

Fintech and property dominate 2017 list

This year's crop of hottest startups doubled the average funding of 2016's list to \$3.2m.

This is our sixth edition of the hottest startups issue where we present notable and up-and-coming local startups. To compile the list, we first looked at the weekly startups we feature on our website, sbr.com.sg, and we then filtered by amount of funding raised. We do not include startups where funding is not disclosed, and the companies must have formed in the last three years. Then we checked our list with eight industry players to weed out any companies that do not make the grade. This year's hottest startups average funding was \$3.2m compared to \$1.5m last year.

We don't claim that this is the most comprehensive list, and whilst we have tried to verify funding quantums, we cannot verify all amounts declared. Nevertheless, we feel this list represents the most talked about startups in Singapore. Enjoy the read and send feedback to research@charltonmediamail.com.

1. FUNDING SOCIETIES

FOUNDERS:

Kelvin Teo, Reynold Wijaya **FUNDING:**

\$11,700,000; Sequoia India, Alpha IWC Ventures

START OF OPERATION:

June 2015

Funding Societies is a FinTech

startup that offers an online peer-to-business lending platform for small and medium enterprises to secure loans. Licensed by MAS, it enables individual and institutional lenders to earn equitable returns from lending to these SMEs. It offers unsecured loans, invoice financing and micro loans. Its vision is to help SMEs and lenders grow their business and wealth, ultimately improving societies in Southeast Asia.



2. SMARTKARMA

FOUNDERS:

Raghav Kapoor, Jon Foster, Lee Mitchell

FUNDING:

\$10,650,000; Wavemaker, Jungle Ventures, Tan Chin Hwee, SPRING Singapore, Consortium headed by Koh Boon Hwee

START OF OPERATION:

Smartkarma is an innovative platform that provides unique and differentiated research on the Asian markets. The cloud-based platform enables a large community of analysts, academics, and other investment professionals to create interactive research content, share ideas, collaborate as well as discuss their opinions in real time.

3. SPACEMOB

FOUNDER: Turochas Fuad **FUNDING:**

\$7,900,000; Vertex Ventures, Angel Investors, Alpha JWC Ventures

START OF OPERATION:

September 2016



Spacemob is a coworking space built for entrepreneurs, freelancers, SMEs, and MNCs – supported by business foundations such as health insurance, travel and software discounts. Spacemob has a digitally optimised environment that includes high-speed Internet access, a centralised booking system, wireless payments, and plans to install RFID-tracking technology to maximise space efficiency. Spacemob believes a space is what you make of it.



4. GUAVAPASS

FOUNDERS: Jeffrey Liu, Robert Pachter **FUNDING:** \$7,100,000; Vickers Venture Partners and strategic investors

START OF OPERATION: May 2015

GuavaPass is an unlimited boutique fitness platform with a community of more than 1000 bookable fitness partners and tens of thousands of members across Asia and the Middle East. It selects the best studios across all fitness verticals including yoga, cross-functional training, pilates, crossfit, dance, and muay thai. Providing convenient access to top classes, the GuavaPass platform is designed to find what fits in with users' schedule and interests. Members can explore quality fitness studios and meet like-minded healthy living enthusiasts. They also get exclusive access to events with wellness experts and a range of privileges from GuavaPass partners.

5. SERVISHERO

FOUNDERS:

Karl Loo, Jason Kang, Nicole Sia, Paul Copplestone, Adam Burmister

FUNDING:

\$3,700,000; Golden Gate Ventures, Cradle Seed Ventures

START OF OPERATION:

February 2015

ServisHero is a mobile services marketplace which connects trusted and vetted local service providers via a location-aware app and web platform to consumers across Southeast Asia. Service providers are rated by their clients, and these ratings are made public to potential new customers. ServisHero currently operates in six cities across three countries (Singapore, Malaysia, and Thailand).



6. SPORTSHERO

FOUNDER: Dinesh Bhatia **FUNDING:** \$3,400,000; Nevada Iron Ltd START OF OPERATION: May 2016

SportsHero is a gamified social sports prediction platform where

users can predict, interact, and compete on major sports whether virtually or real-time. It makes better predictions on the outcomes of games within its social community. Top-ranked sports fans are included on the leader board and can be eligible to win daily, weekly, and monthly prizes. Fans can interact with fellow sports fans on the SportsHero network in a number of ways to make any game more interesting and engaging.

