



PRESS RELEASE

India, October 06 2018

Over 19,000 participants attend largest edition of Start-up Expo

- More than 1200 investor meetings facilitated at the one-day event
- Manasi Kulkarni, Co-Founder- Innoweave Biocare wins 'Elevator Pitch' Grand Finale at the Expo

The third and most successful edition of Start-up Expo, India's largest ecosystem for start-up success, was held in New Delhi today. Co-hosted by Lufthansa India and the Delhi-NCR chapter of The Indus Entrepreneurs (TiE), the Expo witnessed a convergence of more than 19,000 delegates from various cities across India, including 100 investors, over 100 recognized business experts as well as with nearly 500 start-up exhibitors.

The one-day event also hosted the Grand Finale of the very first season of 'Elevator Pitch' contest, launched in August by Lufthansa. **Manasi Kulkarni, Co-Founder- Innoweave Biocare**, emerged as the winner by outshining over 500 contestants. By making a sharp 3-minute pitch and displaying sharp business acumen, Manasi won the grand prize of sponsored seat at a global entrepreneurship programme at the prestigious Cambridge University in UK, a Lufthansa Business Class ticket to Europe as well as coveted mentorship from TiE Delhi-NCR.

"The overwhelming response to Start-up Expo has led to its exponential growth over the past three years into what is today India's largest ecosystem for start-up success. It is also an affirmation of the fact that young entrepreneurs in India are chasing new dreams, exploring new possibilities and we feel absolutely privileged to enable them in taking the leap from dreams to success," said Wolfgang Will, Senior Director, South Asia, Lufthansa Group Airlines.

"On behalf of Lufthansa, I extend my heartiest congratulation to Manasi, for a well-deserved victory. I would also like to express our appreciation to all our partners, participants and business leaders whose contribution has made this our biggest edition ever." added Wolfgang Will.

The Expo was attended by eminent personalities including Ramesh Abhishek, Hon'ble Secretary of Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion (DIPP); Rajan Anandan, President- TiE Delhi-NCR & VP- SE Asia & India- Google; Heike Birlenbach, Senior VP- Lufthansa Group Airlines & CCO Hub Frankfurt; Dr. Saurabh Srivastava, Chairman Emeritus, TiE Delhi-NCR and Vani Kola, MD, Kalaari Capital to name a few. Also present were leading Indian investors and partners including StartupIndia and Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI), along with government functionaries, business experts, mentors, corporates, support agencies, industry associations and potential customers.





“Start-up Expo is an important catalyst in the entrepreneurial revolution in India. The extraordinary response to its third edition this year stands testimony to this.” said Geetika Dayal, Executive Director, TiE Delhi-NCR. “Together with Lufthansa, we are proud to have created this genuinely valuable platform for driving start-up success in India.”

The unique initiative began three years ago and has grown from strength to strength. A nationwide movement today, it is widely recognized for the all-embracing support it facilitates for entrepreneurs. Over the last three years, Start-up Expo has attracted an overwhelming participation of over 19,000 attendees, over 500 start-ups and facilitated more than 1200 investor meetings.

For more information on the campaign, please visit www.lufthansastartupexpo.in

TiE Delhi – NCR in brief

Founded in 1992, TiE is a global non-profit organization dedicated to fostering entrepreneurship. It is currently the world’s largest entrepreneurial organization. TiE Delhi-NCR is among the most active and vibrant chapters across the vast TiE network. In the last 18 years, it has continuously taken the lead in creating an increasingly positive ecosystem for entrepreneurs and investors. With a strong mentor support base, marquee events and focused workshops throughout the year it has emerged as one of the most valuable platforms supporting entrepreneurship, nationally. TiE has a wide range of programs including TiE Global Summit, TiEcon, Startup Expo, Special Interest Groups (SIGs) across sectors, TiE Institute & TiE Young Entrepreneurs. For more details, visit www.delhi.tie.org

Lufthansa Group in brief

The Lufthansa Group is the world’s largest aviation group in terms of turnover as well as the market leader in Europe’s airline sector. The Group strives to be the “First Choice in Aviation” for its customers, employees, shareholders and partners. Safety, quality, reliability and innovation are the prime credentials and priorities of all its business activities.

The Lufthansa Group is divided into the three strategic areas of Hub Airlines, Point-to-Point Business and Service Companies. The Group’s network carriers, with their premium brands of Lufthansa, SWISS and Austrian Airlines, serve its home market from their Frankfurt, Munich, Zurich and Vienna hubs. With its Eurowings brand, the Group also offers short- and long-haul point-to-point services in the growing private travel market. And with its service companies, which are all global market leaders in their individual industries, the Lufthansa Group has found success in further areas of the aviation business.

Lufthansa Group airlines serve 343 destinations in 103 countries, offering 15,415 weekly frequencies. The current fleet is comprised of 728 aircraft (as of December 2017) and the Group will continue to take delivery of new aircraft until 2025. In 2017, the Lufthansa Group employed around 130,000 personnel, welcomed 130 million passengers aboard its flights and generated sales of around EUR 35.6 billion.



LUFTHANSA GROUP

The Lufthansa Group is headed by the five-member Executive Board. Carsten Spohr is Chairman & CEO; Thorsten Dirks is in charge of Eurowings and Aviation Services; Harry Hohmeister bears responsibility for the Commercial Management of the Group's Hub Airlines and Airports; Ulrik Svensson is the Head of Finance and IT; and Dr. Bettina Volkens is in charge of HR and Legal Affairs.

Follow us on Twitter: @lufthansaNews

For any additional information please contact:

Deepika Bansal

Alphabet Consulting

E: deepikab@alphabetconsulting.com; lufthansa@alphabetconsulting.com

M: +91 9811292247