



TECH
NATION

THE TECH NATION FUTURE FIFTY 2024

The UK's 50 Tech Companies To Watch

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By Carolyn Dawson, CEO, Founders
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FOREWORD

The UK tech industry has a combined market value of more than \$1.1 trillion. Much of this value is created by companies who have been through the Future Fifty.

Long recognised as the UK’s most prestigious accelerator programme, the Future Fifty represents the largest network of pre-IPO companies in the country, and is the only programme in the country catering to late-stage ventures.

When Founders Forum Group acquired Tech Nation last year, relaunching the Future Fifty programme was a top priority.

Under Tech Nation, and together with our founding partner, HSBC Innovation Banking, we aim to facilitate £10b into startups within the next five years through the power of connections, knowledge sharing, and investment and talent opportunities.

With this goal in mind, we relaunched the new-look Future Fifty programme under Founders Forum Group, with a touch of FF magic.

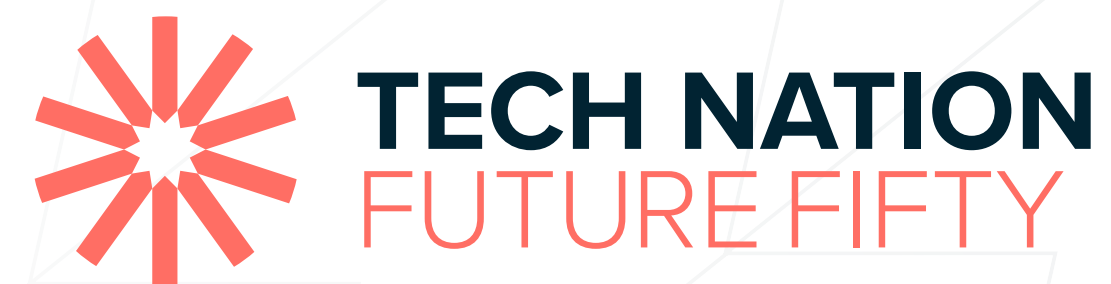
We took our Future Fifty cohort on an international trade mission to Singapore, including a behind-the-scenes tour of the country’s booming startup scene.

In an FF first, we hosted our inaugural Future Fifty Forum, supported by our Lead Future Fifty Forum Partner, the Dubai Department of Economy and Tourism, bringing together the scaleup founders responsible for leading some of the biggest and most exciting brands emerging in UK tech.

Future Fifty counts the UK’s biggest tech success stories – Darktrace, Deliveroo, Monzo, Revolut, Skyscanner, Wayve, Zoopla, and many more – among its all-star alumni, who have collectively raised more than £16.3b. Since 2014, Future Fifty has supported 30% of all UK tech unicorns and 40% of deacorns.

The 50 companies selected for our latest Future Fifty cohort, leading innovation and disrupting industries from healthcare to space tech, are truly the UK tech companies to watch.

Read on to discover the Future Fifty 2024.



Carolyn Dawson OBE
CEO, Founders Forum Group



INTRODUCING THE FUTURE FIFTY

When we took the reins at Tech Nation we were faced with a simple brief for the flagship programme: take 50 of the UK's best scaleups – companies already equipped with coaches, mentors, investors, and product-market fit – and fashion an accelerator out of it. We decided to take a different approach.

With our focus on companies predominantly at Series B or beyond, the Future Fifty isn't your typical growth programme, and arguably unlike any other accelerator in the world. We wanted to make it less about learning and validation, and more about access, growth, and founder wellbeing. Since Founders Forum Group acquired Tech Nation last year, we have transformed the Future Fifty from the academic to the experiential, whilst being both mindful of the legacy that precedes it and respectful of the founders in it.

You can't apply to be part of the Future Fifty anymore - we didn't want applications from marketing teams or PR agencies, but founders who understand and appreciate the value of the Tech Nation network.

We moved away from webinars, workshops, and 'startup gurus' and put the focus of the programme on founder relationships and shared experiences.

For the first time, we've included companies from some of our most critical and fascinating industries, such as quantum, biotech, fusion, and aerospace.

With so many of the cohort expanding to new territories, we added an international element to each programme, inviting the cohorts to Singapore and New York for a crash course in facilitated international business relations.

We especially wanted to be mindful of the time and bandwidth founders have at this stage, so we've cultivated a programme for the often unsung heroes of hyper-growth – the C-suite – curating specialised supper clubs with some of our incredible partners that help create the bonds and ties that will outlast the span of the programme itself.

As we unveil the 50 companies in The Future Fifty 2024, we're not just celebrating their achievements so far; we're actively building networks of peers and mentors around critical functions of some of the UK's most exciting scaleups.

[Find out more about the Future Fifty programme.](#)



Johnny Mayo
Programme Lead, Future Fifty



£16.3b+

Raised by Future Fifty alumni

£2.6b+

Raised by the Future Fifty 2024

30%

of UK tech unicorns supported
by the Future Fifty since 2014

5,000+

Employed by the Future Fifty 2024

40%

of UK tech deacorns

What are the benefits?

Networking

The programme prides itself on creating authentic and lasting connections between the cohort, alumni, and the wider UK technology ecosystem.

Recognition

Those selected are widely recognised as one of the nation's leading ventures and typically receive a boost of interest from potential clients and investors.

Bespoke Experiences

Founders and their senior leadership teams get access to specialist events and the all-new Future Fifty Forum.

Wellbeing

The programme aims to stem the stress of Series B, providing the cohort with access to experts on subjects such as mental health and neurodiversity.

What are we looking for?

The Future Fifty is by invitation only.

We typically look for companies that fall into the following criteria:



Have successfully raised Series B funding



Generating £5m revenue per year, or experiencing 50% YoY growth



Are headquartered in the UK



A digital/tech-enabled business with product or service



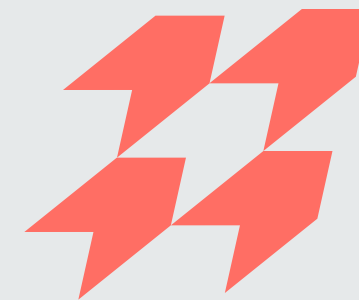
Future Fifty Alumni Include:





“It’s a fantastic network of great people and companies.”

José Neves
Farfetch



“Future Fifty allowed me to get outside of my industry and connect with other tech founders in the UK who do things differently.”

Carolin Krenzer
Trailmix Games



“Whether you’re building to sell, IPO, or simply expanding your network, you’ll find the right expertise and resources to help you take things to the next level.”

Jacyn Heavens
Epos Now



“I can already see that some of the ideas we’re working on now came from conversations sparked by connections I made through Future Fifty.”

Rachel Carrell
Koru Kids



BUILDING THE UK'S NEXT TECH SUCCESS STORIES

Insights from the Future Fifty Forum

The inaugural Future Fifty Forum, supported by Lead Future Fifty Forum Partner, the Dubai Department of Economy and Tourism, brought together scaleup founders (at Series B or comparable), programme alumni, and a select group of top investors, who shared their personal startup stories and advice on building scaling businesses.

