

## **UK Tech Pioneer Hermann Hauser invests in Vienna based property search startup zoomsquare: „They have what it takes to become a global player“**

**Hermann Hauser, one of the most prestigious and well known tech investors in UK and whole Europe, will invest in Vienna based high-tech startup for home hunting [zoomsquare.com](http://zoomsquare.com). Often referred to by the British press as the „Steve Jobs of Great Britain“, the founder of the legendary venture capital fund Amadeus Capital Partners is steadfastly impressed by his first investment in Austria. zoomsquare plans to use the fresh capital to spur expansion plans to Germany at the start of 2016.**

The Austrian Hermann Hauser is one of the pioneers of the British startup scene. Hauser helped to build up the thriving Silicon Fen in Cambridge, often referred to as the British Silicon Valley. Under his leadership Cambridge has morphed into a flourishing startup tech cluster with over 1,500 businesses and sales approaching 15 billion Euros per year. He helped lead the development of market-leading ARM processors found in nearly every cell phone, tablet and laptop. He has a reputation for not only guiding successful IPOs, but also multi-million dollar exits, evidenced by sales to Microsoft (software), Nvidia (hardware) and the €600M purchase of Solexa from Illumina (biotech).

### **For Hauser, zoomsquare has the potential to fundamentally disrupt the real estate tech market**

The real estate search engine [zoomsquare.com](http://zoomsquare.com) is Hauser's first investment in Austria and he already has big plans for the Vienna based high-tech startup. „They have what it takes to become a global player: a lucrative market, the right people behind the wheel and scalable technology that has the potential to shakeup the entire real estate market. New technological ideas and disruptive approaches are always very attractive to me.“

### **Further international investors already at the gates for zoomsquare**

Both sides agreed not to disclose the sum of investment. In addition, several well-known investors have already pledged their support during this current funding round and will be revealed at an appropriate time before the expansion to Germany at the start of 2016. A Series A funding round has already been planned for the summer of 2016.

### **Hauser plans with I.E.C.T. investments in hand-picked startups in the entire alpine region**

Hauser's investment in zoomsquare is at the same time a start signal for his „Institute for Entrepreneurship Cambridge-Tirol“ (I.E.C.T), based in Innsbruck, where all of his activities in Austria, Germany, Switzerland and northern Italian are coordinated. I.E.C.T. will function as a startup accelerator in the alps and its foothills (including Munich, Zurich, Bolzano and Vienna), offering startups the chance to develop and build up their investor networks. A special focus will fall on active investments Hermann Hauser will make in hand-picked startups. This allows for I.E.C.T. to build a bridge with Great Britain thanks to strong partners like Cambridge University or venture capital fond Amadeus Capital Partners.

### **Alp startups grow in quality - often on level with Cambridge and Silicon Valley startups**

„The startup scene in Austria and neighboring countries has developed greatly in the last few years. The quality of projects that we're seeing is incredibly high, comparable with what we've experienced in Cambridge or Silicon Valley. That moved me to become more active here and zoomsquare is the first step“, explains Hermann Hauser his reasons for this major step.

### **zoomsquare assets: semantical text analysis, machine learning and co.**

So what was it that attracted one of the most successful expat-Austrians to zoomsquare? Christoph Richter, co-founder of zoomsquare, knows from first hand what his new top-level investors like expect: „We had some really long and intense discussions with him, he leaves nothing to chance. Hauser is an old hand, having been a pioneer in the field of computers for 30 years.“

First and foremost he finds our semantical text analysis and our machine learning processes exciting. That's what we use to automatically analyze the real estate listings. It's through this technology that makes zoomsquare especially scalable."

### **Artificial intelligence that guides humans – also in real estate business**

According to the serial entrepreneur and well known expert for artificial intelligence, the future lies in building smarter machines and technology that support us in day-to-day life. Hauser added: „We won't just have binary numbers 0 and 1, but instead possibilities that humans can actually use.“ That's why Hauser believes zoomsquare is a promising example moving towards this trend.

### **Hauser is selective - only four out of 1000 startups receive his support**

zoomsquare co-founder Christoph Richter views Hauser's investment as an incentive as well as a duty. „Over the course of his more than 100 investments Hermann Hauser has become one of the most experienced, influential and successful venture capitalists in Europe. From over 1000 startups he selects in average just three or four a year to receive investments. When leaders in the field of his caliber believe in our project, well that provides us with a lot of courage. His engagement with us is a distinction and we're already excited to being able to rely on his expertise, his wealth of knowledge and his impressive network“.

### **About zoomsquare**

*The IT startup zoomsquare offers a real estate search machine that aligns the wishes of home hunters with current online offerings. For the first time PCs and smartphones will be able to compare all online offerings from the web, using semantical text analysis, geocoding, big data crawling, machine learning and a matching algorithm, to the personal profiles of those searching for real estate. That saves time and makes the property search easy and understandable by delivering personalized results.*

*With growth over 350% alone in the first half of 2015, zoomsquare has built a reputation for itself as one of the fastest growing real estate startups in Europe. The company is able to make that claim by boasting access to nearly 1,000 indexed real estate sites and 110,000 transparent properties in Austria. With 200k unique visits per month only in Austria, zoomsquare is amongst the market's top 10 players. zoomsquare has a total funding of 1.1 million euros before the current round and will launch in Germany at the beginning of 2016. Preparations are already well underway. Because it's not dependent on sales, zoomsquare has a decisive advantage over its competitors by offering faster and cheaper nearly all available properties on a market. A possible output is being able to compare property data across whole Europe. The goal of the company, recipient already of several awards, is to be the „Google for real estate.“ The zoomsquare motto: „matches people with homes.“*