Terms and Conditions for Participation in the “Hackathon – MedTech & More”

§1 General Provisions

1. The Otto-von-Guericke-University Magdeburg (following “OVGU” or “Organizer”) is the organizer of the **“Hackathon – MedTech & More”** event (following referred to as “Event”).

2. The goal of the event is to address *“unmet* needs” in the healthcare sector through challenges and to have motivated participants translate these into innovative ideas, practical solutions and products.

3. The event will take place from December 3-5, 2026, at the OVGU’s STIMULATE Research Campus (Otto-Hahn-Straße 2, 39106 Magdeburg).
The organizer reserves the right to change the venue for good cause. The number of participants is limited to 50. The organizer reserves the right to reject registrations if capacity limits are exceeded. By completing your registration, you agree to these terms and conditions of participation.

4.The primary language of the official program and the final presentations (pitches) is **English**. Teams are free to choose their own language for communication within the team.

5. Participants will form teams (3 to 5 people). The teams will work in person on a challenge provided by companies, research institutions, or clinics. After the work period ends, they will present their solution in the form of a short pitch (max. 10 min). The solution you develop will be evaluated by a panel of experts, and the three best teams will be selected.

6. Participation in the event is free of charge. The organizer will provide a balanced catering on-site.

§2 Eligibility & Registration

1. The event is primarily aimed at students, researchers, IT experts, medical staff, nursing professionals, and anyone interested in the medtech sector.

2. Only individuals who have reached the age of 18 are eligible to participate. The organizer reserves the right to verify age. Participation by individuals aged 16 and older is possible with a written consent form from a parent or legal guardian and will be verified by the organizers.

3. Registration must be completed individually using the organizer’s official registration form. Each person must register separately. There is no guarantee of participation. There is no guarantee of placement in a specific challenge or group configuration. **All requests regarding challenges and groups will be accommodated to the best of our ability.**

4. When registering, all information requested on the registration form must be provided completely and truthfully. The organizer reserves the right to exclude incomplete or incorrect registrations from participation.

5. Employees of companies or institutions are personally responsible for ensuring that their participation does not violate their employer's internal policies.

6. Employees of the respective challenge sponsors may not work on a challenge from their own company, research group, or clinic.

§3 Check-In & Work Equipment

1. Participants are required to check in on-site or, if applicable, online at the specified times each day.

2. The IT setup follows the **"Bring Your Own Device" (BYOD)** principle. Participants are expected to bring their own laptops, along with charging cables and any necessary software. Basic infrastructure (power, Wi-Fi, workstations) will be provided by the organizer.

3. The use of freely available as well as commercial software is permitted, provided that participants have the appropriate valid licenses.

§4 Submission of Work Results & Evaluation

1. Work results must be submitted digitally by the specified deadline on December 5, 2026. This is done via the GitLab instance hosted specifically by STIMULATE. Each team will receive an account that allows them to upload their results to the platform.

2. A complete submission of the work results must cumulatively include the following components:

- Title of the Solution
- Brief description of the developed solution
- Final presentation (pitch deck) and
- Practical demonstration/prototype (software code, CAD/hardware model, click dummy, or concept).

3. By submitting their entry, participants affirm to the best of their knowledge and belief that

- the solutions were newly developed during the event,
- they have not been submitted unchanged to another competition,
- they have not won any previous awards or similar recognition, and
- they do not infringe on copyrights, trademark rights, or any other third-party rights.

4.The solutions must not violate applicable law, in particular criminal law, the General Equal Treatment Act (AGG), or public decency as defined in Section 138 of the German Civil Code (BGB). Also excluded are contents that disparage individuals, incite hatred or violence, or

contain deliberately false factual claims.

5. Participants shall make the solution available to the organizer and the jury during the event, free of charge and without technical restrictions for testing purposes.

6. On December 5, 2026, the teams will present their results in the form of a short pitch to an audience and a panel of expert judges. The jury's decision is final and cannot be contested.

7.Prizes will be awarded based on the jury's evaluation (including, among other criteria, innovation, medical value, technical implementation, and the pitch). The organizer and the jury reserve the right to adjust prizes at short notice or to reconfigure non-cash prizes. Legal recourse is excluded. Taxation of any winnings is the sole responsibility of the winners.

§5 Intellectual Property (IP) & Rights of Use

1. **Submitted IP & Data:** The ideas, concepts, presentations, and other contributions developed by participants during the event may be protected by copyright. All exploitation rights to the works and other deliverables created by participants remain with the respective authors. The data, materials, software tools, and intellectual property rights provided by challenge organizers or third parties remain the exclusive property of the respective provider.

2. **Newly Developed IP / Right of Use:** The copyrights to the solutions and work products developed during the event remain with the respective participants. By submitting their entries, participants grant the organizer or the respective challenge sponsors the royalty-free, non-transferable right to use the solutions for the purposes of documentation, public relations, and in the context of research and teaching. Any use beyond this scope, in particular commercial exploitation of the work products, is not permitted and requires a separate agreement**.**

3. **Exceptions & Open Source:** Third-party components may only be used if they are licensed under a recognized open-source license or if the participants hold the necessary rights of use.