Top: Tamsin Lewis (Wellgevity), Tej Lalvani (Vitabiotics), Rana Yared (Balderton) & Steve Peralta (Unmind)

Left: Maria Raga, Depop

Right: Richard Browning (Gravity Industries)

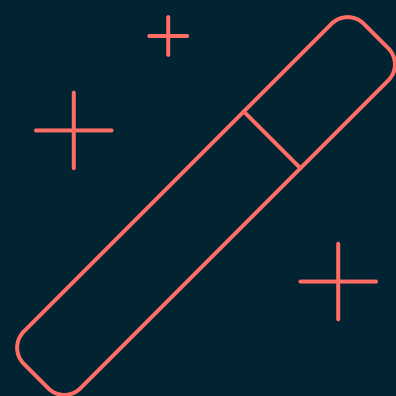


SCOOP THE KEY INSIGHTS



Leveraging AI

We're entering a new economic wave powered by AI and characterised by infrastructure development, open standards, and the emergence of agentic AI systems that make decisions for themselves. There are only 25 million software engineers in the world. With AI, you're no longer restricted by that number. The challenge lies in transforming the data your business collects into valuable knowledge that you can use to your advantage.



Founders from the Future Fifty 2024 cohort



"Speed is everything. Move fast and survive long enough to find the answers. At Lazada Group, we hired 440 people in 10 weeks. At HelloFresh, we signed 650 partnerships in the first year to nail down what works. Yes, 95% failed. But that's how we found the 5% that worked – and it paid off. Last year, HelloFresh delivered over a billion meals."



Hamish Shephard
BrideBook / HelloFresh



Hamish Shephard (BrideBook / HelloFresh)

Generative AI is a supply-side technology. You can employ traditional AI tools to understand demand; generative AI allows you to quickly respond to it. We see that in the creative industries – Metaphysic created an AI-generated deepfake for Eminem to rap against a younger version of himself. The internet has digitised culture, allowing companies to monitor and understand it; generative AI provides a tool to serve that culture quickly and cheaply.



Hamish Shephard (BrideBook / HelloFresh) & David David Townend (RTL AdAlliance)



The biggest opportunities are in traditionally overlooked sectors, like construction, where incumbents are reluctant or struggle to change. Ultimately, AI must augment rather than just replace what we do. When leveraging new AI tools, a healthy mix of curiosity, creativity, and critical thinking is key.



Take the environment as a given when you fundraise. You're in this for 10 or 20 years or more; whether you raise at 10x or 12x doesn't matter. Focus on making the most of the opportunity you have in front of you. Ultimately, you need to build a revenue-generating machine that can scale. At growth stage, most companies plateau. It's only a handful of companies that go from \$10m to \$250m in revenue, but that's what separates the average from the exceptional.



Laura Hayward (Evelyn Partners)
& Ranjan Singh (HealthHero)

Raising Investment

The challenge in venture is that most LPs are over-committed and cutting back. Still, around 25% are still bullish and liquidity is slowly returning to the market. In AI, we're seeing \$200m+ rounds for pre-Seed companies. Elsewhere, investors are more pragmatic, but exceptional companies will have no problem raising.



If you don't have a strong conviction that your product is groundbreaking and sells easily, you need to reassess before you scale, go international, or layer on new products. As well as a phenomenal founding team, your core product and the solidity of your product-market fit is critical.

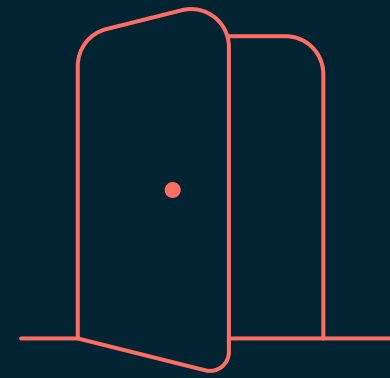
James Weatherill (Arbor Education)
& William Rice (Gen H)





📅 Planning Your Exit

Depop was acquired by Etsy for \$1.6b, a decade after starting up and just two years after its Series C. Onfido was bought for \$650m by Entrust, with angel investors making a 100x return. Timing is critical for a successful exit and conditions can dramatically affect valuations. Plus, every exit is different; some take years, some happen almost overnight. Founders must stay alert to market trends and be ready to act on favourable conditions.



The uncertainty of the exit process can weigh heavily on your mind. Be mentally prepared for setbacks right up to the final signature. Consider the impact on your team and prepare them for the transition – their job is to ensure the acquirer sees you as the best investment they’ve ever made. The right preparation can smooth the integration process and increase the chances of a successful exit.



Yousuf Algurg (Department of Engineering and Tourism, Dubai) & Pietro Desiato (XYZ Reality)

Dr Marwan Al Zarouni (Dubai Dubai Department of Economy and Tourism), Nigel Toon (Graphcore), Jean Innes (The Alan Turing Institute) & Martin Adams (Metaphysic)

Planning a successful exit starts early. Recruiting a supportive Chair, a CFO, and building a board which includes practitioners with industry experience will be hugely helpful. Think twice before reducing board meetings. You need your board to buy into your vision on an ongoing basis; not just when they invest. Be mindful of your investors' fund lifecycles and how your company's valuation aligns with them.





Paul Taylor (Thought Machine)



“As you scale, don’t put yourself in the decision making role for every decision in the company. Trust your people to solve the tough problems. Set the structure, parameters, and expectations to empower your people to deal with those problems themselves.”



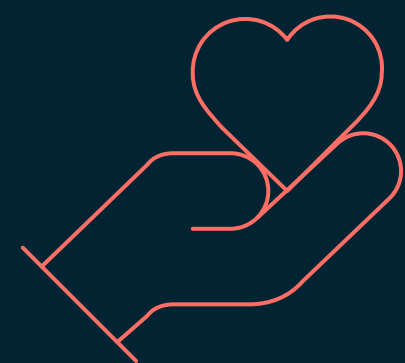
Paul Taylor
Thought Machine

According to Balderton, more than 80% of founders feel that, past a point, there are diminishing returns from simply putting in more hours. View yourself as a performance athlete. Just as athletes train at different intensity levels, treat your brain the same way athletes treat their body. Wellbeing causes exceptional performance, whereas burnout opposes it. Your goal is to drive the highest possible performance without burning out. Create a routine that includes breaks, therapy, coaching, and, critically, sleep.



Navigating Founder Wellbeing

Founders face a unique set of mental challenges: pressure to perform, frequent travel, imposter syndrome, and highs and lows that can lead to anxiety, stress, isolation, and burnout. Your brain health is directly correlated to your mental health, and you can reduce your risk of anxiety and emotional distress by taking one action each day to improve your psychological, emotional, social, and physical wellbeing.



Your wellbeing ripples out to the rest of your company. Create a human-centric culture to support mental health. Consider a bioharmonic office environment, with greenery for a calming effect. More importantly, ensure support is available when your staff need it, but keep in mind that ‘work-life balance’ is something achieved over a long period of time, not permanently maintained.

Sonya Iovieno (HSBC Innovation Banking), Hussein Kanji (Hoxton Ventures), Ling Ge (Tencent) & Stan Laurent (Highland Europe)



