



## German startup AskBrian closes pre-seed round to fund the growth of its AI assistant for business

Munich, 6. July 2021 - [AskBrian](#), the applied artificial intelligence startup and provider of the AI-based digital assistant Brian, today announced the closing of its funding round. Led by FOSTEC Ventures, the round included a capital raise from existing investors as well as new investors Carcharodon Capital, COREventures, and Whistler. Existing investors include the founders of Flink, Zenloop, Flaconi, Kartenmacherei, as well as partners from leading consultancies such as Bain & Company, Oliver Wyman, Ey, and Stern Stewart.

Founded in 2018 by management consultant Pavol Sikula (Stern Stewart & Co., Roland Berger), the company uses AI technologies to design solutions that connect people with cutting-edge services and information via natural language. Several technological building blocks are orchestrated by co-founder and CTO Matthias Ruppel (T-Systems), who contributes his experience as a software architect and Big Data specialist. "We were convinced by Brian's range of functions coupled with its ease of use via email or MS Teams. Brian not only bundles several data research databases, but also helps business professionals to become more efficient in everyday routine tasks.", says Markus Fost, Managing Director of FOSTEC Ventures.

The funding is intended to support the growth of the AI-based digital assistant. Brian takes over time-consuming tasks from business consultants and other knowledge workers. Since Brian takes over recurring tasks, its users can focus on high-value activities. Brian translates complete documents from/into 100 languages, creates company profiles, provides presentation graphics, and much more. "We are proud of this round - special know-how, new friends to make Brian better and to boost his growth!", says Pavol Sikula, CEO of AskBrian.

Brian addresses the challenges that Business Professionals often face. "Brian can already do quite a bit. But in the future, Brian will be able to do a lot more. He has what it takes to significantly disrupt and positively change the consulting industry, leaving more time for the things that matter.", says Ingo Weber, Managing Director of Carcharodon Capital (Comatch, Coachhub, bezahl.de).

Brian is already used by over 200 companies, primarily to increase productivity and employee satisfaction through digitalization. The full functionality of Brian can be [tested](#) without any installation for fourteen days free of charge, alternatively, companies can easily arrange a [Demo](#).

---

**About AskBrian**

Founded in Germany in June 2018, AskBrian GmbH is a startup specializing in applied artificial intelligence. AskBrian is innovating ways to connect human talent with cutting-edge technologies and data via natural language. The company's core product is Brian, an AI-powered digital assistant for business professionals. For more information, visit [www.askbrian.ai/](http://www.askbrian.ai/).

**Press contact:**

Pavol Sikula  
AskBrian GmbH  
Mobile: +49 (0) 1709101443  
hi@askbrian.ai