



Press Release

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Aareal Bank Group signs partnership with Plug and Play, the world's largest start up platform

Wiesbaden, 23 April 2018 – Aareal Bank Group partners with Plug and Play, the world's largest start up platform, to expand its activities in the start-up realm. The Group became a founding corporate partner of the recently launched Fintech Europe platform, established in Frankfurt/Germany by Plug and Play together with the Frankfurt-based start-up accelerator TechQuartier.

By teaming up with Plug and Play, Aareal Bank is gaining broad and global access to the dynamic start up ecosystem. As a partner of the Fintech Europe innovation platform, Aareal Bank will be collaborating with the best start-ups focusing on financial technology in the world, developing use cases directly relevant to the Bank's clients.

“As a Group, we are already successfully collaborating with various start-ups, accelerator platforms and networks. By partnering with Plug and Play, we continue to expand our digitalisation activities as well as our access to an attractive start up ecosystem”, said Henning Zander, who heads Aareal Bank AG's Group-wide start up team.

“We are excited to have the opportunity to work with Aareal Bank as one of our first partners for our FinTech Europe program in Frankfurt. We are looking forward to having them engage with startups in our ecosystem and to also be a strategic partner with their innovation agenda”, said Omeed Mehrinfar, Managing Director EMEA at Plug and Play.

Plug and Play

Headquartered in Silicon Valley in the US, Plug and Play is the leading global innovation platform and world's largest startup accelerator. The aim of their network is to connect established industrial companies, investors and mentors with agile startups, specifically in the technology space. The ecosystem thrives on the power of people networking, connecting, and collaborating. Plug and Play runs over 20 stage-agnostic accelerator programs a year, invests in over 100 companies per year, and matches over 200 multinational corporate partners to world-class startups disrupting and incrementally improving their industry.

Aareal Bank Group

Aareal Bank Group, headquartered in Wiesbaden, is a leading international property specialist. It provides smart financings, software products, and digital solutions for the property sector and related industries, and is present across three continents: Europe, North America and Asia. Aareal Bank AG,

whose shares are included in Deutsche Börse's MDAX index, is the Group's parent entity. It manages the various entities organised in the Group's two business segments: Structured Property Financing and Consulting /Services. The Structured Property Financing segment encompasses all of Aareal Bank Group's property financing and funding activities. In this segment, the Bank facilitates property investment projects for its domestic and international clients, within the framework of a three-continent strategy covering Europe, North America and Asia. In its Consulting/Services segment Aareal Bank Group offers its European clients from the property and energy sectors a unique combination of specialised banking services as well as innovative digital products and services, designed to help clients optimise and enhance the efficiency of their business processes.