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Helaba establishes holding company for digital start-ups

Helaba Landesbank Hessen-Thüringen is establishing a holding company – Helaba Digital GmbH & Co. KG – to invest in digital start-ups.

- Helaba Digital aims to invest in innovative companies
- Focus on FinTechs, RegTechs and PropTechs
- Consistent pursuit of bank's digital agenda

Helaba Landesbank Hessen-Thüringen is establishing a holding company – Helaba Digital GmbH & Co. KG – to invest in digital start-ups. The aim of Helaba Digital will be to make strategic investments in innovative companies that will actively complement and develop the Helaba Group's business model with their digital solutions as well as contribute to optimising the bank's core processes. "The establishment of Helaba Digital means we are consistently moving forward with our digital agenda at Helaba", stresses Thomas Groß, Vice-Chairman of Helaba's Board of Managing Directors. "We are convinced that, together with our customers, we can benefit from the numerous innovations on the market."

Helaba's activities are mainly focused on the segments of commercial real estate finance, wholesale banking, business with savings banks (S-Group) and cash management. Therefore, the new holding company will concentrate on companies that are propelling the digital transformation in the areas of financial services (FinTechs), regulation (RegTechs) and real estate (PropTechs). "Our investments will be based on mutual co-operation", explain the two managing directors of Helaba Digital, Lucie Haß and Philipp Kaiser. "We want to develop our business in partnership with the start-ups. In addition to providing finance, we will give them access to our experts and customer groups and share the experience that the bank's relevant business units have amassed." The primary intention is to make investments during the later stage of a company's growth, but investments at the early stage have not been ruled out.

The holding company will complement Helaba's digital activities. The bank has already taken a stake in the Capnamic fund and is helping to expand Frankfurt's start-up ecosystem as a platinum sponsor of the Tech Quartier.

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