7. SHOPMATIC

FOUNDERS:

Anurag Avula, Kris Chen, Yen Ti Lim **FUNDING:**

\$3,000,000; Angel + Institution START OF OPERATION: December 2014

Shopmatic is an e-commerce company which helps business owners go online to sell their products and services. From developing a unique web store to listing businesses on marketplaces and social media channels, it helps business owners in managing everything that is required to grow their businesses. Shopmatic leverages technology to bring together all the pieces of the ecommerce ecosystem on a single platform. It is focussed on levelling the ecommerce playing fields in Singapore, India, and Hong Kong and plans to roll out to more markerts soon. Currently Shopmatic has over 40 team members working in four offices across Asia.



8. TOUCHE

FOUNDER: Sahba Saint-Claire **FUNDING:** \$2,800,000; Private Investors START OF OPERATION: 2014

Touché offers a unique buying experience linking payments,

loyalty, and membership programmes in a pioneered fingerprintbased biometric hardware and software solution. Customers get all their entitlements – discounts, points, offers, etc. – at the point of interaction and no longer need to carry phones, cards, or cash. Available in Singapore, the solution is designed to scale globally so Touché users can use the service anywhere in the world after their first registration.

9. POPETY

FOUNDERS:

Michael Chaille, Jean-Frederic Thomas **FUNDING:**

\$1,690,000;

Angel Investors, Mediacorp

START OF OPERATION:

2016



Popety is a property management portal that supports customers in their complete real estate journey. It offers the tools for homeowners to sell and rent, manage tenants, and keep track of issues and earnings. It has compiled trends and insights, down to the unitlevel, for all residential properties in Singapore to assist seekers with making informed decisions in a shorter time. It leverages blockchain on data validation and artificial intelligence for price estimation.



12. DATASTREAMX

FOUNDER:

Mike Davie **FUNDING:**

\$1,250,000; Wavemaker Labs. National Research Foundation. JFDI. Asia, Select Angels

START OF OPERATION:

2014

DataStreamX is a real-time data transaction platform and marketplace. Working directly with companies seeking to commercialise high-value data products, it unlocks new data sources making them available to data scientists and business analysts. Data products available through the platform allow for companies to do everything from conducting better analysis on their target customers to making better investment decisions that generate alpha.



10. SENESCENCE LIFE SCIENCES

FOUNDER: Shawn Watson **FUNDING:** \$1,500,000; Private Equity **START OF OPERATION:** 2016

Senescence Life Sciences has

developed a patent-pending systematic strategy designed to target the underlying mechanisms responsible for age-related cognitive decline. The result is a product line of safe, natural, and scientifically supported brain supplements specifically designed to support and optimise the ageing brain. Senescence Life Sciences was founded on the belief that everyone can take an active role in controlling their cognitive health. This vision stems from Shawn Watson's first-hand experience in witnessing the devastating impact of dementia within his family. Dr Watson pursued a PhD in neuroscience, investigating why the brain suffers from a progressive decline as we age.



FOUNDER: Rajiv Srivastava **FUNDING:** \$1,240,000; Seed Investors

START OF OPERATION:

October 2015



NextGen Shopping Pte Ltd is a technology company which revolutionises the future of shopping. It uses the vision of "enhancing the experience of online shopping using the latest imaging technologies". NextGen Shopping Pte Ltd aspires to be one of the world's best technology companies specialising in web-based 3D reconstruction, virtual, augmented, and mixed reality. It implements technologies in 3D reconstruction and visualisation and makes it available on most viewing devices. NextGen Shopping Pte Ltd, which originated in Singapore and has a development facility in India, aims to develop the world's largest resource of 3D views and experiences for clients.

11. GREYLOFT

FOUNDERS:

Archit Agarwal, Siddhesh Narayanan **FUNDING:**

\$1,500,000; DSG Consumer Partners, Wavemaker Partners

START OF OPERATION:



Greyloft is a licensed real estate agency integrating a suite of services to deliver a customer-centric home finding solution. Online tools are designed to assist customers through the course of the home renting/buying process from research to paperwork and post movein support. Offline services include a dedicated team of licensed in-house property agents who assist customers in shortlisting properties, coordinating viewings, negotiating terms, and moving in.



