

Press Release

EARLYBIRD LEADS EUR 35 MILLION SERIES A FOR FUSION ENERGY COMPANY MARVEL FUSION

- Marvel Fusion pursues a new fusion technology concept to overcome some of the major hurdles for the production of clean energy at large scale.
- Siemens Energy, TRUMPF and Thales support Marvel Fusion as technological partners in its endeavor to solve one of humanity's biggest challenges: the creation of an unlimited zero-emission energy source leaving no problematic long-lived waste.
- Instead of heating the fuel plasma to very high temperatures, Marvel Fusion precisely controls the conversion of input laser energy to accelerated fuel particles through the design of its nanostructured targets. This approach allows for higher efficiency in triggering fusion reactions and greater energy yields.

Munich, February 3rd, 2022 – Earlybird expands its footprint in the DeepTech space: [Marvel Fusion](#), a Munich-based fusion energy company, has closed a EUR 35 million Series A round led by Earlybird to significantly accelerate the commercialization of fusion technology 'Made In Europe'. Fusion technology combines the advantages of clean energy sources with the possibility to produce baseload energy at large scale - without having the disadvantages of traditional power generation in terms of carbon emissions or long-lived problematic waste. Hendrik Brandis, Partner at Earlybird, comments: "We are currently witnessing a new global spirit of optimism for fusion technologies and – even more importantly – there is a completely new and promising approach for a disruptive, truly clean and uncompromisingly safe fusion technology: Marvel Fusion. The company can become a game changer for global energy production, which is underlined by the support of some of Europe's most renowned industry leaders. We are proud and grateful to accompany Moritz and his team on their journey." Hendrik Brandis has now joined the board of Marvel Fusion.

Marvel Fusion was founded in 2019 by Moritz von der Linden, Dr. Karl-Georg Schlesinger, Dr. Georg Korn and Dr. Pasha Shabalin; Chief Operating Officer Heike Freund joined in 2020. The company has gathered a unique team behind their mission to solve one of humanity's biggest challenges: unlimited zero-emission energy. The team combines a strong entrepreneurial track record with scientific excellence in the fields of nano-technology, plasma physics, computational science, optics and short pulse laser physics. Marvel Fusion combines the expertise of some of the world's best scientists in these fields, including, amongst others, Dr. Sven Steinke, who spent the last 8 years as a scientist and team leader at the Berkeley Lab researching laser particle acceleration with the BELLA petawatt laser system and previously served as project leader for laser-plasma interactions at the Max Born Institute, and Dr. Georg Korn, one of the co-founder of the European Extreme Light Infrastructure, an EU-funded research facility with the world's most powerful and advanced laser systems. With the help of strong industrial partnerships with Siemens Energy, TRUMPF, and Thales, Marvel Fusion is working to accelerate the development of its fusion energy concept significantly. The applied laser technology is based on the approach from Donna Strickland and Gérard Mourou which received the Nobel Prize in Physics in 2018.

"Fusion technology has the potential to disrupt energy production at large scale and to significantly contribute to fighting climate change, one of the biggest challenges for mankind", says Moritz von der Linden, CEO of Marvel Fusion. "Together with our new investors and partners on board, we will be able to progress substantially in our experimental roadmap and validation strategy, and to further deliver on our vision making zero-emission energy accessible and affordable for everyone."

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Fusion technology is one of the key technologies in the global energy sector. In 2021, the fusion industry managed to attract more than EUR 2.3 billion in VC funding. The technology by Marvel Fusion is centered around integrating Europe's technology and scientific leadership in short-pulse laser- and nanotechnologies to initiate efficient non-thermal nuclear fusion. Instead of heating the fuel plasma to very high temperatures, Marvel Fusion is precisely controlling the conversion of the input laser energy into fusion-relevant particles through the design of its nano-structured targets. This process allows for more efficient triggering of fusion reactions and energy production.

The investments in DeepTech champions such as Marvel Fusion, Isar Aerospace and Aleph Alpha are good examples of how Earlybird uses its sector expertise to systematically identify and support cutting-edge European high-tech startups.

About Earlybird

Earlybird is a venture capital investor focused on European technology companies. Founded in 1997, Earlybird invests in all growth and development phases of a company. Earlybird offers its portfolio companies financial resources, strategic support, as well as access to an international network and capital markets. Earlybird manages different funds focusing on digital technologies in Eastern and Western Europe, healthcare technologies and university spin-offs. With over EUR 1.5 billion under management, eight IPOs and 30 trade sales, Earlybird is one of Europe's most established and active venture capital firms.

For further information: www.earlybird.com, Twitter: www.twitter.com/EarlybirdVC, LinkedIn: www.linkedin.com/company/earlybird-venture-capital or Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/EarlybirdVC>

About Marvel Fusion

Marvel Fusion is developing a novel energy source based on laser-driven fusion. The fusion process releases large amounts of zero-carbon emission energy that can be efficiently converted into electricity. Founded in Munich in 2019, and pre-seeded by BlueYard Capital, Marvel Fusion's team pursues a new and more economically attractive fusion technology, and a potentially faster route to the commercial application of fusion energy. Marvel Fusion's new technology concept is based on highly intense short-pulsed lasers and proprietary fuel targets. Physicists and scientists from the Ludwig-Maximilians-University in Munich, the University of Stanford and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) have recently joined forces with Marvel Fusion to bring its fusion concept to fruition. In its next steps, Marvel Fusion will upgrade existing laser systems (2022-2025) to validate its novel technology and to demonstrate the path to net energy gain.

For more information, visit <https://marvelfusion.com/>, Twitter: <https://twitter.com/MarvelFusion> or LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/marvelfusion/>.

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