

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: MEDIA ALERT

ACA 2013 SUMMIT STARTS WITH SHOWCASE FEATURING INNOVATIVE STARTUPS FROM ACROSS THE GLOBE

**Angel Capital Association (ACA) 2013 Summit: “Navigating Change for Angel Success” Starts with a Technology and Investing Showcase
Featuring Innovative Startups from Across the Globe**

***World’s Largest Gathering of Accredited Angel Investors
April 17-19, 2013 at the Hyatt Regency San Francisco***

San Francisco, April 17, 2013 -- Angel Capital Association (ACA), the world's leading professional and trade association for angel investors, announced that 46 companies will present at its third annual Technology and Investing Showcase today, a key opening segment of the 2013 ACA Summit. The Showcase features promising, up-and-coming startups from across the globe.

With over 650 registrants representing 45 American states, 5 Canadian provinces and 27 countries, the ACA Summit is the world’s largest gathering of accredited angel investors. Summit attendees will also include world leaders in economic development, university innovation centers, leading corporations and other thought leaders critical to the early stage equity investment ecosystem.

“The ACA Summit is a global conference for 650 angel investors from over 30 countries along with a number of Consular Offices sponsoring the four most compelling technologies from their home countries” commented Jim Connor, Board Director of the Sand Hill Angels, ACA Board member and Summit Chair. “We designed the Technology and Investing Showcase to reflect the broad global and interconnected nature of today’s innovation economy.”

ACA invited select universities, international consulates, accelerators and incubators to nominate their ‘best and brightest’ companies to present a five minute pitch at the Showcase. Each sponsoring organization selected four companies specializing in Internet/IT, Life Sciences, Clean Tech, or Consumer Products.

“To build scalable, high-return startups, entrepreneurs need access to early stage capital and great resources,” says Ingrid Vanderveldt, Entrepreneur-in-Residence at Dell and Founder of the Dell Innovators Credit Fund. “Opportunities such as this prove invaluable to angel investors and entrepreneurs alike, and we are excited to be a part of it.”

The format for the Showcase is intended to help establish relationships between angel investors and early stage ventures. “In today’s economic environment, it’s more crucial than ever to connect talented innovators and first-time entrepreneurs with experienced angel investors – and not just because of their investment capital,” says Andrew Remes, Associate Director of the Office of Enterprise Development at the University of Pittsburgh. “Equally important is the broader role that angel investors play as they serve as mentors, domain experts, and connectors across the start-up landscape. We are thrilled that our faculty will have the opportunity to get in front of this influential audience.”

Internet & IT related companies clearly led the nominations, comprising over 40% of the startups participating, followed by 24% in Clean Tech and 23% in Life Sciences. Education Technology is a key subset of the Internet & IT segment, with four companies in that sector.

“Nurturing a robust innovation ecosystem is a critical component of growing industry and strengthening our local and national economies,” explains Cary Adams, angel investor and founding Chairman at SARTA, a non-profit dedicated to accelerating growth and development in the Sacramento region. “We understand the importance of connecting the next wave of innovative companies with angel investors to help them get off to a strong start,” Adams adds.

This year’s increased focus on bringing together a global audience plays a significant role at the Showcase and the broader Summit. Among the most heavily represented countries at the Summit is New Zealand, and Marta Mager, Regional Director, North America for New Zealand Trade and Enterprise, states that, “This is the largest Angel Summit in the world and it gives us a fantastic opportunity to show New Zealand’s competitive advantage, particularly in food and beverages, technology and healthcare solutions.”

Cassie Doyle from the Canadian consulate will provide closing remarks at the Showcase, at which point the Summit will continue on to feature two days of programming on topics ranging from diaspora investing to crowdfunding to angel investing trends. The full [Summit agenda](#) is available on the Angel Capital Association website.

About Angel Capital Association

The Angel Capital Association is the leading professional and trade association supporting the success of angel investors in high-growth, early-stage ventures. ACA provides professional development, industry voice, public policy advocacy and an array of benefits and resources to its membership of 200 angel groups and more than 8,500 individual accredited investors. **www.angelcapitalassociation.org; Twitter: @ACAAngelCapital.**

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