



Retail Instead of Bank Branch

Withdraw and deposit cash directly at thousands of checkouts using only your smartphone
— no card necessary

Berlin, 22 October 2015 – As of today, the young Berlin FinTech enterprise Number26, together with Barzahlen.de, offers its customers cash withdrawals and deposits at 3,000 shops all over Germany. As a result, Number26 now supplies their clients with more cash withdrawal and deposit possibilities than Deutsche Bank and Commerzbank together maintain bank branches.¹ The name of this latest feature, which enables banking at checkout registers via barcodes directly on a smartphone, is Cash26.

Withdrawing and depositing cash is now possible while doing the weekly shopping directly at the checkout of the following Barzahlen retail partners: real, PENNY, Budni, Ludwig, Eckert, Adams, ONExpress, and Barbarino. “We are turning smartphones into the very centre of banking and are rendering the traditional bank branch redundant,” says Valentin Stalf, founder & CEO of Number26.

Cash, fast and easy

Cash26 is not only a completely new cash source; with this feature, Number26 rids itself of both the middlemen of cash (banks, ATM-operators, credit card brands) and their underlying cost structures. In order to use Cash26, Number26 customers need only their smartphone. They choose the amount they want to deposit or withdraw and receive a barcode after entering their PIN. This is scanned at the checkout counter and instantly synchronized with the bank account. Cash deposits are immediately available for use. The app also displays partner shops in the surrounding area directly on a map.

The two young FinTech start-ups, Number26 and Barzahlen.de, combined forces to bring to life this expansion of their services. The feature is also powered by the technology of Barzahlen.de. Together with retail partners, they built an infrastructure that allows cash withdrawals and deposits at grocery stores, drugstores, and other retail chains throughout Germany. “Together we show what innovation in banking looks like,” concludes Sebastian Seifer, CEO of Barzahlen.de.

High-res pictures are available for download here: <https://number26.de/en/press-downloads/> and <https://www.barzahlen.de/de/presse/media-downloads>.

¹ Deutsche Bank Zwischenbericht zum 30.06.2015 (2015); “Commerzbank AG - Zahlen und Fakten”. Commerzbank.de (abgerufen am 21.10.2015).



About NUMBER26

The Berlin start-up NUMBER26 GmbH offers the bank account of the future, one that is geared especially towards the needs of smartphone users. To offer this service, they cooperate with Wirecard Bank AG. Opening a new bank account takes only 8 minutes and can be completed directly on the smartphone. Founded in early 2013 by Valentin Stalf (30) and Maximilian Tayenthal (35), NUMBER26 acquired more than 50,000 clients in only 8 months and is currently employing 65 people. Since January 2015, NUMBER26 is available for Android, iOS, and desktops. In addition to Peter Thiel's Valar Ventures, other NUMBER26 investors include EarlyBird Ventures, Redalpine Ventures and Axel Springer Plug&Play, amongst others.

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About Barzahlen

Barzahlen is Germany's largest private cash- payment infrastructure. More than 6,000 retail partner stores including dm-drogerie markt, PENNY, real,-, Telekom, Budni, mobilcom-debitel, Ludwig, Eckert and Barbarino provide the basis for our customers' basic banking needs such as cash withdrawals and deposits from their own bank account. Using Barzahlen, customers may also pay bills from different sectors – including utilities, e-commerce, insurance and telecommunication, as well as their rent – using a bar code printed on their bill or sent via mail, e-mail or SMS. The company behind Barzahlen is Cash Payment Solutions GmbH. It was founded in 2011 by Achim Bönsch, Sebastian Seifert and Florian Swoboda. Prestigious investors such as ALSTIN, BTH and REWE Digital support Barzahlen. All payment services in connection with Barzahlen are provided by Greensill Bank AG.

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