14. BIOFOURMIS

FOUNDERS:

Kuldeep Singh Rajput, Wendou Niu

FUNDING:

\$1,050,000; SpesNet, Eden Strategy Institute, Infocomm Media Development Authority

START OF OPERATION:

2015

Biofourmis uses cognitive technologies to analyse healthcare and lifestyle data. It has built Biovitals - the world's first physiological data analytics engine that formulates personalised health models, resulting in highly optimised post-acute patient monitoring solutions and accurate health predictions, such as patient's health deterioration before it happens.



15. SPIKING

FOUNDER: Clemen Chiang **FUNDING:**

\$1,030,000; Quest Ventures, National Research Foundation. Angels from capital markets led by Koh Boon Hwee

START OF OPERATION: 2016

Spiking consolidates the latest disclosures published on the Singapore Exchange (SGX) to give retail investors a fast update in on share trades by significant investors. Spiking is something of a comeback for Clemen after a previous share investing training company he was involved with had to repay students course fees. SBR has tried the Spiking app and likes how it works.

18. KASHMI

FOUNDERS:

Rakhil Fernando, Rajinda Jayasinghe, Mufaddal Lukmanjee **FUNDING:**

\$800,000; VAMM Ventures, FICO Group, Akbar Brothers

START OF OPERATION:

2014



Kashmi is a social, mobile, neo-banking product with features that enable on-the-go spending, saving, lending, investing, and budgeting. Users utilise the platform as their primary bank account, wherein users can manage their finances, send/receive money to/ from friends or service providers, save, invest, and even take loans. Kashmi's founders wanted a better way to settle debts between friends without the use of cash.

16. OHMYHOME

FOUNDERS: Rhonda Wong, Race Wong **FUNDING:**

\$1,000,000; PrimeFounders, Angel investors

START OF OPERATION: 2016

Ohmyhome is a real estate

platform and a CEA-licensed real estate agency which lets users buy, sell, or rent HDB flats on their own. It directly connects Housing and Development Board (HDB) buyers to sellers, and tenants to landlords. All listings on Ohmyhome are genuine, non-duplicate, and easy to browse. There is zero advertising cost, no middlemen, and there are no charges for a successful search. Ohmyhome users can save their search and are notified when there is a match. Special map functions also enable homeseekers to find the ideal home near neighbouring schools or close to parents in order to qualify for proximity housing grant.



19. FLYSPACES

FOUNDERS:

Mario Berta, Guillaume Martin **FUNDING:**

\$700,000: Future Now Ventures, Narra Ventures, Coent Venture Partner of Singapore, Rubina Real Estate

START OF OPERATION:

September 2015

FlySpaces, billed as an Airbnb for workspaces, is a digital marketplace that provides flexible short-term work and meeting space solutions to entrepreneurs, startups, SMEs, and mobile professionals. The need could be for an hour, a day, a week, or a few months. With a network of spaces in Southeast Asia, FlySpaces offers venues in Singapore, Manila, Cebu, Kuala Lumpur, Hong Kong, and Jakarta. For venue owners, FlySpaces acts as a digital marketing platform that connects them to a vast user base, allowing owners to optimise and monetise their space.



17. ZINGOHUB

FOUNDERS:

Nasir Kausar, Haider Aly-Reza, Savantan Das

FUNDING:

\$900,000; Private Investors, Family Office, Turn8

START OF OPERATION: 2015

ZingoHub is a reward-based crowdfunding, e-commerce platform that assists creators and innovators in bringing their ideas to the market. It helps aspiring artists, designers, and tech entrepreneurs to showcase their ideas and inventions to the worldwide community and offers creators and innovators the opportunity to raise funds from like-minded individuals. ZingoHub has the resources and tools to help creators and innovators become disruptive entrepreneurs.



FOUNDER: Winson Tan Huey Meng **FUNDING:** \$600,000; Angel Investors START OF OPERATION:

January 2014

FoodZaps is a system that

streamlines customer ordering and payment processes in cafes, restaurants, and bars. The system facilitates the ordering of products through the use of a mobile device. It integrates customer billing and payment and has an online portal that generates sales reports, providing insights into customer behaviour and product popularity. FoodZaps helps F&B businesses have access to a scalable solution that will allow them to be more connected.