Mastercard and solarisBank enter strategic partnership to drive innovation in the digital banking sector

Hamburg / Frankfurt am Main / Berlin, October 11, 2016 - Mastercard and Berlin-based solarisBank, the world's first independent banking platform, announced their plans for an in-depth partnership to drive innovation in the digital banking industry at Hamburg Fintech Week. Receiving the Principal Membership status, solarisBank will now operate at Mastercard's highest issuer level, with access to Mastercard's entire product portfolio.

Both companies have agreed to collaborate on the development of banking modules for the solarisBank platform. In a first step, the innovative Debit Mastercard – combining the benefits of a debit card and credit card in a single product –will be brought to the solarisBank platform. In the following months, wallet services and mobile payment will be added as further banking bricks.

> *"Our strategic partnership with Mastercard allows us to use the global infrastructure of a market leader. With our B2B2X approach we will be able to reach millions of customers all over the world through our partners while profiting from Mastercard's network."*
>
> — Marko Wenthin, Member of the board solarisBank AG

The partnership is the next milestone in the expansion strategy for solarisBank, and will give the company access to Mastercard's infrastructure throughout 210 countries with over 43 million acceptance points around the world.[i].

> *"The potential for innovation offered by solarisBank and its powerful commitment to changing the global banking industry are clear to us. We're excited by the outlook of working together with a young, visionary banking company on developing innovative digital solutions."*
>
> — Dr. Andreas Spengel, Vice President Mastercard

"We will primarily focus on developing banking technologies featuring Mastercard's expertise. In the future, transactions such as payments will function exclusively using smartphones, wearables or the Internet of Things; the plastic card we are familiar with is only the beginning. The Mastercard of the future will serve as an information hub, allowing customers to perform various types of transactions in addition to payments – always fitting to their respective life situation. Together with Mastercard, we plan to drive this development and supply it to our partners", Wenthin explained.

In addition to contactless and mobile payment options, the innovation-based partnership will also focus on transaction opportunities in e-commerce. By joining forces, the companies plan to utilise the potential in this market sector and to scale various payment models.

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[i] Nilson Report, 2016.

About Mastercard

Mastercard (NYSE: MA), www.mastercard.com, is a technology company in the global payments industry. We operate the world's fastest payments processing network, connecting consumers, financial institutions, merchants, governments and businesses in more than 210 countries and territories. Mastercard products and solutions make everyday commerce activities – such as shopping, traveling, running a business and managing finances – easier, more secure and more efficient for everyone. Follow us on Twitter @MastercardNews, join the discussion on the Beyond the Transaction Blog and subscribe for the latest news on the Engagement Bureau.

ABOUT SOLARISBANK

Die solarisBank ist ein Technologieunternehmen mit einer deutschen Vollbanklizenz. Das Unternehmen kombiniert Banking-Erfahrung, Technologie-Expertise und digitale DNA, um eine technologische Banking-Plattform für die Bedürfnisse der digitalen Wirtschaft anzubieten. Mit der solarisBank-Plattform erstellen Digitalunternehmen eigene Lösungen für ihre finanziellen Anforderungen. Das Unternehmen wurde 2016 mit Sitz in Berlin gegründet und ist neben Deutschland in den Niederlanden, Österreich, Großbritannien, Belgien und Griechenland aktiv. Geführt wird das Unternehmen von den Vorständen Marko Wenthin und Andreas Bittner sowie CTO Peter Grosskopf.

www.solarisbank.de

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