

Agile Wind Power raises 1.8m in funding using an innovative approach

Zurich, 18 June 2012 – Agile Wind Power and investiere announce the successful closing of a CHF 1.8 million angel financing round for Agile Wind Power.

The Swiss cleantech start-up Agile Wind Power (AWP) is developing a very innovative, vertically rotating large wind turbine capable of outperforming existing systems in terms of efficiency, maintenance costs and profitability. This turbine is the first of its kind world-wide that is able to compete on performance capacity against traditional wind power plants. In December 2011, Agile Wind Power has been awarded the prestigious Heuberger entrepreneurship prize.

The CHF 1.8m financing round was not only a great success for AWP, but also for its equally innovative financing partner *investiere* (www.investiere.ch) who, since its inception in February 2010, has quickly evolved into the largest private investor platform for direct investments in Swiss start-ups.

In just three weeks, *investiere* raised CHF 720'000 and constitutes the largest source of capital for this round. *investiere* previously financed mobile technology start-up Uepaa, which raised more than half a million Francs through *investiere*. *investiere* has a unique offering for start-ups and investors: it allows private investors and family offices to join forces with institutional investors: in AWP's case, *investiere* investors, contributing each between CHF 10'000 and CHF 200'000, invested alongside a Swiss venture fund as well as the Cantonal Bank of Zurich.

Agile Wind Power CEO Patrick Richter comments: „There is no one like *investiere* that can bring more than CHF 700'000 in just a few weeks - fundraising always is a tricky business, but the *investiere* team stayed with us throughout the process and helped solving all challenges along the way.”

A study published just last week by Roland Berger and WWF, the third annual “Clean Economy, Living Planet” found “a major need for cleantech venture capital to provide equity financing to entrepreneurs and firms in their development and expansion stages.” Nick Beglinger, president of the business association swisscleantech, agrees with this finding, adding: “The successful financing for Agile Wind Power was the first significant early-stage cleantech investment in Switzerland for a long time.” swisscleantech also strives to bring together cleantech innovators and investors and successfully leveraged their network of experts and partners by providing one of the larger investors of this round.

investiere

venture capital

About Agile Wind Power

Agile Wind Power AG, founded at 1st March 2010, is a Swiss Start-up Company which is bound to develop and market a completely new generation of vertically rotating large wind turbines to produce much more efficient clean tech electricity. We will revolutionize traditional wind energy parks with this disruptive technology, because the AGILE turbine concept allows a much higher production of electricity per square meter ground space with far lower transportation and maintenance costs. www.agilewindpower.com

About Verve Capital Partners and *investiere*

investiere is a financier that facilitates innovative investments in quality Swiss start-ups through a transparent platform for private investors. A hybrid model, *investiere* combines the established practices of traditional venture capital with elements of e-finance and social media.

Entrepreneurship, Venture Capital and Finance experience combined with a cultivated network of curators and experts allow *investiere* to evaluate hundreds of business plans a year and pre-select the best Swiss start-ups – so the investor doesn't have to. In order to be listed on the platform, each start-up is put through a rigorous due diligence process. After approval, the investors directly choose their own investments. *investiere*'s success is tied to the success of the start-ups. *investiere* is operated by Verve Capital Partners, a Swiss AG based in Zug, Switzerland. www.investiere.ch

About swisscleantech

swisscleantech is a business association that was launched in autumn 2009. Its mission is to support Swiss cleantech businesses in their quest of leading worldwide cleantech markets and to support Switzerland in becoming the leading sustainability country. The association stands in the tradition of liberalism and sustainability - meaning the consequent internalization of external costs through a clear and transparent policy framework. swisscleantech represents the interests of the leading Swiss Cleantech companies on the national political level.

swisscleantech aims to position Switzerland as international Cleantech leader and therewith to actively contribute to a sustainable development at the global level. Besides political representation swisscleantech offers its members a range of services, such as a Swiss-wide Cleantech database, a weekly news service, the organization of regular networking events, and topic-specific focus groups and fosters reference projects in Switzerland and abroad.

www.swisscleantech.ch