



Press release

Adapt Vertical Mills Joins GEC Scaling Factory Program

Meerbusch/Germany, 10 July 2022 – Adapt Vertical Mills (AVM) is the latest amend to the Scaling Factory program of the Global Entrepreneurship Centre (GEC) in Meerbusch, Germany located at Areal Boehler near Duesseldorf. Contracts have been signed on 1st July 2022 between Andreas Theil, founder and general manager of Adapt Vertical Mills, and Friedrich Barth, CEO of Global Entrepreneurship Centre. The local startup Adapt Vertical Mills is well underway on its mission to transform the conventional wind turbine market.

Designed to harvest energy at lower heights, AVM modules are expected to gain greater acceptance and technology penetration rates particularly with end-customers and municipalities that have shown reluctance to the very large wind turbine towers. The technology can also become a complementary installation in existing wind farms for quicker market commercialization.

“Not only does the eco-friendly and aero-dynamic performance of the rotors compel in terms of economic benefits such as efficiency and wind flow yield. Equally important is the conservation of nature and the protection of birds, insects and even fish – in the case of vertical hydro power modules which are another revolutionary innovation in the pipeline of AVM. After thoroughly assessing and approving AVM’s qualification to participate in our scaling factory, the company can now receive up to 200,000 euros in in-kind services from the program that spans over 15 months“, explained Friedrich Barth, co-founder and CEO of the Global Entrepreneurship Centre. “With the GEC funding, the technical validation of the 1:10 model can be completed and the planning for the construction of at least one 1:1 wind turbine can be progressed”.

“We are very grateful that Rhein-Kreis-Neuss introduced us to the Global Entrepreneurship Centre after we first received a funding from county’s regional innovation development program “INNO-RKN” earlier this year. We are very committed to this region and we are keen to deliver on its structural and ecological transformation targets”, said Andreas Theil, founder of Adapt Vertical Mills.

“The future operators of the compact and modular Adapt Vertical Mills will substantially benefit also from improved speed-to-permit. We consider this a huge benefit for industrial, private and public parties interested to become operators for self-sufficient, renewable energy supply”, explained Hans-Jürgen Petrauschke, head of district administration at Rhein-Kreis-Neuss, during the recent advisory board meeting of Global Entrepreneurship Centre.



Scaling startups with focus on sustainable technologies, processes and business models is at the heart of what the Global Entrepreneurship Centre, founded in Meerbusch / Germany in 2021, has been designed for. Today, less than two percent of all startups in Germany and Europe reach the Series C investment stage. For deep-tech innovation, this is a real problem because it means there is currently little to no funding available when it comes to financing technology validation, prototyping or production launches of first batches to give the proof of concept.

Global Entrepreneurship Centre aims to become the leading German and European game changer to tackle this challenge. Together with strategic partners and investors, the GEC helps its portfolio companies to bridge any obstacles on their path to commercialization. We provide focused support for entrepreneurs on their steep technology-readiness ladder to scaling up sustainable innovation. The GEC factory program provides sustech companies with tailor-made operational services, assets and scaling infrastructure to enable market-readiness, growth and lasting impact.

Supported by the Rhein-Kreis-Neuss, the State of North Rhine-Westphalia and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy, the Global Entrepreneurship Centre is the first scale-up innovation center of its kind to address the scaling challenges of deep-tech startups with a clear sustainability focus. The GEC's approach to venture development is driven by the UN Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs) and by the collective, worldwide task to effectively deliver on the climate targets – relentlessly and faster.

About the Global Entrepreneurship Centre

Based at Areal Böhler in Meerbusch, Germany the Global Entrepreneurship Centre (GEC) is the first scale-up innovation hub of its kind to address the scaling challenges of promising sustechs – deep-tech start-ups with a clear sustainability and climate protection focus – from all over the world. Launched in 2021, the GEC will initially support up to 20 startups per year in the sectors of building & living, textiles, mobility & transport, and agriculture & nutrition with access to venture capital, business development, advisory services, production and lab capacity. The GEC is funded by the Rhenish region's 'SofortprogrammPlus' initiative and the Rhine County of Neuss, Germany. For more information: www.gec-scaleup.com

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