100 TECH COMPANIES MAKE COMMITMENT TO CUT CARBON EMISSIONS

12 August 2021: More than 100 companies have joined the <u>Tech Zero taskforce</u>, the climate action group for tech companies of all sizes committed to fighting the climate crisis. New members include <u>Confused.com</u>, <u>Oddbox</u>, Oddbox, the food waste fighting veg box delivery, <u>My Wardrobe HQ</u>, the UK's leading fashion rental platform, <u>Autotrader</u> and design bible <u>Dezeen</u>. <u>Global Tech Advocates</u> and <u>Tech London Advocates</u>, a network of more than 10,000 tech leaders, entrepreneurs and experts in London, across the UK and in over 50 countries worldwide have also joined Tech Zero.

They join companies from early stage startups to global tech successes, all committed to making faster progress to net zero. Businesses across the UK have been grappling with the challenge of cutting their carbon emissions on their own. By bringing businesses together and by learning from climate leaders and the most exciting green tech startups, the Tech Zero taskforce aims to make progress faster. The taskforce has also launched the <u>Tech Zero Toolkit</u> to make it easier for companies to measure their emissions and set a net zero plan.

The Tech Zero taskforce is led by <u>Bulb</u> and industry body <u>Tech Nation</u>. Its founding members are British tech firms <u>allplants</u>, <u>Babylon</u>, <u>Citymapper</u>, <u>Faculty</u>, <u>GoCardless</u>, <u>Habito</u>, <u>Hopin</u>, <u>Moneysupermarket Group</u>, <u>OLIO</u>, <u>Onfido</u>, <u>Revolut</u>, <u>Starling Bank</u>, <u>what3words</u> and <u>Wise</u>.

Companies who join Tech Zero make a series of ambitious climate commitments, based on rigorous measurement, board accountability and transparency. The commitments are genuine, science-based and ambitious, and each business must report annually on their progress.

By joining the taskforce companies commit to:

- Annually measure and publish their scope 1-3 carbon emissions
- Set an ambitious net zero target
- Publish a full climate action plan which includes short and medium interim targets, and publish progress every year
- Appoint a member of the executive team to be responsible and accountable for their net zero target, and report progress to their board
- Communicate climate commitments in meaningful ways, including to customers.

The Tech Zero taskforce is also working in partnership with the <u>Department for Digital</u>. <u>Culture</u>. <u>Media and Sport</u> (DCMS), the government's <u>Council for Sustainable Business</u>, and the UK's Net Zero Business Champion, Andrew Griffith MP to boost green investment and help UK tech companies grow. It's also an official partner of the <u>UN Race to Zero</u>.

Companies who join Tech Zero also join the world's largest alliance of companies, cities, regions and investors credibly committed to climate action.

After a successful launch in the UK, the taskforce recently announced it would expand globally, encouraging companies worldwide to build a climate action plan. Tech Zero has potential to be the world's biggest group of tech companies committed to climate action.

The Tech Zero taskforce is also creating a world-first opportunity for young people to learn skills to secure a green tech career with the Tech Zero internship. Interns will spend time at the UK's most exciting tech companies, working on net zero and sustainability projects.

Hayden Wood, CEO and co-founder of Bulb and leader of the Tech Zero taskforce said: "To get to net zero every business will need to tackle their emissions. The 100+ members of the Tech Zero taskforce range from small start-ups to global organisations, all committed to fighting the climate crisis. We want to help companies of all sizes to build a climate action plan so we're calling on even more businesses to join us today."

UK Net Zero Business Champion, Andrew Griffith MP, said: "With less than 100 days until COP26 in Glasgow, it's fantastic to see 100 of the UK's leading tech companies uniting in their commitment to net zero and signing up to the Tech Zero taskforce.

"There is no better time for companies to take action on climate change, and today marks a superb step that will enable the UK tech sector to remain competitive, prosperous and fit for a green future. With support from our Together For Our Planet campaign, I am calling on all businesses to commit to the Race to Zero".

Gerard Grech, founding Chief Executive, Tech Nation, said: "As part of the Tech Zero initiative we launched in conjunction with 15 of the UK's leading scaleups, Tech Nation has already publicly committed to a net zero target of 2030 or sooner. We now have our baseline figures for the last two years, and have published a report on our progress in line with the commitments we have made as part of Tech Zero.

For Tech Nation, the next step is to outline and drive a decarbonisation plan looking at our suppliers, office space, business travel, and everything in between - at present 98% of our emissions come from suppliers. Through our work as part of the Tech Zero taskforce we have also published a toolkit, to make it easier for other companies and leaders to commit to net zero."

Tessa Clarke, Co-founder & CEO of OLIO said: "Businesses small and large are realising that they need to figure out their path to net zero, as customers, employees and partners are increasingly demanding it. Starting the journey can be daunting, but by joining Tech Zero businesses can benefit from access to a supportive group of peers as well as a step-by-step toolkit, and much, much more. We encourage tech businesses of all shapes and sizes to join us today."