



Basel / Zurich, 2 June 2021

Digital Festival, HackZurich and HackZurich Talents becoming part of the MCH Group

On 1 June 2021, the MCH Group is wholly acquiring Digital Festival AG in Zurich with its platforms Digital Festival, HackZurich and HackZurich Talents. The operational team around managing director and co-founder Jonathan Isenring is being integrated in the MCH Group and will continue to be responsible for the platforms and their further development, thus ensuring continuity.

With the platforms of Digital Festival AG, the MCH Group is acquiring a leading Swiss event in the field of innovation, technology and digitalisation, as well as Europe's most important hackathon and a unique platform for the career of young talents. This constitutes a valuable enhancement of the MCH Group's Swiss Events portfolio, and the group will benefit from the new team's expertise and network in a number of different areas.

Despite the difficult circumstances, it proved possible to further boost the importance and profile of the Digital Festival and HackZurich in 2020. After the world's first hybrid hackathon was launched with HackZurich last year, the Digital Festival is also being staged in a hybrid format for the first time this year. This will extend the festival's reach and further increase the benefit for the community.

"The three events constitute an excellent fit for our strategy of expanding our portfolio with new formats on hybrid and digital platforms", says Beat Zwahlen, CEO of the MCH Group. "Jonathan Isenring's team, with its specific know-how, will also make a key contribution to the ongoing development of innovative event formats and future-orientated topics."

Jonathan Isenring, managing director and co-founder of Digital Festival AG, stresses: "Following the successful establishment of our platforms, their integration in the MCH Group will permit the next phase of further development, internationalisation and growth. We are convinced that this step will enable us to keep the success story of our platforms going and create even more added value for our partners and the community."

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**MCH Group
Global Live Marketing**

MCH Group AG
CH-4005 Basel
+41 58 200 20 20
info@mch-group.com
www.mch-group.com

Digital Festival, HackZurich and HackZurich Talents

The **Digital Festival** is the leading Swiss platform for discussions on the topics of technology, innovation and digitalisation. Over a period of three days, more than 2000 decision-makers and technology experts come together for keynotes, labs and sessions. The 6th Digital Festival is being held from 23 to 26 September in the Schiffbau in Zurich.

digitalfestival.ch

HackZurich is one of the world's most well-known and biggest hackathons (programming and innovation competitions). Selected from among several thousand applicants, the world's 1000 best young technology specialists come together and, over a period of 40 hours, develop innovative, technical prototypes. The 8th HackZurich is being held from 24 to 26 September in the Technopark Zurich.

hackzurich.com

HackZurich works with the world's best technology talents and has knowledge of unique job offers at more than 500 partner companies. **HackZurich Talents** brings together selected partner companies and talents in online sessions, with a subsequent in-depth discussion.

hackzurichtalents.com

MCH Group

The MCH Group has its roots in the "Swiss Samples Fair" launched in Basel (Switzerland) in 1916. Today, it is a leading, internationally operating live marketing company. It is the owner of Messe Basel and Messe Zurich and hosts several hundred events at these locations each year. It organises around 30 live platforms of its own, including Art Basel in Basel, Miami Beach and Hong Kong as well as numerous nationally leading events, such as Swissbau, Igeho and Giardina Zurich. In addition, it provides comprehensive services worldwide in the field of experience marketing, from the strategy through to implementation. The MCH Group ranks among the top ten exhibition companies worldwide in terms of sales.

mch-group.com

Media contact:

MCH Group
Corporate Communications
Christian Jecker
+41 58 206 22 52

christian.jecker@mch-group.com

Information

MCH Group
Managing Director Swiss Events
Roman Imgrüth
+41 58 206 32 03

Roman.Imgrueth@mch-group.com

Digital Festival
Managing Director
Jonathan Isenring
+41 79 724 28 11

jonathan@digitalfestival.ch