THE FUTURE FIFTY 2024

The UK's 50 Tech Companies to Watch

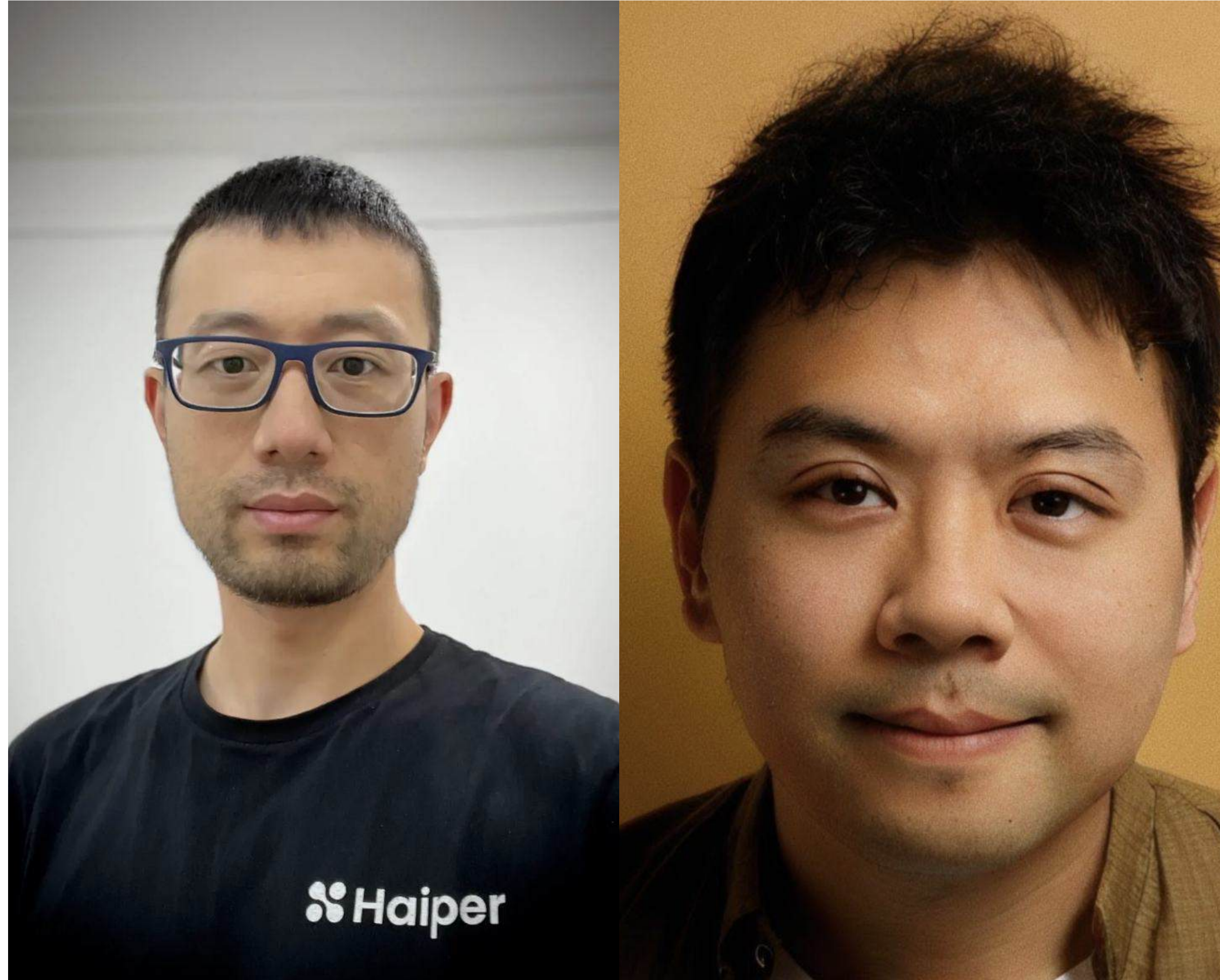


AI, AR & GAMING






Haiper



Haiper is a cutting-edge AI powered by a perceptual foundation model, aiming to advance the path toward AGI. Specializing in generative video and images, Haiper combines innovative machine learning with a focus on creativity.




Haiper

FOUNDERS

- Yishu Miao
- Ziyu Wang

LOCATION

- London



EMPLOYEES

- 30

STAGE

- Seed

TOTAL FUNDING RAISED



- £10m

KEY INVESTORS

- Octopus Ventures



PolyAI builds bespoke customer-led voice assistants that carry on natural conversations with customers to solve their problems. PolyAI serves enterprises where customer dialogue is an important part of doing business, including transformative visionaries in global banking, hospitality, home services, insurance, energy, retail, and telecom verticals.



FOUNDERS

- Nikola Mrksic
- Pei-Hao Su
- Tsung-Hsien Wen

EMPLOYEES


156

STAGE

Series C

LOCATION

London



TOTAL FUNDING RAISED

£99m

KEY INVESTORS

Khosla Ventures, NVIDIA NVentures, Hedosophia, Georgian, Point72 Ventures, Sands Capital, Passion Capital, Zendesk Ventures, Amadeus Capital Partners



Nikola Mrksic



Mission

Our goal is to explore and deliver the true potential in human-machine interaction over the voice channel, particularly between customers and brands. We want to be the voice powering half of all automated customer service calls globally by 2030.

Next 12 Months

Our focus is to grow our client portfolio of nearly 100 brands by continuing gaining ground in the global Fortune 500. We're naturally compelling in finance, hospitality, and healthcare, and as the capabilities of advanced conversational AI solutions become more obvious in customer-facing applications, we're also seeing a tremendous amount of interest from slower-to-innovate verticals, like utilities, civil services, and other public sector or non-profit organisations.

Within the next six months, we're excited to bring the very platform on which we develop our generative voice assistants to the masses, enabling businesses of all sizes to create, manage, and deploy an enterprise-ready voice assistant quickly and securely.

Overcoming Challenges

Even though we've been in this field for decades, generative AI is just recently finding its place in enterprise applications. We've developed a superior product and have a world-class delivery team, yet some organisations need a deeper track record of widespread adoption to feel confident in deploying this kind of innovation. Fortunately, the fear and uncertainty around advanced AI throughout the enterprise is fading in favour of enthusiasm and recognition of what business value is possible.

Advice For Founders

Trust your vision, while always listening to the market and expanding your advisor network. We're seeing an emergence of academically-driven entrepreneurship, especially in the fields of advanced AI, and speaking on behalf of my fellow machine learning researchers and co-founders, it's a very good time to have practical expertise in emerging tech concepts.

Future Fifty

Being a part of this cohort of the Future Fifty has placed our humble company among some truly forward-thinking organisations. We're thrilled to be included in this elite group!

Metaphysic



Metaphysic is a leading generative AI platform for photorealistic, Hollywood-grade content and were recently awarded 'TIME100 Most Influential Companies 2023'. Since 2018, Metaphysic has pioneered machine learning for generative content and ethical AI where people own their biometric data and creativity thrives.

FOUNDERS

- 👤 Thomas Graham
- 👤 Martin Adams
- 👤 Chris Ume
- 👤 Kevin Ume

LOCATION

- 📍 London

EMPLOYEES

- 👥 125

STAGE

- 🤝 Series B

TOTAL FUNDING RAISED

- 💷 £18m+

KEY INVESTORS

- 👤 Winklevoss Capital, 8VC, Section 32, Cosmic Venture Partners, TO Ventures



Signal AI



Signal AI leverages AI technology to provide actionable insights that enhance decision-making for business leaders through augmented reality and AI. By analysing external data across 226 markets and 75 languages, it equips organisations with insights to understand industry trends, address reputational shifts, and reduce risks effectively.

FOUNDERS

- 👤 David Benigson
- 👤 Miguel Martinez
- 👤 Wesley Hall

LOCATION

- 📍 London

EMPLOYEES

- 👥 200

STAGE

- 🤝 Series D

TOTAL FUNDING RAISED

- 💷 £100m+

KEY INVESTORS

- 👤 Highland Europe, MMC, Mercuri, Hearst, Frontline Ventures, Volution







Trailmix Games



Trailmix is a mobile games studio whose mission is to create delightful spaces where millions of people can flourish. Trailmix's debut game, Love & Pies, features a lovable cast of diverse characters and captivating storylines and has been downloaded and enjoyed by millions of people around the world.




