

Factory Berlin appoints new CEO to strengthen innovation and cross-industry collaborations

- As the new CEO of Factory Berlin, Nico Gramenz will lead the powerful network by broadening its collaborations with different industries, strongly focusing on creativity and innovation for the community.
- "True change arises from new perspectives. Factory Berlin offers prime conditions for groundbreaking ideas - so much creative and diverse potential is rarely found in such concentration.

Berlin, January 10th, 2019 - Factory Berlin, Europe's largest international community of innovators, announced the appointment of <u>Nico Gramenz</u> as new CEO. Gramenz aims to further strengthen the Factory's interdisciplinary community and collaborative ecosystem by bringing together young talents, start-ups and traditional corporations from various industries. This melting pot of experts from technology, politics, art and science naturally increases the innovative power of the community. Furthermore, Gramenz will push international growth.

"The curated community's main approach brings together upcoming talents, startups and companies from different worlds and backgrounds," explains Nico Gramenz. "In order to create something new, we have to step out of what's established. True change arises from new perspectives. Factory Berlin offers prime conditions for groundbreaking ideas - so much creative and diverse potential is rarely found in such high concentration."

His new position, benefits from Nico's experience at Siemens AG where he led the digital transformation of their mobility sector, by applying completely different approaches taken from the music industry. It seems like a far stretch but at the time, it effectively changed functions.

Udo Schloemer, Founder, Managing Director, and Chief Visionary Officer adds, "I founded Factory Berlin with the clear goal of creating a real community in a space where innovators and creatives inspire each other. Where these groups could create new businesses and social models to challenge the status quo together. I'm confident that as a leader Nico Gramenz will be absolutely competent. He has the skills to listen, look, and boost the potential of each individual. Combined with his professional expertise, as well as his own personal curiosity for everything, he brings together the best assets to successfully implement and further develop the vision of Factory Berlin."

Gramenz brings over seven years of experience in leadership positions from Siemens AG, where he most recently served as Senior Vice President of Business Development in Mobility Management.

With its two locations in Berlin's Mitte and Kreuzberg, Factory Berlin covers a total area of over 20,000 square meters. Since its opening in 2014, the innovation community has grown to more than 70 employees and greatly expanded their membership models. Currently, the community has over 3,000 members from over 70 nationalities, who make up over 200 start-ups and numerous partner companies.

About Factory Berlin:

Factory Berlin is an international community of innovators and change-makers who support and empower each other to create, share, and disrupt. Inspired by the diversity and exchange at Andy Warhol's Factory in New York, Factory Berlin brings

Factory Berlin

together the brightest minds from tech, politics, arts, and science into one dynamic and collaborative ecosystem. The members' extraordinary drive for innovation impels them to become the creators and opinion leaders of tomorrow. Founded in 2011 by Managing Director and Chief Visionary Officer Udo Schloemer, Factory Berlin operates Europe's largest innovation community in Berlin-Mitte and Görlitzer Park. On a total area of over 23,000 square meters, Factory Berlin brings together globally active technology companies with start-ups and creative thought leaders. These include Google for Startups, Entrepreneur First, CODE, Siemens, SoundCloud, Hackerbay and NewSchool as well as countless young talents. Members get support with partnerships, education and cooperation possibilities and have access to the community and event spaces at Factory Berlin. More information via www.factoryberlin.com.

Press Contact

Ciro Fakhr Senior PR Manager

Tel.: +49 30 25 76 205-22

E-Mail: ciro.fakhr@factoryberlin.com