munich, are stepping up their cooperation. The automobile manufacturer will support UnternehmerTUM with the expansion of its Entrepreneurship Centre at the research campus in Garching, just outside of Munich. The project will involve bringing Silicon Valley-based TechShop to Germany to continue its success story as an innovation company.

In addition to the training and consulting services already on offer, the centre will provide 1,800 square metres of high-tech workshop infrastructure, comprising machines, tools and software for prototype construction and small-series production. The facility in Munich-Garching will be the first workshop operated by TechShop in Germany.

The new high-tech workshop will be open to the public, targeting, in particular, creative types, business founders, start-ups and employees of the BMW Group and other companies. The Entrepreneurship Centre's unique offering is geared towards both the national and international innovation and entrepreneurial scene, and aims to provide significant impetus for Bavaria's economy and innovative power. This should further reinforce Munich's position as a high-tech location and strengthen the local network of city, universities, start-ups, companies and local creative scene.

The cooperation with the BMW Group is designed to provide business founders with access to first-rate know-how. In return, the BMW Group expects the project to bring it closer to ground-breaking innovations. Innovations initiated by BMW Group employees will also be promoted, with the workshop available to employees for prototype construction.

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The BMW Group and UnternehmerTUM have collaborated for more than ten years on a large number of innovation projects and, together, have supported outstanding, innovative start-ups in the formation of their business.

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**The BMW Group**

The BMW Group is the leading premium manufacturer of automobiles and motorcycles in the world with its BMW, MINI and Rolls-Royce brands. As a global company, the BMW Group operates 28 production and assembly facilities in 13 countries and has a global sales network in more than 140 countries.

In 2012, the BMW Group sold about 1.85 million cars and more than 117,000 motorcycles worldwide. The profit before tax for the financial year 2012 was euro 7.82 billion on revenues amounting to euro 76.85 billion. At 31 December 2012, the BMW Group had a workforce of 105,876 employees.

The success of the BMW Group has always been built on long-term thinking and responsible action. The company has therefore established ecological and social sustainability throughout the value chain, comprehensive product responsibility and a clear commitment to conserving resources as an integral part of its strategy.

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**UnternehmerTUM – Centre for Innovation and Business Creation at Technical University Munich**

UnternehmerTUM assists start-ups and established companies with business creation, successful business development and market entry. The UnternehmerTUM fund provides capital for promising new technology companies. With more than 20 high-growth spin-offs and over 1,000 participants in its training programmes, UnternehmerTUM plays a leading role in Europe.