FOUNDERS

- Carolyn Krenzer
- Tristan Clark

LOCATION

- London



EMPLOYEES

- 67

STAGE

- Series B

TOTAL FUNDING RAISED

- £50m+

KEY INVESTORS

- Supercell



Carolin Krenzer



Mission

We founded Trailmix with the desire to create a company that best serves our employees, players, and community. Our mission is to foster an environment where people can truly be their best selves, feel respected, and loved, and extend that respect and love to our players.

We named the company 'Trailmix' because our games are snackable yet nourishing – accessible and fitting any lifestyle, while offering depth and attention to detail that leaves players feeling satisfied and happy. We're creating games for everyone, and it's crucial that our team reflects our diverse audience.

Next 12 Months

Games are bigger than music and movies and TV combined in terms of revenue. The industry is only getting bigger, so that means as a company we have endless opportunities but are also working in a very competitive environment.

We're excited to say that we just opened a Berlin studio and hired an incredible team. Only the best teams can make great games and we're lucky to be able to attract incredible talent to Trailmix. We are running a live game called Love & Pies and we're working on two new games which will be genre defining.

Overcoming Challenges

I joined the games industry 15 years ago and we've only ever experienced hyper growth – at least until a couple of years ago when the platforms (Apple and Google) introduced privacy changes which made it harder to target players. Now we not only have to make amazing games that engage players for years, but also find new ways of getting those amazing games into people's hands, so distribution is the biggest challenge we're facing.

Advice For Founders

We have such a vibrant tech community in the UK and so getting advice from founders and investors definitely helps. My advice would be to get as much input as possible and not try to reinvent the wheel. At the same time, every company is different and needs a different approach. 'Gut feel' shouldn't be underestimated when making the really big decisions. If it feels right then it's probably right..

Also, your core team is so important. There is a lot of talk about how the CEO or founder journey is a lonely one, and you need a lot of resilience and strength to go through it, so having a strong founding team who you deeply trust is crucial.

Future Fifty



What's great about FutureFifty is that it has allowed me to get outside of my industry and connect with other tech founders in the UK who do things differently. The gaming industry in the UK and globally is very tight knit. It is so important to look beyond your industry and learn from others who are solving similar customer-centric issues.



XYZ Reality



XYZ Reality's leading construction technology solutions give owners and contractors an accurate and objective way to manage and deliver projects. Its pioneering construction delivery platform – combining comprehensive project controls with its engineering grade augmented reality (AR) headset, the Atom – gives teams the ability to accurately build from holograms of 3D design models, proactively managing projects with objective real-time insights and reducing costly errors.

FOUNDERS


- David Mitchell

EMPLOYEES

- 131

LOCATION

- London



STAGE

- Series B

TOTAL FUNDING RAISED

- £36m

KEY INVESTORS

- Octopus Ventures, Amadeus Capital Partners, Hoxton Ventures, Adara Ventures, J Coffey Group



BIOTECH



bit.bio



bit.bio is a synthetic biology company focused on human cells, advancing medicine and enabling curative treatments. The company does this by industrialising the manufacture of human cells and making them more accessible. bit.bio's opti-ox deterministic cell programming technology enables conversion of induced pluripotent stem cells into any desired human cell type in a single step, at industrial scale, while maintaining exceptional purity and consistency.


FOUNDERS

 Mark Kotter

LOCATION

 Cambridge

EMPLOYEES

 201


STAGE

 Series B

TOTAL FUNDING RAISED

 £157.5m

KEY INVESTORS

 Foresite Capital, ARCH, Charles River Laboratories, BlueYard, firstminute capital



Lindus Health



A comprehensive Clinical Research Organization (CRO) platform streamlining the clinical trial process for biotech and health tech innovators. This end-to-end solution provides all necessary tools and services to run an effective clinical study.

FOUNDERS

 Michael Young

 Meri Beckwith

 Nik Haldimann


LOCATION

 London

EMPLOYEES

 75


STAGE

 Series A

TOTAL FUNDING RAISED

 £17m+

KEY INVESTORS

 firstminute capital, Peter Thiel, Creandum, Seedcamp
















Nuclera



Nuclera’s mission is to support scientists to better human health by enabling rapid access to proteins required for drug discovery research. The Company’s eProtein Discovery benchtop system accelerates protein expression and purification workflows within research labs. The system reduces the timelines and costs associated with protein expression and purification through automated construct screening to inform protein scale-up resulting in mg amounts in less than 48 hours. Integrating digital microfluidics, protein quality assays, and cell-free protein synthesis on eProtein Discovery cartridges, eProtein Discovery enables rapid access to even challenging proteins at high quality.

<p>FOUNDERS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">  Dr Michael Chen  Dr Gordon McInroy  Dr Jiahao Huang <p>LOCATION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">  Cambridge 	<p>EMPLOYEES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">  130 <p>STAGE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">  Series B (Series C by Oct) <p>TOTAL FUNDING RAISED</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">  £65.5m <p>KEY INVESTORS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">  Innovate UK, Amadeus Capital Partners, British Business Bank, M&G Investments, RT Partners, Future Planet Capital, Verve Ventures
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Relation






Relation is an end-to-end biotech developing transformational medicines, with technology at its core.




RELATION




FOUNDERS


-  Benjamin Swerner
-  Charles Roberts
-  Jake Taylor-King

LOCATION


 London




EMPLOYEES

 60


STAGE

 Seed

TOTAL FUNDING RAISED

 £50m

KEY INVESTORS

 DCVC, Nvidia, Magnetic, Khosla, Hitachi Ventures, Deerfield, ARK investment management, firstminute capital



Benjamin Swerner



Mission

Digitise biology, treat the world. There's a sense that although drug discovery has been fantastically successful over the last century, if you want to avoid a plateau and hit the next wave of breakthroughs, we need to go much deeper in understanding biology. To that end, our guiding star is to develop AI and experimental systems to bypass the gap in biological understanding.

Next 12 Months

So far, we've been perfecting the value of the platform. Now that we have full confidence in its ability, the next year will be focused on developing medicines. We're currently working on osteoporosis, but we're planning to increase to four different areas as efficiently as possible. Our biggest value driver before we get to medicines is intelligence, so finding people with the skills and startup mindset is like finding gold.

Overcoming Challenges

There are two classes of problems that arise at Relation. The first are scientific problems, which encompass the joy and burden of working in innovation. The second set of problems centre on how to scale in a complex environment and generally being organisationally effective. We want to ensure that the operational effectiveness of what we do is as seamless as possible.

Advice For Founders

As a founder, your job is to be clear on what matters and what doesn't matter to the long-term value generation of the business. Reinforce that clarity and be a beacon for grounded optimism. Having that discriminator in mind usually helps me in most situations.

