

WP / 6 / 5 May 2025

Jungheinrich and Merantix launch strategic partnership to advance Artificial Intelligence

Berlin / Hamburg – Today, Jungheinrich and Merantix announced a pioneering strategic partnership. The aim of the cooperation is to promote Artificial Intelligence (AI) based applications in the industry.

As part of the partnership, Jungheinrich is investing five million euros in Merantix Capital's AI fund. The fund invests in AI-native start-ups building impactful, scalable solutions that address meaningful challenges in the industrial environment, as well as in healthcare, finance, manufacturing, and other verticals.

Dr Lars Brzoska, CEO of Jungheinrich AG, says: “Jungheinrich has extensive know-how in the field of material handling and engineering. With Merantix, we are gaining a strong partner with in-depth expertise and strong competence in building AI-based business models. The partnership will enable us to create valuable synergies and work together to strengthen AI applications in the industrial environment.”

The strategic partnership will focus on AI investment opportunities in Europe, particularly in key areas such as robotics, sustainability, enterprise AI, energy, and logistics. Possible concrete use cases for the collaboration include solutions for analysing used lithium-ion batteries or for warehouse simulation with the aim of optimising material flows.

“AI-native business models are changing the industry. However, their success depends largely on their successful integration into existing structures,” says Dr Rasmus Rothe, co-founder and General Partner of Merantix Capital. “At Merantix, we know the requirements

for scaling AI companies. As an industry partner, Jungheinrich brings the necessary experience and openness for innovation.”

The partnership with Merantix complements Jungheinrich's existing activities in the area of corporate venture capital. It follows the investment in the High-Tech Gründerfonds (HTGF) and is part of Jungheinrich's new strategic direction of systematically developing further business models outside its core business via the recently founded subsidiary Uplift Ventures. Additional fund investments are planned in the future to give Jungheinrich broader access to the start-up ecosystem and further expand the international reach of its venturing activities.

The partnership also represents Merantix Capital's deep ties with key industry partners in its effort to build a bridge between corporations and the AI startup ecosystem, helping to drive the kind of necessary AI adoption in Europe that can only happen through close collaboration and knowledge sharing.

In addition to the investment in the Merantix Capital fund, the partnership includes cooperation with other units of the Merantix Group, including AI solutions provider Merantix Momentum, as well as exchange with the Merantix community at the AI Campus in Berlin, Europe's largest AI centre with around 80 companies and over 250 events annually.

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About Jungheinrich:

As one of the world's leading providers of material handling solutions, Jungheinrich has been advancing the development of innovative and sustainable products and solutions for material flows for more than 70 years. As a pioneer in the sector, the family-owned listed business is committed to creating the warehouse of the future. In the 2024 financial year, Jungheinrich and its workforce of around 21,000 employees generated revenue of €5.4 billion. The global network comprises 12 production plants and service and sales companies in 42 countries. The share is listed on the MDAX.

About Merantix:

Merantix is Europe's leading AI group, focusing on investing, building, and growing AI. The Merantix group includes Merantix Capital, an early-stage venture capital firm working with founders to bring AI into real-world applications in sectors ranging from healthcare to manufacturing to life sciences and enterprise. Founded in 2016, Merantix's other initiatives together make up the largest AI community in Europe, including AI solutions business Merantix Momentum and the Merantix AI Campus in Berlin Mitte, a coworking and events platform with more than 80 companies and 200+ annual events.