AI ON TRACK – INNOTRANS HACKATHON

TERMS & CONDITIONS

1. INTRODUCTION

These Terms & Conditions (the 'Terms') govern participation in the AI on Track – InnoTrans Hackathon (the 'Hackathon'). 'Participants' are all individuals or teams applying for or participating in the Hackathon. The official event host ('Organizer') is Messe Berlin GmbH. FACTORY-C Agentur für Messen & Kommunikation GmbH ('Implementation Partner') acts as the operational delivery partner. By submitting an application, Participants confirm that they have read and accepted these Terms.

The Hackathon will take place from September 23 to 25, 2026 at the Messe Berlin grounds as part of InnoTrans.

2. ELIGIBILITY

Participants must be at least 18 years old. Participation is possible as an individual or in teams of up to four people. The Organizer and Implementation Partner reserve the right to verify eligibility and resolve disputes at any time.

3. HACKATHON STRUCTURE

Details regarding the application process and participation will be published on the Hackathon website and third-party platforms such as Discord, Devpost, or Devfolio. The Organizer and Implementation Partner may adjust dates, requirements, and procedures for organizational or legal reasons.

4. CONDUCT

Participants must behave professionally, respectfully, and in compliance with applicable law and the Messe Berlin house rules. Any misconduct may result in immediate disqualification.

4a. Antitrust / Competition Law Compliance

The event brings together representatives of companies that may compete with each other.

All participants must comply at all times with applicable antitrust and competition laws. This applies to formal and informal discussions alike, including during breaks, side events or social activities related to the event.

In particular, participants must not engage in discussions, agreements or exchanges of non-public, competitively sensitive information, including but not limited to information on prices, price components, costs, margins, bidding or business strategies, market or customer allocation, capacity or production planning, or future market behavior.

If a situation arises that gives rise to antitrust concerns, the discussion must be terminated immediately. In case of doubt, participants should contact the organizing team.

The organizers and the implementation partner expressly distance themselves from any anticompetitive conduct. Violations may result in exclusion from the event.

5. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY (IP)

5.1 Ownership
Participants retain full ownership of all content contributed or developed during the Hackathon ('Hackathon IP').

5.2 License to the Organizer
Participants grant the Organizer and Implementation Partner a non-exclusive, royalty-free right to use non-confidential project descriptions, names, images, and presentations for documentation, press, and public relations purposes.

5.3 License to Challenge Providers (ONLY WINNING TEAMS)
Winning teams grant the respective Challenge Provider a non-exclusive, worldwide, royalty-free, perpetual license to internally use their winning project for evaluation, internal presentations, and demonstrations. No commercial or exclusive rights are granted.

5.4 Sponsor-Provided Materials

APIs, datasets, and tools provided by Challenge Providers remain their exclusive property. Participants receive a limited, revocable license to use them only during the Hackathon.

5.5 Post-Event Commercial Use
Any commercial use or further development after the event requires a separate agreement between the team and the respective Challenge Provider.

6. SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

6.1 Submitted projects must be original, lawful, free of third-party rights, contain no harmful components, and comply with the respective challenge requirements.

7. JUDGING

7.1 Criteria

Evaluation criteria will be published prior to the event. Participants confirm that they hold all required rights, do not disclose confidential information, and do not submit any harmful content.

7.2 Decisions of the Jury

Jury decisions are final and binding.

7.2 Decisions Final

All judging decisions are at the sole discretion of the Judges and the implementation partner. All decisions are final and binding on all participants.

8. PRIZES

8.1 Each winning team will receive up to €5,000 (five thousand Euros) for their respective challenge (paid via bank transfer). Winners are responsible for applicable taxes. Prizes will be paid via bank transfer following confirmation of the winning team and receipt of necessary payment details.

8.2 Taxes

Winners are solely responsible for complying with all applicable tax laws and reporting requirements in their respective jurisdictions.

9. LIABILITY

The Organizer and the Implementation Partner shall be liable in accordance with statutory provisions in cases of intent and gross negligence. In cases of slight negligence, they shall be liable only for the breach of material contractual obligations (cardinal obligations), and such liability shall be limited to the typical and foreseeable contractual damage. Liability for damages resulting from injury to life, body, or health, as well as liability under the Product Liability Act, remains unaffected. Liability for indirect damages and consequential losses is otherwise excluded to the extent permitted by law.

10. SAFETY & VENUE

Participants must comply with all safety regulations and instructions issued by Messe Berlin. Any violations may result in exclusion from the event.

11. GOVERNING LAW

This Agreement is governed by German law. Place of jurisdiction is Berlin-Charlottenburg.

12. MODIFICATIONS

The Event Hosts may update or modify non-material parts of these Terms & Conditions where required for operational, organizational, or legal reasons. Material changes affecting Participants' rights (including eligibility, IP ownership, or prize structure) will not be made after the application period has begun. Participants will be notified of updates, and continued participation after notification constitutes acceptance of the updated terms.

13. SEVERABILITY CLAUSE

If any provision of these Terms & Conditions is held to be invalid or unenforceable, the remaining provisions remain in full force and effect. The invalid provision shall be deemed replaced by a valid one that most closely reflects the economic intent of the original provision.