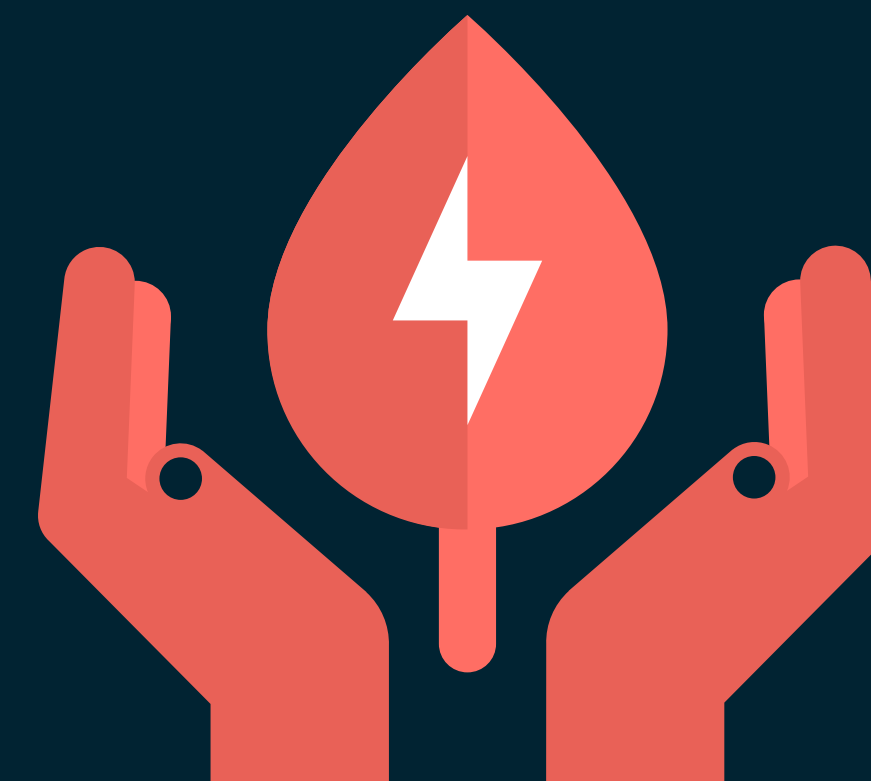
From a motivation perspective, I like to have a few projects on the go that, although individually have a small probability of success, in aggregate have a decent chance of one coming off and having one come off could be transformative for the business.

Future Fifty

There are a whole bunch of problems, situations, and opportunities that we are likely to tackle that have arisen in aggregate when you are connected with the range of companies and people Future Fifty offers. To the extent that these matters share commonality with the situations that we might face, then having the resource at hand is likely to be both efficient and useful.



CLIMATETECH





First Light Fusion



First Light Fusion is a world leading inertial fusion company, pioneering a practical approach to inertial fusion energy (IFE). With class leading simulation tools, data science, laboratories, and a unique technology – The Amplifier – it is poised to enable the wider IFE industry to achieve simpler, lower cost power plants.

first light

FOUNDERS

- Nicholas Hawker
- Yiannis Ventikos

EMPLOYEES

97

STAGE

Series C

LOCATION

Oxford

TOTAL FUNDING RAISED

£78m

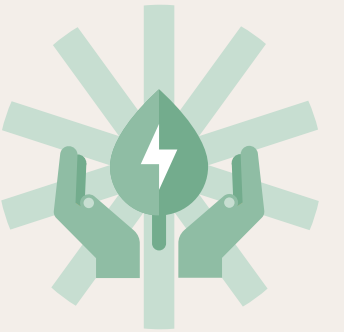

KEY INVESTORS

Oxford Science Enterprise, IP Group

Nyobolt



Nyobolt creates superfast charging technologies applicable to high-powered battery application. Leveraging over 10 years of advanced battery research, the company is bringing innovative, high-output Lithium-ion battery solutions to market.




FOUNDERS

- Clare Grey
- Sai Shivarreddy

LOCATION

Cambridge



EMPLOYEES

112

STAGE

Series B

TOTAL FUNDING RAISED



£70m

KEY INVESTORS

Innovate UK, IQ Capital, Parkwalk Advisors, H.C Starck.



SatVu captures the highest resolution thermal data from space for a safer and more sustainable Earth. The images and short video captured by SatVu's first satellite, HotSat-1, show heat variations across the surface of the earth at a resolution of up to 3.5 m, both during the day and at night.



FOUNDERS

- Anthony Baker
- Tobias Reinicke

EMPLOYEES


45

STAGE

Series A+

LOCATION

London



TOTAL FUNDING RAISED

£33m

KEY INVESTORS

Molten Ventures, Seraphim, a/o proptech, Ridgeline, Contrarian Ventures, E2MC, Lockheed Martin, IQT, MD ONE, Stellar Ventures, Earth Sciences Foundation



Anthony Baker

SatVu

Mission

SatVu's mission is to capture the highest resolution thermal data from space for a safer and more sustainable Earth.

Next 12 Months

Our biggest priority is to launch our next satellite, HotSat-2. We'll be focused on building our customer base ready for the start of commercial operations, as well as building a great user experience. By doing this, we'll be set to grow our revenues as soon as the satellite is ready.

Overcoming Challenges

In the UK, government grant programmes are helping to drive high-tech industries just like the space sector that SatVu is part of. One thing that can be overlooked is the role of government procurement as a tool to both support companies while also creating value for the country. This is something we'd like national government to consider more comprehensively.

Advice For Founders

Focus on the customer. If you're growing, it's because the idea is strong and you've started to build a team to deliver on that idea. Now is the time to make sure the customer is at the heart of your product development and sales operation.

Future Fifty

The Future Fifty network is incredibly valuable. Learning lessons directly from other fast-growing companies helps us to reach our goals more quickly. Future Fifty has also given SatVu's senior team opportunities to meet their counterparts in other cohort companies, which is great both for practical decision making as well as professional growth.



EDTECH



Arbor Education



Arbor Education is the UK's leading cloud-based Management Information System (MIS), serving over 6,000 schools. Its platform enhances school operations, fostering better collaboration and learning outcomes for students and staff.

FOUNDERS

 James Weatherill



LOCATION

 London

EMPLOYEES

 380


STAGE

 Series D

TOTAL FUNDING RAISED

 £50m+

KEY INVESTORS

 Ian Armitage (ex HgCapital founder), CBPE (private equity), Nesta



Arbor

BibliU



BibliU is a digital learning and campus store solutions provider that improves student outcomes by providing access to e-textbooks and course materials for universities, libraries, and higher education institutions. With partnerships across thousands of publishers, BibliU offers an innovative solution to make learning more accessible.

FOUNDERS

 Dave Sherwood

 Daniel Engelke

 Tao Mantaras

 Ellis Gecan



LOCATION

 Oxford

EMPLOYEES

 159

STAGE

 Series B

TOTAL FUNDING RAISED

 £38m

KEY INVESTORS

 Oxford Sciences Enterprises, Stonehage Fleming, Nesta



BibliU



Perlego



Perlego is an online subscription for over 1m academic text books. Born to provide an affordable and sustainable textbook solution for learners around the world by partnering with publishers and removing the cost of print, distribution and retail markup.

Perlego

FOUNDERS

- Gauthier Van Malderen
- Matthew Davis

LOCATION

- London

EMPLOYEES

118

STAGE

Series B

TOTAL FUNDING RAISED

£97m

KEY INVESTORS

Mediahuis Ventures, L&G, Evli Growth Partners, The Raine Group.




Zen Educate



Zen Educate is an online marketplace for schools to cover temporary staff absence. Zeneducate is live across the UK & US and backed by some of the leading EdTech and Marketplace investors.




<p>FOUNDERS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">  Oren Cohen  Slava Kraverman <p>LOCATION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">  London 	<p>EMPLOYEES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">  210 <p>STAGE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">  Series B <p>TOTAL FUNDING RAISED</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">  £60m <p>KEY INVESTORS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">  Simon Rogerson, Brighteye Ventures, Adjuvo, FJ Labs, Round 2, Ascension Ventures
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FINTECH

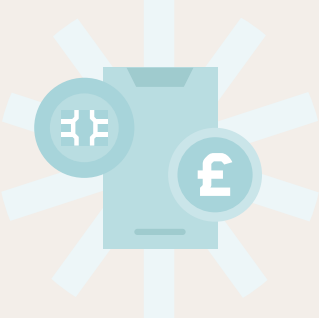






Allica Bank




Allica's mission is to become Britain's most recommended business bank, serving established SMEs through proprietary technology and expert human relationships. Allica is profitable, and was recently named by Deloitte as the UK's fastest-growing fintech ever and by The Sunday Times as the fastest growing company in the UK.




