

## PRESS RELEASE

## DBAG invests in broadband provider

Growth capital to accelerate provision of high-speed Internet access in rural areas / Sizeable investments in a niche market

Frankfurt am Main, 25 April 2013. Deutsche Beteiligungs AG (DBAG) and its managed private equity fund, the DBAG Expansion Capital Fund, will invest in inexio Informationstechnologie und Telekommunikation KGaA (inexio), a strongly growing provider of broadband connections. The fresh capital will be geared to support the company's further growth to become one of the largest providers of broadband connections in rural areas of southern Germany in the coming years. Currently, inexio, which is headquartered in Saarlouis, serves some 1,800 business clients and approximately 20,000 private customers primarily in the German states of Rhineland-Palatinate and Saarland. inexio has continually enlarged its customer base by investing in fibre-optic networks – that is, in a sustainably accessible and rapidly expanding infrastructure that will secure an attractive source of income in the future.

The company focuses on rural areas large parts of which are still without speedy Internet access. At the same time, Internet use is growing continually; particularly industrial businesses are ever more dependent on Internet connections that enable high-speed data transfer. Mayors and district authorities in rural areas therefore often endeavour to bring advanced communication services to their communities or regions, and inexio is one of the strong providers in this market environment in Germany.

The equity investment by DBAG and its co-investment fund will accelerate inexio's growth. The investment will increase the company's equity ratio to more than 30 percent and thereby create access to further financing to fund expansion into additional communities in southern Germany. DBAG and the Fund will subscribe to a capital increase for ten percent of the shares and will, moreover, provide profit participation capital. A total of 10.6 million euros will be invested, of which 4.4 million euros will be provided by DBAG. The remaining shares are, for the most part, held by the company founders, who also serve as members of inexio's management board.

inexio (www.inexio.net) is growing strongly. Founded in 2007, the company recorded total output of about 20 million euros in its 2011/2012 financial year (30 September). It is expected to rise to some 30 million euros this current

financial year, and further strong growth is forecast. The company's expansion is based on the attractiveness of its offering, which differs from that of other competitors in rural regions. Unlike other mobile network providers as well as providers whose services are based on traditional (copper cable) networks of Deutsche Telekom, inexio supplies high-speed Internet access and landline telephony over a fibre-optic network. This premium offering gives inexio a unique positioning regionally.

"Fibre-optic networks as a medium for high-speed data transmission will continue to gain in significance," said Torsten Grede, Spokesman of the Board of Management of Deutsche Beteiligungs AG, on signing the investment agreement. "With inexio, we have invested in a strong provider operating in a growth market that can be tapped even faster with improved capital resources. We are delighted to be able to support a highly competent and motivated management team in an important stage of the company's growth."

Deutsche Beteiligungs AG (www.deutsche-beteiligung.de) is a leading publicly listed private equity company. With a track record of nearly 50 years, it is the oldest private equity firm in Germany. Deutsche Beteiligungs AG focuses on marketleading mid-sized enterprises in Germany and neighbouring European countries. It invests from its own balance sheet and from the assets of co-investment funds. Currently, the company has approximately 1.3 billion euros under management.

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