Matternet Launches Drone Delivery Operations at Labor Berlin in Germany

New operations at Labor Berlin will initiate the first urban BVLOS medical drone delivery network in the largest city of the European Union (EU) with the potential to serve millions of patients each year

Mountain View, Calif - November 17, 2020 - Matternet, developer of the world's leading urban drone logistics platform, today announced the launch of operations at Labor Berlin Charité Vivantes in Germany. The program kicked-off November 9, 2020 with permanent operations expected to take flight next year, creating the first urban BVLOS medical drone delivery network in the European Union. The drone network expects to significantly improve the timeliness and efficiency of Labor Berlin's diagnostics services by providing an option to avoid roadway delays, which will improve patient experience with potentially life-saving benefits and lower costs.

Labor Berlin is Europe's largest hospital laboratory with state of the art facilities in 13 hospitals across the city. The organization is responsible for diagnostics for 84 percent of patient beds in Berlin. Currently, over 12,000 samples are transported daily across Labor Berlin's extensive network. With Matternet's world-leading drone technology and Labor Berlin's impressive scale, the drone delivery network has the potential to serve millions of patients each year. The network will connect up to three locations initially: Labor Berlin's central lab on Charité Campus Virchow-Klinikum (CVK), Charité Hospital Campus Benjamin Franklin (CBF), and the Corona Clinic by Vivantes - Corona-Behandlungszentrum Jafféstraße (CBZJ).

"We continue to expand drone delivery operations around the world with a focus on urban environments," said Andreas Raptopoulos, CEO of Matternet. "Hospitals and laboratories in densely populated cities like Berlin need fast and predictable transportation methods that avoid ever-increasing urban congestion. We are thrilled to partner with Labor Berlin and look forward to streamlining their diagnostics work to the benefit of Berlin's hospitals and residents.

During the initial phase of the program, Matternet will work with Labor Berlin to determine optimal ways to integrate drone delivery into the laboratory group's existing workflow. The partners intend to invite government and public sector representatives (subject to COVID-19 pandemic restrictions) to observe drone flights, and engage other airspace users such as Helicopter Emergency Rescue Services (HEMS), Berlin police, and Berlin's Airports. Matternet will also work closely with Deutsche Flugsicherung (DFS), the Air Navigation Service Provider in Germany, and Droniq to integrate the drones safely into Berlin's airspace.

"Labor Berlin strives for best-in-class medical diagnostics. Our priority is to improve patient care in Berlin. Reducing the time to result of medical diagnostics can directly result in a positive outcome on patient treatments. The technology platform of Matternet will have great impact on our operations and can fasten up the transport of human specimen samples from hospital locations to Labor Berlin's central lab by up to 70%. In addition the project contributes to reduce car traffic and emissions in the heart of Berlin.

Matternet is a proven leader in the urban drone delivery space and we are excited to start the cooperation in order to have an innovative, safe and fast transport method especially for emergency settings that serve our patients." said Nina Beikert, Managing Director of Labor Berlin.

Matternet's drone system has been operating around the world since 2017 through partnerships with Swiss Post, UPS Flight Forward (UPSFF) and most recently with Japan Airlines (JAL). In Switzerland, the system is operating at Lugano's EOC hospital and the University Hospital Zurich. In the US, operations are taking place at Wake Forest Baptist Health and WakeMed's flagship hospital and campus in Raleigh, N.C. Matternet's technology is also enabling UPSFF to provide drone delivery service of prescription medicines for The Villages, Florida, one of the U.S.'s largest retirement communities. The service provides an option for seniors at higher risk for the Coronavirus infection to receive prescriptions without going to a store.

About Matternet

Matternet has developed best-in-class technology for on-demand, aerial delivery in urban environments. The company provides its technology platform-as-a-service to healthcare and logistics organizations. In March 2017, Matternet became the first company in the world to be authorized for commercial BVLOS operations of drone logistics networks over cities in Switzerland. In March 2019, Matternet and UPS announced a partnership to provide drone delivery services to US healthcare systems, starting with WakeMed Health in NC and most recently Wake Forest Baptist Health. In October 2019, Matternet's technology enabled the first (full Part 135 Standard certification) FAA-Approved Drone Airline, UPS Flight Forward (USPFF), providing fast expansion to healthcare facilities across the US. To date, Matternet technology has enabled 10,000+ commercial revenue drone flights. For more information about Matternet, please visit: https://mttr.net.

About Labor Berlin

Labor Berlin is Europe's largest hospital laboratory with state of the art facilities in 13 hospitals across the city. As an affiliated company of Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin and Vivantes – Netzwerk für Gesundheit GmbH, Labor Berlin is responsible for the diagnostics of 84 percent of patient beds in Berlin. Currently, over 12,000 samples are transported daily across Labor Berlin's extensive network. Over 600 employees work to guarantee that each patient receives a diagnosis on 365 days of the year, 24/7. With passion for the well-being of the patient, each employee strives to achieve quality and innovation. This energy and commitment allows for an ever-growing cutting-edge analysis-portfolio and makes Labor Berlin a perfect partner for the diagnostic industry. For further Information, please visit: www.laborberlin.com