FOUNDERS

 Richard Davies


EMPLOYEES

 500+


LOCATION

 London


STAGE


 Series C

TOTAL FUNDING RAISED

 £250m+

KEY INVESTORS

 Technology Crossover Ventures, Warwick Capital LLP, Atalaya Capital



Bumper



Bumper offers financing solutions to vehicle owners, allowing customers to split repair and servicing expenses into manageable, interest-free installments, without the upfront cost.

FOUNDERS

👤 James Jackson

LOCATION

📍 Sheffield

EMPLOYEES

👥 90

STAGE

👉 Series B

TOTAL FUNDING RAISED

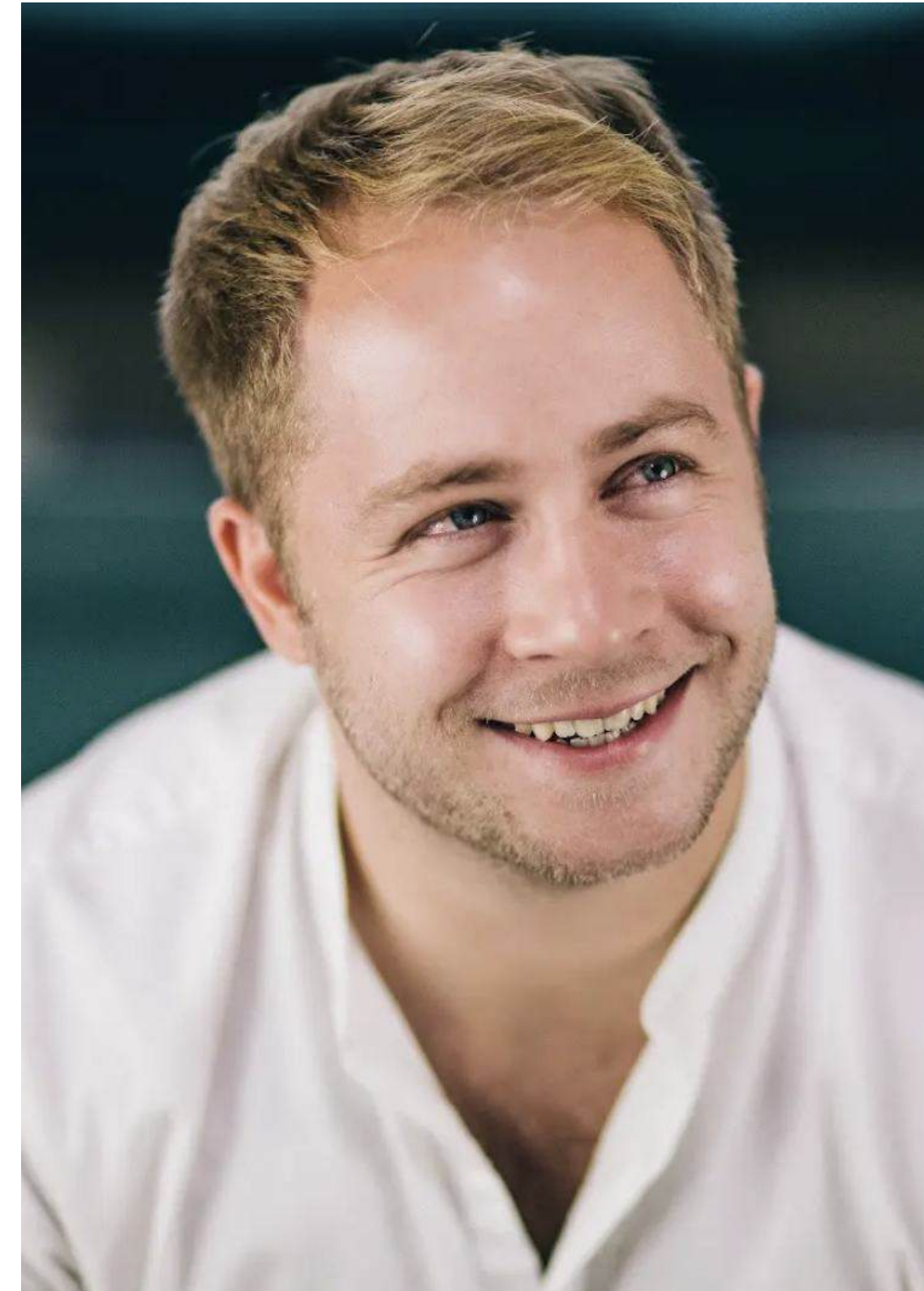
🇺🇰 £80m+

KEY INVESTORS

👛 Revo Capital, InMotion Ventures, Autotech Ventures, Shell Ventures, Porsche Ventures, Suzuki

BUMPER

Cleo



Cleo is the world's first AI assistant that turns the complexity of your money into a simple and personalized conversation – the same kind you'd have with a friend. Cleo supports people through their financial lives – from the first paycheck to home ownership and beyond. Users love Cleo's conversational approach which makes personal finance radically more accessible for the people who need it most.

CLEO

FOUNDERS

👤 Barney Hussey-Yeo

LOCATION

📍 London

EMPLOYEES

👥 300

STAGE

👉 Series C

TOTAL FUNDING RAISED

🇺🇰 £100m+


KEY INVESTORS

👛 Balderton Capital, Sofina Ventures, EQT Ventures, SBI Investment, Local Globe, Entrepreneur First



Elliptic powers the intelligence that helps financial services, crypto businesses, and governments make faster, smarter and safer decisions in their digital asset interactions.

ELLIPTIC



FOUNDERS
👤 Simone Maini


EMPLOYEES
👥 130

LOCATION
📍 London

STAGE
📈 Series C

TOTAL FUNDING RAISED
💷 £75m+

KEY INVESTORS
👤 Evolution, Albion, SBI, Signalfire, Softbank, JPM, Wells Fargo, Octopus Ventures





Simone Maini

ELLIPTIC

Mission

To focus on growing a clean and safe crypto ecosystem by using blockchain analytics to help detect and prevent financial crime in crypto.

Next 12 Months

This year has been marked by a lot of engagement with traditional financial institutions who are really starting to embrace the digital asset opportunity as stablecoins and tokenisation are taking off. We expect that momentum and engagement to continue over the next year and this will be a major focus for us in 2025.

We're also super focused on our crypto-native and fintech clients who are seeing healthy volume growth and it's our job to make sure their AML detection capabilities are reliable and robust while also keeping up with the pace of business expansion.

Overcoming Challenges

We're very much growing, but the challenge is how to do that in a way that is scalable, where we are leveraging automation and AI as much as we can. Building a network, learning from other companies that have gone through the same process, and finding great partners that can help us grow our distribution efficiently are all critical.

Advice For Founders

Trust your gut. It's extremely difficult, especially as a first-time founder or CEO, but you know your company better than anyone else, and the times where we make mistakes are when we don't trust our own instincts. Have that faith in yourself and conviction in your mission and what you're trying to do, even when there are other opinions and distractions.

Future Fifty

The last 12-24 months for any startup or scaleup have been really challenging, and having a really solid network of people with whom you can share those challenges and experiences has really helped me through. Broadening that network through Future Fifty is really important.

Future Fifty is also amazing for the growth of the UK scale up ecosystem. We can speak much more loudly with one coordinated voice than if we're all speaking separately, and Future Fifty plays a really important role in that.





Funding Xchange



FXE Technologies, the SaaS technology arm of Funding Xchange, digitises SME lending by providing assisted decisioning and customer engagement solutions. FXE Technologies unlocks value from rich, transactional, live, background data to personalise assessment.

