

speedikon FM Group Welcomes Award-Winning Young Researcher Julian Mayer in Bensheim

The speedikon FM group welcomed 14-year-old young researcher Julian Mayer to its headquarters in Bensheim, where he presented his award-winning aerospace research project to representatives from media, and the aerospace community. Mayer recently received first place at the Hessen state competition "Jugend forscht" in the field of geo- and space sciences for his self-developed radiation measurement system for stratospheric missions.



Julian Mayer together with Dr. Alexandra Merkel, CTO of speedikon FM AG, and Adrian Merkel, CEO of speedikon FM AG, on May 5, 2026 at the headquarters of the speedikon FM group in Bensheim. Copyright: speedikon FM AG

Bensheim, Germany, May 8, 2026 – The speedikon FM group welcomed young researcher Julian Mayer to its headquarters in Bensheim on May 5, where he presented his award-winning research project on the measurement of ionizing radiation in the stratosphere.

During the presentation, Mayer not only showcased the technical aspects of the project, sponsored by speedikon FM AG, but also explained how the original idea developed, what motivated him to explore the effects of cosmic radiation, and how he gradually designed and built the entire system himself. The presentation attracted strong interest from employees, members of the press, and experts from the aerospace sector, including representatives of the German Society for Aeronautics and Astronautics (DGLR).

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At the center of the project is a modular multi-channel measurement system developed entirely by Mayer to investigate how different materials shield against cosmic radiation under real conditions. The system was carried into the stratosphere using a helium-filled balloon and reached an altitude of approximately 38 kilometers during the mission.



Young researcher Julian Mayer presents his self-developed radiation measurement system for stratospheric missions during his presentation in Bensheim. Copyright: speedikon FM AG

What particularly impressed the audience was the degree of independent technical implementation behind the project. Mayer taught himself Python programming, designed and assembled the electronics independently, developed his own circuit boards, and planned the entire balloon mission himself, including permits, flight path calculations, live tracking, and recovery.

“I was fascinated by the idea of really understanding every part of the system myself, from the electronics to the data evaluation,” Mayer explains. “I didn’t just want to carry out an experiment. I wanted to develop the entire system myself.”

During the flight, the system continuously transmitted GPS data in real time, allowing Mayer and his father to follow the balloon’s route live from Darmstadt to the Munich area. The measured flight path later matched his original calculations with remarkable precision. The balloon mission lasted approximately two and a half hours, reaching speeds of up to 250 km/h before the system safely landed near Munich using a parachute.

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The presentation led to an intensive exchange with the attending aerospace experts. Discussions focused on radiation measurement, future space applications, and the challenges of developing reliable systems under extreme environmental conditions.



Julian Mayer presents the technical development of his modular multi-channel measurement system and explains the structure of the finished project to guests. Copyright: speedikon FM AG

“Julian reminds us what innovation is really about: experimenting, building, improving, and simply having the courage to try things out,” says Adrian Merkel, CEO of speedikon FM AG. “What he has achieved at the age of 14 impresses even experienced developers. These are exactly the kinds of people the future needs. We are proud to support him on his journey and beyond.”

Julian’s project was awarded first place at the Hessen state competition “Jugend forscht” in the field of geo- and space sciences. In the coming months, he will complete an internship at the German Aerospace Center (DLR). One of his long-term goals is to contribute to future space missions and potentially work with the European Space Agency (ESA).

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About speedikon FM

speedikon FM is a pioneering German software company that specializes in the digitalization of technical and commercial processes within buildings, data centers, and industrial plants. Since 1997, our company has been providing not just products, solutions, and technologies, but also a comprehensive range of services that empower our customers to optimize their asset-related business operations. Our team at speedikon FM possesses extensive expertise in handling vast amounts of data, complex databases, and seamless integration with existing software and hardware solutions. For additional information, please visit our website at www.speedikonfm.com.

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