

7 Startups Graduate from VIISA Accelerator with Investment Day

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The <u>Vietnam Innovative Startup Accelerator</u>'s (VIISA) inaugural batch of 7 startups graduates with an Investment Day on 11 April at the Hard Rock Cafe in Ho Chi Minh City.

VIISA is a partnership of Dragon Capital, FPT and Hanwha Investment. Almost 80 investors, corporate partners and mentors will attend the event, coming from countries such as Singapore, South Korea and the US.

Over the last three months, the startups were mentored by prominent venture capitalists and entrepreneurs in the region. They worked hard to get product-market fit and prove that they have a scalable, repeatable, business model. Regional funds such as NSI Ventures, Spiral Ventures, Cocoon Capital and Golden Gate Ventures conducted office hours with each individual founder.



"I am particularly excited about Vietnam and I believe that there is definitely going to be successful teams that build businesses more than a market capitalisation of a US\$100,000,000 in the next two-three years. VIISA helps us get a glimpse into those early stage companies", says Hian Goh, Founding Partner of NSI Ventures

"VIISA's got a really good first batch. While most investors considering investing into Vietnam early and risky, I believe that the accelerators such as VIISA will help investors like us with quality deal flow." Jeffrey Paine, Managing Partner of Golden Gate Ventures

The 7 startups include:

<u>Butterfly Wow</u> aims to transform beauty through data science, computer vision and AI. Users find fashion and get the latest haircut for that best matches their looks.

<u>Fastsell</u> is a mobile app that allows you to list, discover and buy things from people around you quickly, reliably and securely.

<u>Fixir</u> helps motorists discover and book repairs and servicing from reliable workshops through their mobile app.

<u>Lexis</u> is a legal platform that helps companies and individuals get legal advice and help through a prepaid package and a toll-free number.

<u>Usedata</u> helps e-commerce stores increase revenue through product and customer analysis with machine learning and big data algorithms.

Wefit provides you access to more than 200+gyms and fitness classes with their monthly subscription plan in Vietnam

<u>Wisepass</u> is a lifestyle mobile app with a subscription plan. For 6 million VND per month, members get to enjoy a bottle of spirits, wine and lunch at top bars, cafes and restaurants in Ho Chi Minh City.

Mr LE Hoang Anh, Chairman of VIISA and Managing Partner of Dragon Capital says "To see our first batch graduate is testament to the hardwork and support from our startup founders, government officials and corporate partners. I am excited for the journey up ahead for our portfolio."

Mr TRAN Huu Duc, CEO of VIISA, and Head of FPT Ventures, "We are deeply encouraged to see the support from local and foreign investors for our startups, and also for the cooperation between FPT, Dragon Capital and Hanwha for making this happen!"



Mr Sangyeop KANG, Investment Officer at Hanwha Investment said, "The VIISA team and startups have worked extremely hard for this day and I am very proud of this inaugural batch. This is just the beginning and I wish the 7 companies success with their fund-raising."

Mr Adrian TAN, Program Director of VIISA says, "Investment Day is the culmination of months of hardwork from the startup founders and VIISA's founding members. The support from the startup ecosystem and regional mentors and investors will spur VIISA on to building more global startups in Vietnam".

VIISA invested US \$30,000 (\$15,000 cash and \$15,000 in kind) into each company and provides technical resources, office accommodation and access to more than 100+ world class mentors and investors. Promising teams will also get up to of \$200,000 of follow-on funding

VIISA's second batch will start in July 2017. The call for applications opens today.

www.viisa.vn

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ABOUT

VIISA

The Vietnam Innovative Startup Accelerator (VIISA) will invest up to \$6 million into building global startups from Vietnam. It is a partnership of Dragon Capital, FPT and Hanwha Investment, together with commercial partners including Asia Counsel, BIDV, Tam An Tax and CirCo Co-working Space.

DRAGON CAPITAL

http://dragoncapital.com/

Dragon Capital Group is an integrated investment group centred around the emerging financial markets of Vietnam. Established in 1994 from an initial base of US\$16m and eight staff, at January 2017, Dragon Capital Group managed around US\$2bn (unaudited) with a headcount approximately 100. We have offices in Ho Chi Minh City, Hanoi (registered with Vietnam's SSC), the United Kingdom (regulated by the FCA), Bangkok and Hong Kong (registered with SFC).

FPT

https://fpt.com.vn/en/

FPT is a multinational information technology company of Vietnam with branches in 19 countries. It is one of Vietnam's leading conglomerates, based in Hà Nội and has branches in Ho Chi Minh and Da Nang.

HANWHA INVESTMENT

http://www.hanwhainvestment.co.kr/

Established in 2000, Hanwha Investment has been focused on managing venture funds for the nation's major pension funds and institutional investors, delivering stellar business performance. We have become a trusted partner for venture capital startups, and we are striving to seek out and invest in promising young companies around the world.