FXE Technologies

FOUNDERS
Katrin Herrling

LOCATION
London

EMPLOYEES
50

STAGE
Series B

TOTAL FUNDING RAISED
£20m

KEY INVESTORS
Barclays Bank PLC, Foresight Investments LLC, Hambleton Capital

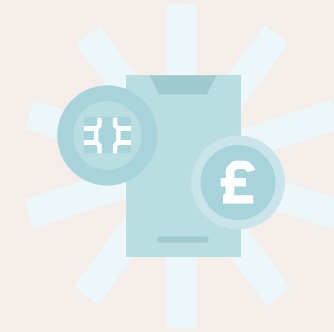
Gen H



Gen H is a fintech mortgage lender founded in 2019 with the goal of unlocking homeownership for everyone. Gen H takes a customer-first, tech-led approach to lending, prioritising innovation in mortgage products, dynamic criteria and exceptional customer service for a seamless and supportive homebuying experience.

FOUNDERS

- 👤 Sophia Guy-White
- 👤 William Rice



LOCATION

- 📍 London

EMPLOYEES

- 👥 70

STAGE

- 👤 Series B

TOTAL FUNDING RAISED

- 📈 £47m

KEY INVESTORS

- 👤 Legal & General, Mithril Capital Management, firstminute capital, Entrée Capital, La Famiglia, JamJar, Third Kind Venture Capital, Kevin Hartz



Monument Bank



Monument is the only fully-licensed, cloud-native bank focused on serving the unmet needs of the mass-affluent (with net-worth of £100k-£5m) – these are individuals need a bank to help them save, grow, and enjoy their wealth. Clients can access a variety of savings products, curated lifestyle services, and exceptional client support, all within one app.

FOUNDERS

- 👤 Mintoo Bhandari
- 👤 Wasim Khouri
- 👤 Steve Britain
- 👤 Nihar Mehta



LOCATION

- 📍 London

EMPLOYEES

- 👥 100

STAGE

- 👤 Series C

TOTAL FUNDING RAISED

- 📈 £135m

KEY INVESTORS

- 👤 Dubai Investments, Morningside Ventures, Scube Capital, Rakesh Loonkar, Harry Handelsman, Eric Zinterhofer



Vertice



FOUNDERS

👤 Eldar Tuvey

LOCATION

📍 London

EMPLOYEES

👥 185

STAGE

📈 Series B

TOTAL FUNDING RAISED

💷 £39m

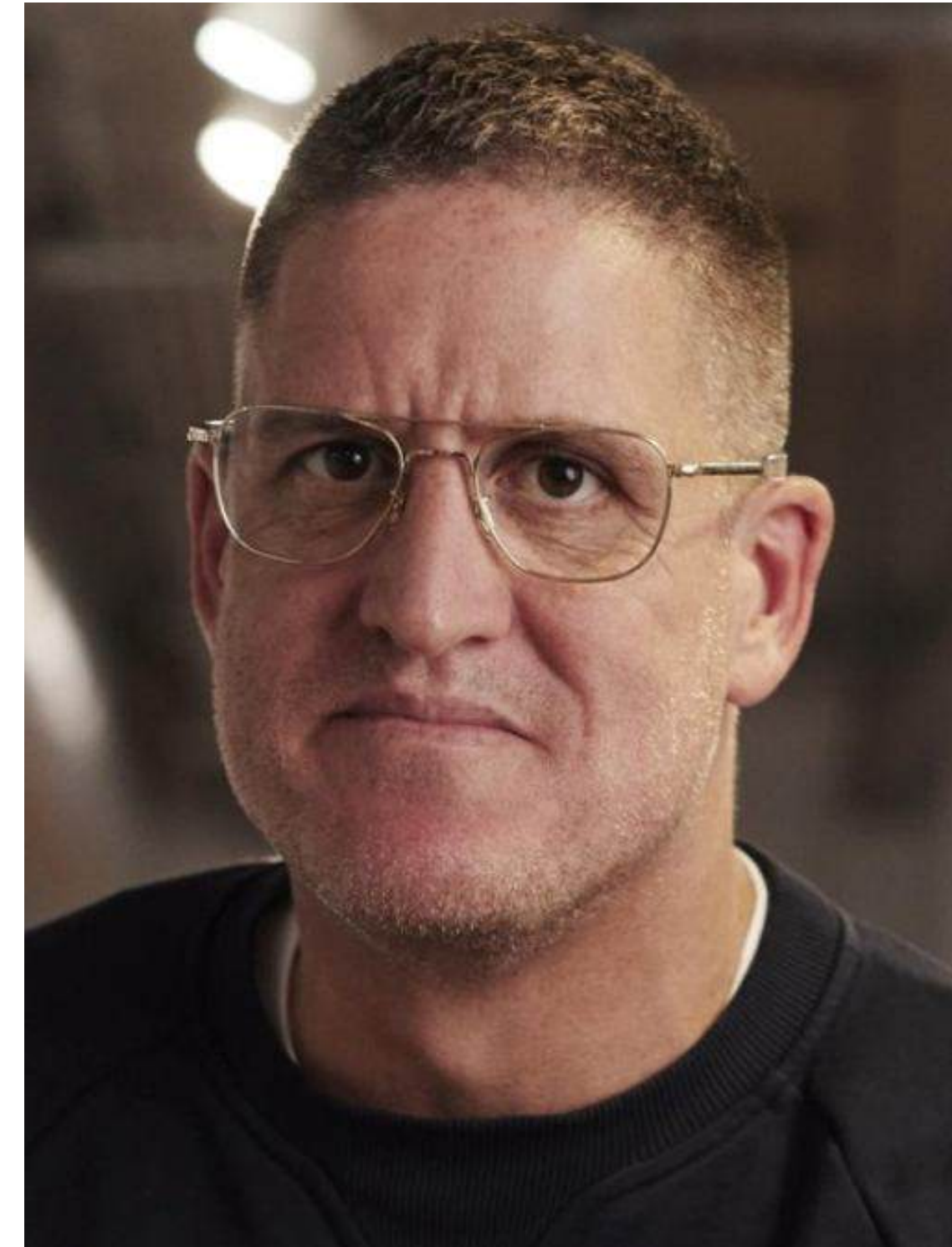
KEY INVESTORS

🐷 83North, Bessemer Venture Partners



Vertice is a spend optimization platform that saves companies up to 25% on their SaaS and cloud costs, while streamlining its procurement processes with intelligent workflows.

Volt.io



FOUNDERS

👤 Tom Greenwood

LOCATION

📍 London

EMPLOYEES

👥 240

STAGE

📈 Series B

TOTAL FUNDING RAISED

💷 £63.5m

KEY INVESTORS

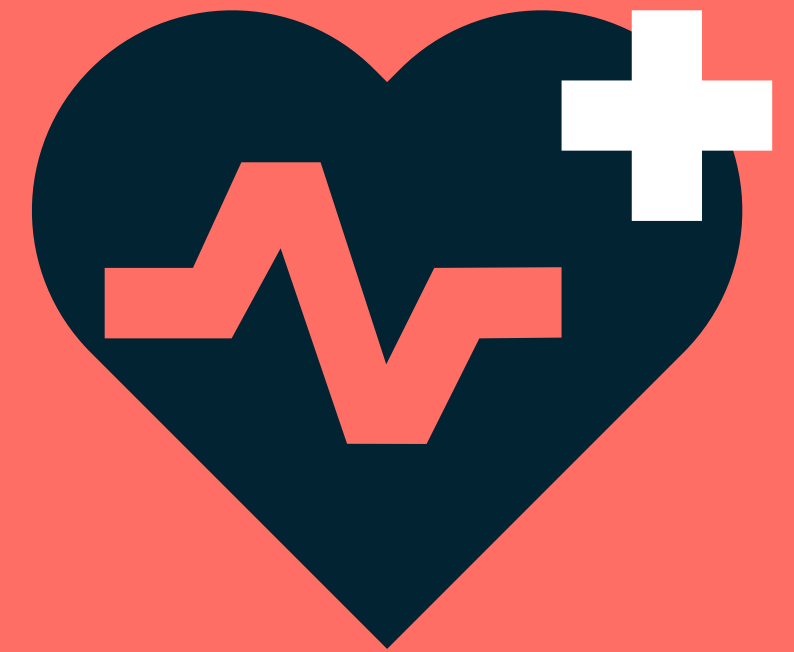
🐷 IVP, CommerzVentures, Augmentum Fintech PLC, Fuel Ventures, EQT Ventures



Volt.io is creating the world's first global real-time payment network, revolutionizing account-to-account payments through a unified gateway. This optimizes the flow and conversion of money, transforming global financial transactions.



