

# **QUNDIS continues to expand its sustainability strategy in 2016**

## **Support for the “Plant-for-the-Planet” initiative and its Children's Academy on 16 April**

Erfurt, 19 January 2016

QUNDIS GmbH has now extended its sustainability strategy by providing support for the Plant-for-the-Planet initiative. On 16 April 2016 QUNDIS will be organising the first Plant-for-the-Planet Children's Academy in cooperation with the city of Erfurt.

Sustainable and responsible operations form a significant part of the QUNDIS business model. The products manufactured by the Erfurt company contribute to energy savings and accordingly conserve the environment. “Every year QUNDIS equips around 500,000 apartments worldwide with radio metering devices for recording heat and water consumption. The radio technology enables accurate billing of consumption, which provides an incentive to save energy. Every year this reduces CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by around 87,000 tonnes”, explains QUNDIS CEO Dieter Berndt, adding: “In 2015 two further milestones were created by our company with the new system for taking back used devices, and the award of the EU’s EMAS (Eco-Management and Audit Scheme) seal of approval for certified environmental management. In an extension of its environmental commitment, QUNDIS is now supporting the well-known Plant-for-the-Planet initiative.

The initiative was launched in the year 2007 and began with a school project on climate change carried out by nine-year-old Felix Finkbeiner. It was his idea that children could plant 1,000,000 trees in every country on earth in order to combat climate change. Today Plant-for-the-Planet operates worldwide and has activated schoolchildren in more than 100 countries to engage with the subject of climate justice. The aim is to plant 1000 billion trees worldwide by the year 2020.

“By supporting Plant-for-the-Planet we aim to create awareness of climate change and contribute to CO<sub>2</sub> reduction by tree planting campaigns”, explains Dieter Berndt. He adds: “It’s our aim to communicate to the next generation how important environmental protection and sustainability are.”

On 16 April 2016 QUNDIS will be organising the first Plant-for-the-Planet Academy in Erfurt. This provides a forum at which children who are engaged in ecologically responsible activities can pass on their know-how and experience to other schoolchildren and anyone interested in environmental matters. The event is supported by the city of Erfurt. Andreas Bausewein, Mayor of Erfurt, explains: “The greening of a city always reflects its quality of life and makes a vital contribution to the urban environment. We will therefore make available suitable areas for the planting of young trees during this day of action”.

## About Plant-for-the-Planet

The Plant-for-the-Planet initiative for children and young people has its origin in a school project carried out in the year 2007 by Felix Finkbeiner, who was aged nine at the time. At the end of the project Felix expressed the vision that children could plant a million trees in every country on earth in order to offset CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. In the years which followed Plant-for-the-Planet developed into a worldwide movement. Today more than 100,000 children in over 100 countries are making a contribution to the overall reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and to climate responsibility in the form of fair distribution of emissions rights to all people. The children become actively involved by planting trees, and in Germany the one million mark has already been exceeded. In cooperation with the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) more than 14 billion trees have been planted worldwide. Every tree stores CO<sub>2</sub> and is at the same time a symbol of climate justice. Both domestic and internationally, Plant-for-the-Planet enjoys a high level of prestige. Prince Albert II of Monaco and Klaus Töpfer are patrons of the initiative for children and young people. Plant-for-the-Planet also enjoys the support of UNEP: on 7 December 2011, at the COP 17 UN climate conference in Durban, it placed the "Billion Tree Campaign" and accordingly the official worldwide tree counter in the hands of the children.

## About QUNDIS

In Germany QUNDIS GmbH is among the most successful suppliers of devices and systems for the metering and billing of heat and water consumption. Its customer base includes metering services, OEM partners and the housing industry. Innovation is a central component of the QUNDIS corporate philosophy, which was confirmed at Germany's 2014 SME Summit when the Erfurt company was awarded the TOP 100 Prize. The QUNDIS metering systems are in reliable operation in more than 6 million residential units in over 30 countries.

For more information please see: [www.qundis.com](http://www.qundis.com)

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QUNDIS supports the Plant-for-the-Planet initiative