



Press release

Hasso Plattner Ventures invests in the Norwegian enterprise content management company eZ – financing round opens path for global growth

Potsdam, June 23, 2009

Hasso Plattner Ventures invests in the Norwegian enterprise content management software company eZ Systems. The existing Norwegian investors BTV Fond, a Norwegian venture capital investment fund (www.btv-invest.no) and Dynam also participated in the financing round. eZ Systems is in the expansion stage, active mainly in Europe and growing internationally with success both in USA and Japan. eZ's main product, *eZ Publish* focuses on the vertical media segment and enables its users to manage their digital content and use them in web publishing, media portals, intranets, e-commerce and extranets. It runs on multiple platforms and is adaptable to all enterprise infrastructures. Large Media groups like Lagardere Active, Prisma Presse, Schibstedt, and Swiss Broadcasting Corporation use eZ Publish for publications like Elle, National Geographic, DinMat and Swiss TV online portal.

Eran Davidson, CEO of Hasso Plattner Ventures: *“eZ combines an excellent technological solution with the advantages of an open source business model, as a look at their top tier clients shows. We are confident that eZ Systems will continue to grow on a global scale during the next years.”*

Aleksander Farstad, CEO of eZ Systems: *“With Hasso Plattner Ventures we have gained a strong international partner, who will help us to roll out our product successfully in new regions. The capital inflow will give us the necessary push to get into the next expansion stage.”*

About eZ

eZ was founded as a personal company in 1999 and was formed to eZ Systems AS in 2000 by Aleksander and Bård Farstad.

eZ has been an open source software company ever since and has developed *eZ Publish* - an open source content management system, and *eZ Components*, an enterprise PHP components library. Up until today eZ has been serving over 5,000 paying customers from more than 100 countries through its branches in Norway, Denmark, France and Germany, as well as in the US and Japan. *eZ Publish* has been downloaded 2.5 million times.

Aleksander has a financial background and used to work as a derivatives trader before founding the company. Bård Farstad is a software engineer and heads the technological development. CFO of the company is Svein Arne Gusland.



Hasso Plattner Ventures at a glance

Hasso Plattner Ventures Management GmbH was founded in July 2005 in Potsdam near Berlin. As a venture capital company, Hasso Plattner Ventures takes a minority stake in start-up businesses and supports them in accessing international markets. The main emphasis lies in investing in the segment of information technology. In 2008 a second fund was created which has widened the focus to include Cleantech as well as firmly established companies. SAP co-founder Prof. Dr. h. c. Hasso Plattner supplies the lion's share of investment capital, followed by InvestitionsBank Brandenburg and CMEA Capital. The portfolio companies benefit not only from the financial support but also from the know-how and highly qualified internal as well as external consultants. Together with eZ, the VC Company's portfolio encompasses sixteen businesses. More information on www.hp-ventures.com.

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