

# OHB Venture Capital and LuxSpace establishing company in Luxembourg to enable sustainable life in space

Luxembourg, Munich, April 4, 2017: OHB Venture Capital GmbH, Munich, and LuxSpace s.à r.l., Betzdorf, Luxembourg (both subsidiaries of OHB SE, Prime Standard, ISIN DE0005936124) have today announced the establishment of a company known as Blue Horizon s.à r.l. with registered offices in Luxembourg. Blue Horizon will be pursuing the vision of creating the necessary conditions for enabling sustainable life in space and for revitalizing ravaged landscapes on the Earth by applying the technologies and processes of life sciences.

The Grand Duchy of Luxembourg is a close partner to OHB SE. Etienne Schneider, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of the Economy, said today at a press conference: "The incorporation of this company in Luxembourg and its vision are fully in line with our SpaceResources.lu initiative for promoting the future use of space resources. In this connection, we are very pleased to have found in OHB a strong European partner that supports our plans and wants to play a leading role in this area in Europe. One of the most important European sites of OHB, the third largest European space company, is being developed in Betzdorf."

"Blue Horizon is a logical step forward in the development of our activities. Looking forward, we see great business potential in life sciences in space, which particularly follows OHB's practical approach of engaging in useful space activities that benefit life on Earth," said Marco Fuchs, CEO of OHB SE. "For this reason, it is only logical that a great deal of expertise will flow from OHB System AG to the new company Blue Horizon and that it will be able to start off straight away. After all, this is not uncharted territory for us," Fuchs said during the press conference.

Blue Horizon will cooperate intensively with national and European research institutes to develop new life science products and services for space and Earth use. "What is really important to highlight is the fact that Blue Horizon

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is not only oriented towards space but will also try to improve life on Earth", said Dr. Thomas Görlach, Managing Director of LuxSpace. Working together with a number of partners, Blue Horizon has developed a preliminary concept to fight desertification using biological methods. This marks a preliminary step towards improving living conditions in desert regions. "This is one of the real challenges in this century," added Jochen Harms, managing director of the newly formed company "and we want to contribute our specific know-how using processes that we have learned from the harsh environment on extraterrestrial bodies. The technical expertise will be provided by Prof. Dr. Klaus Slenzka, Chief Scientist and head of Life Sciences at OHB System AG.

Describing the future development of Blue Horizon's activities, Slenzka says: "In all the plans for human settlement of the Moon, Mars and beyond, it is necessary to ensure that the conditions for human life are installed at the destination in question. Blue Horizon will be responsible for creating these conditions locally," he explains. A preliminary development is already in the starting blocks: CUBEHAB will be able to create viable living conditions on the Moon as early as in 2020. By extracting oxygen from "lifeless" lunar rubble, it will be possible to grow plants on the Moon.

## **About OHB Venture Capital GmbH**

As a subsidiary of OHB SE (Prime Standard, ISIN DE0005936124), OHB Venture Capital GmbH invests in start-up businesses across Europe whose strategy is in line with that of the OHB group, and who work towards innovating OHB group's current lines of business. Companies with positive market prospects working in the fields of space systems, technology, applications and services all count as promising businesses and start-ups. OHB Venture Capital not only assists their portfolio companies in terms of actual venture capital, but mostly in terms of providing access to the OHB group's expertise, as well as to an extensive network within the research and promotion scenes. What is more, start-up businesses can receive active support in the areas of management and finance. OHB Venture Capital prefers to get involved in financing during a business's very early stages of development.

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## About LuxSpace s.à r.l.

LuxSpace s.à r.l. of Luxembourg is an affiliate of OHB SE (Prime Standard, ISIN: DE0005936124), one of the three large space-systems companies in Europe. LuxSpace employs 50 highly skilled experts and provides know-how in the fields of space system engineering, micro satellite manufacturing, satellite simulator software development, communication subsystems for geostationary satellites and space based service application development. LuxSpace is also acknowledged as a leading European partner in the satellite-based Automatic Information System (SAT-AIS), which is used for locating and tracking ships. The launch of VesselSat 1 & 2 in 2011 and 2012 marked an important initial milestone in LuxSpace's history. Currently, it is working on further evolutionary steps in an ESA program aimed at creating a cost-efficient, innovative microsatellite platform. Looking forward, LuxSpace will be expanding its strong position in services.

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