4. **AI:** The use of AI-supported development tools is permitted. If AI is used, this must be clearly indicated in the submission. Data provided by challenge organizers may not be entered into externally operated AI services unless the respective challenge organizer expressly permits it.

5. **Trademark Rights:** Participants may not use the logos of OVGU, the STIMULATE Research Campus, or the partners outside the scope of the event without prior written permission.

§6 Data Protection, Confidentiality & Image Rights

1. OVGU processes personal data collected in connection with the event in accordance with the provisions of the GDPR (German *DSGVO*) and the DSAG LSA. Participants receive the information required under Art. 13 GDPR upon registration; it is also available at bit.ly/HackathonPrivacy.

2. The processing of registration and event data is carried out for the purpose of conducting the event on the basis of Art. 6(1)(e) of the GDPR in conjunction with § 4, sentence 1, no. 2 of the DSAG LSA and § 3(1) and (10) of the HSG LSA; once admission to the event has been granted, § 119(1) of the HSG LSA takes precedence. Insofar as processing is, in exceptional cases, based on consent, such consent will be obtained separately and may be revoked at any time with future effect.

3. Participants agree to use the data, metadata, and associated materials provided by the data provider or event organizer exclusively for the purpose of addressing the event's topic and to delete them from all data storage media at the end of the event. Processing outside the work environment used for the event—in particular, entering data into externally operated cloud or AI services—is not permitted. Participants are not permitted to transfer rights of use to the data to third parties.

The data provided as part of the event is anonymized. For demonstrations and pitches, only synthetic, fictitious, or other data expressly authorized by the organizer or challenge sponsor may be used. Data that has merely been pseudonymized may not be used without express authorization.

4. Participants may not disclose any confidential information belonging to their employer, their university, cooperation partners, or other third parties, unless they are authorized to use and disclose such information. Participants therefore agree to use the data, metadata, and materials provided solely for the purposes of this event, to treat them as confidential with respect to third parties, and not to disclose them to third parties without the written consent of the organizer or challenge sponsor. This confidentiality obligation shall remain in effect for a period of three (3) years following the conclusion of this event.

5. Photographs, audio recordings, and video recordings will be made during the event. The organizer will publish overview shots of the event for the purpose of reporting on the event pursuant to Art. 6(1)(e) of the GDPR in conjunction with § 4, sentence 1, no. 2 of the DSAG LSA and § 3(13), sentence 1 of the HSG LSA; for registered participants, § 119(1) of the HSG LSA takes precedence. Individual shots, interviews, and portraits will be published only with the separate consent of the person depicted; consent may be revoked at any time with future effect. Participants who do not wish to be recorded may indicate this at check-in.

§7 Conduct and House Rules

1. Participants must follow the organizer's instructions as well as the venue's house rules, safety rules, and rules of use.

2. In particular, the following are prohibited: harassment, discrimination, threats, violence, intentional disruption of the hackathon, and damage to or unauthorized use of rooms, equipment, or data.

3. The organizer may exclude individuals from the event in the event of serious or repeated violations. Any further legal claims remain unaffected.

§8 Warranty and Liability

1. Participants are solely responsible for the content, contributions, presentations, and other work products developed by them during the event. The organizer does not endorse this content and assumes no responsibility for it. Participants warrant that they will use only content for which they have been granted permission. If content or rights belonging to third parties are used, participants must ensure that the necessary rights and consents have been obtained.

2. The organizer is liable for damages incurred by participants only in cases of willful misconduct or gross negligence. In cases of simple negligence, the organizer is liable only for breaches of material contractual obligations (cardinal obligations) and limited to the foreseeable, typically occurring damage.

3. Liability for damages resulting from injury to life, body, or health, as well as liability under mandatory statutory provisions, remains unaffected.

4. The organizer assumes no liability for devices, valuables, or personal belongings brought by participants.

5. To the extent that software, platforms, or other third-party services are used in connection with the event, the terms of use of the respective providers shall apply in addition. The organizer assumes no responsibility for the availability, functionality, or content of such third-party offerings.

6. Participants are responsible for backing up their own data, files, and work results.

7. The organizer reserves the right to change the schedule, program, venue, or individual program items for objective reasons. Furthermore, the organizer is entitled to postpone, cancel, or terminate the event in whole or in part if there is good cause to do so, particularly in the event of safety concerns, official orders, the failure of essential technical or organizational requirements, or due to force majeure. Any further claims by participants arising from a change, cancellation, or termination of the event shall be limited to the scope of the above liability provisions.

§9 Final Provisions

1.The law of the Federal Republic of Germany applies. The place of jurisdiction is Magdeburg.

2.Should any individual provisions of these Terms and Conditions of Participation be or become invalid, the validity of the remaining provisions shall remain unaffected.