

## **PRESSEMITTEILUNG**

## Shareholders support strategy – 99.8 percent for investments instead of dividends

Montabaur, 23 May 2019. The shareholders of United Internet AG support the strategy of the company with great majority. At today's Annual General Meeting of United Internet in Frankfurt, 99.8 percent of the votes cast approved the proposal of the Management Board and Supervisory Board to pay only a dividend of EUR 0.05 per share for the 2018 financial year. The dividend is based on the minimum dividend provided for in Section 254 (1) AktG. This precautionary measure is intended to ensure that the necessary additional investments can be made if subsidiary 1&1 Drillisch should successfully bid for frequencies until the completion of the current 5G frequency auction. Based on 200.3 million dividend-bearing shares (as of December 31, 2018), this results in a total dividend payout of EUR 10.0 million for financial year 2018 (FY 2017: EUR 169.9 million).

"The clear result of the vote on our dividend proposal is an explicit commitment to building a modern 5G mobile network," commented Ralph Dommermuth, CEO of United Internet AG. "I am pleased that our shareholders support the strategy so clearly. The goal is to create more value in the long term through the transformation to the fourth network operator – for our shareholders, customers and employees."

Last Tuesday (21 May), the shareholders of 1&1 Drillisch AG voted by an overwhelming majority to pay out only a minimum dividend – based on Section 254 (1) AktG – of EUR 0.05 per share for the 2018 financial year and thus to leave almost the entire profit in the company so that 1&1 Drillisch can invest in a modern 5G network.

## **About United Internet**

With around 24 million fee-based customer contracts and around 37 million ad-financed free accounts, United Internet AG is a leading European internet specialist. At the heart of United Internet is a highperformance "Internet Factory" with approx. 9,100 employees, of which around 3,000 are engaged in product management, development and data centers. In addition to the high sales strength of its established brands (such as 1&1, GMX, WEB.DE, 1&1 IONOS, STRATO, 1&1 Versatel and the brands of Drillisch Online), United Internet stands for outstanding operational excellence with over 61 million customer accounts worldwide.

## **Contact partner**

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