

CODE_n Stage Home to More Than 70 Events at CeBIT

High-caliber conference program covers startups, smart energy and IT trends – all in Hall 16

Stuttgart, February 20, 2013 – There are many reasons to visit Hall 16 at this year's CeBIT. In addition to 50 startups from 13 countries – all presenting their business solutions for the transition to alternative energy, all finalists in the CODE_n Contest – the exhibition area will feature an attractive conference program throughout the entire week. Highlights include the Young IT Day with Dr. Philipp Rösler, German Federal Minister of Economics and Technology, the Smart Grid Summit with Peter Altmaier, German Federal Minister for the Environment, and the CODE_n Award Show.

There is no way visitors to Hall 16 at CeBIT 2013 could miss it: the spectacularly designed CODE_n stage. The whole week long, it will be the hot spot for exciting presentations, interesting panel discussions and attractive parties.

Events kick off on March 5 with the Young IT Day, where the promotion of startups takes center stage. This event will be attended, among others, by German Federal Minister of Economics and Technology, Dr. Philipp Rösler, and BITKOM President, Prof. Dieter Kempf. Beginning at 6 p.m., newcomer band Claire will wrap up the day with live music at the Startup Party. At the Funding Day on March 6, the spotlight will be turned on financing options for new businesses, with in-depth discussion on prevalent topics like crowdfunding.

March 7 is Award Day at CODE_n. Starting at 6 p.m., the presentation ceremony will take place to announce the winners of the CODE_n awards. Prior to this event, finalists from last year's contest will report on their experiences since CeBIT 2012.

The transition to alternative energy, the theme of this year's CODE_n Contest, is the focus of the Energy Day on March 8. In addition to a panel discussion on smart energy, which is being organized by Ernst & Young, the Smart Grid Summit will also take place at CODE_n starting at 2 p.m. Among the VIPs attending the summit will be German Federal Minister for the Environment, Peter Altmaier, who will present a keynote speech. The event is being organized by BITKOM and ZVEI. Furthermore, the 50 CODE_n startups will be presenting their fresh, inspiring business ideas throughout the week – all stellar contributions to the success of the energy transition. The full conference program can be viewed online at www.code-n.org/cebit.

CODE_n has also put together an extensive program of events for members of the press. It begins with a press conference on corporate innovation on March 4 at 2 p.m. The conference will examine how established businesses can optimize their innovation management strategies and profit from startups. Even more exciting events await interested journalists from Tuesday to Friday in the Hall 16 Press Lounge.

About CODE_n:

CODE_n is an international platform for digital pioneers, innovators and groundbreaking startups. Initiated in 2011 by GFT Technologies, it was established with the aim of promoting excellent talents and their unique business ideas, networking young entrepreneurs and stimulating innovation in this vigorous setting. That's why CODE_n stands for "Code of the New," the DNA of innovation. Ernst & Young and the Deutsche Messe are proud business partners.

CODE_n will bestow the CODE_n Award in 2013 for the second year running. This year, it will take place under the motto: "Smart Solutions for Global Challenges." The competition is looking for IT-based initiatives for sustainable energy supply and use. Further information is available online: www.code-n.org.

About GFT:

As a strategic IT partner based in Stuttgart, Germany, the GFT Group helps companies optimize their business processes by providing intelligent IT systems and highly skilled specialists. Under the motto "inspiring IT," GFT converts cutting-edge technological developments into sustainable business models.

GFT is one of the world's leading IT service suppliers for the finance sector. It enables financial institutes to quickly and securely utilize modern technologies in order to enhance their long-term competitive standing. GFT combines established technological experience with comprehensive industry expertise, in order to develop, implement and maintain customized IT solutions. With its international network of experts, GFT offers companies in all sectors the opportunity to flexibly manage the staffing of their technology projects.

For 25 years, GFT has stood for technological expertise, innovative strength and outstanding quality. In 2011, GFT achieved revenues of around €272 million. The GFT Group is represented in seven countries by its 22 local facilities. A global team of over 1,300 employees and 1,300 external consultants implement complex IT projects across various countries. The GFT share is listed on the Frankfurt Stock Exchange (Prime Standard: WKN 580 060, GEX).

Contact:

GFT Innovations GmbH
Andrea Wlcek, Managing Director
Filderhauptstraße 142
70599 Stuttgart
T +49 (0)711 62042-0
presse@gft.com