HEALTHTECH



Birdie



Birdie is on a mission to reinvent the ageing journey through technology. Launched in 2017, its smart homecare technology now empowers over 1,000 providers to transform how they operate, enabling them to run healthier businesses and elevate care outcomes across over 30 million visits a year.

FOUNDERS

- 👤 Abeed Mohamed
- 👤 Gwen Le Calvez
- 👤 Max Parmentier
- 👤 Rajiv Tanna

LOCATION

- 📍 London

EMPLOYEES

- 👥 179

STAGE

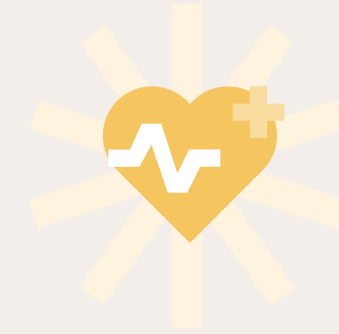
- 👉 Series B

TOTAL FUNDING RAISED

- 💷 £40m

KEY INVESTORS

- 👤 Index Ventures, Sofina, Omers & Kamet



Doctify



Doctify is a global patient platform with a mission to help 100 million patients by 2025. It is building the largest, most impactful global healthcare platform, uniting the healthcare community around the world behind patient voices. With the platform, they gain access to an extensive network of clinicians and practices, authentic patient reviews, and professional endorsements, empowering them to connect with the healthcare provider who truly aligns with their unique needs.

FOUNDERS

- 👤 Stephanie Eltz
- 👤 Suman Saha

LOCATION

- 📍 London

EMPLOYEES

- 👥 120

STAGE

- 👉 Series B

TOTAL FUNDING RAISED

- 💷 £25m

KEY INVESTORS

- 👤 Beringea, Keen Ventures, Amadeus Capital







Patchwork Health



Patchwork Health is making flexible and sustainable working a reality for all healthcare staff. It co-created with the NHS a fully integrated workforce solution to help optimise outcomes for organisations, managers, staff and patients. 56 organisations and 40,000+ clinicians have partnered with Patchwork to date, saving £120 million in workforce costs.

FOUNDERS

- Anas Nader
- Jing Ouyang

EMPLOYEES


96

STAGE

Series B

LOCATION

London



TOTAL FUNDING RAISED

£27m

KEY INVESTORS

Praetura Ventures, Tom Blomfield, Dominic McGregor, Perwyn, KHP Ventures

Peppy Health



Peppy is the solution for businesses managing the crunch of employee healthcare costs and access challenges, navigating employees to expert care when it really matters. Peppy partners with over 250 leading companies like: JP Morgan, TJX, and Disney. Together with AXA and Vitality, Peppy supports over two million lives.

FOUNDERS

- 👤 Evan Harris
- 👤 Max Landry
- 👤 Mridula Pore

LOCATION

- 📍 London

EMPLOYEES

- 👥 150

STAGE

- 👉 Series B

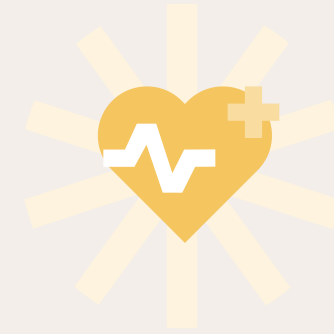
TOTAL FUNDING RAISED

- 💷 £47m

KEY INVESTORS

- 👤 Seedcamp, Felix Capital, Salica, Sony Innovation Fund, MTech Capital, AlbionVC, Outward VC, Kathaka, Simplyhealth

Peppy



Scan.com



Scan.com enables patients and referring healthcare providers to effortlessly schedule imaging through its online booking system, with referrals, scans, and results available in as little as one week. As the leading network of private medical imaging services in UK and the USA, it has opened up accessibility to diagnostic imaging and developed a straightforward, cost-effective scan booking platform, with ancillary value-added services.

 **scan.com**

FOUNDERS

- 👤 Charlie Bullock
- 👤 Oliver Knight
- 👤 Jasper Nissim
- 👤 Khalid Latief
- 👤 Joe Daniels

LOCATION

- 📍 London

EMPLOYEES

- 👥 125

STAGE

- 👉 Series B

TOTAL FUNDING RAISED

- 💷 £50m

KEY INVESTORS

- 👤 Aviva Ventures, YZR Capital, Oxford Capital, Simplyhealth Ventures, Triple Point Ventures, Forefront Venture Partners, Founders Factory, KM Capital, StartUp Health, Plug and Play Ventures, and top angel investors including Tom Blomfield (Monzo), Harry Hurst (Pipe), Lopo Champalimaud (Treatwell), and Evelyn Bourke (ex Bupa CEO)













Unmind




Unmind is a workplace mental health platform that builds sustainable performance cultures. Grounded in science and built for enterprise, Unmind power the wellbeing strategies of some of the world's biggest brands, including Uber, NHS, Sony, Samsung, Disney, Standard Chartered, Diageo, and Unilever.



Unmind

<p>FOUNDERS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">  Nick Taylor  Steve Peralta <p>LOCATION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">  London 	<p>EMPLOYEES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">  150 <p>STAGE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">  Series B <p>TOTAL FUNDING RAISED</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">  £49m <p>KEY INVESTORS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">  EQT Ventures, Felix Capital, Sapphire Ventures, Project A, True
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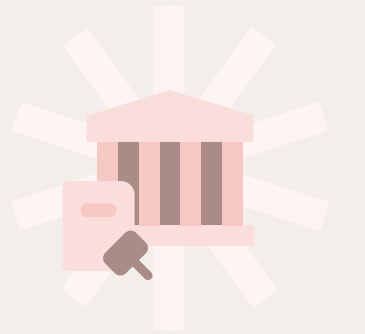
LEGALTECH





Juro's intelligent contract automation platform empowers legal and other business teams to accelerate the creation, execution and management of contracts.

Juro



FOUNDERS

- Richard Mabey
- Pavel Kovalevich

EMPLOYEES

100

LOCATION

London

STAGE

Series B

TOTAL FUNDING RAISED

£27m

KEY INVESTORS

Eight Roads Ventures, Union Square Ventures, Point Nine Capital, Seedcamp, Taavet Hinrikus, Paul Forster, Michael Pennington





Legl



Legl automates core compliance, risk and client lifecycle processes for law firms, to drive better firm operations and better client insights and client experience.

Legl

FOUNDERS
👤 Julia Salasky

EMPLOYEES
👥 60

LOCATION
📍 London

STAGE
📈 Series B

TOTAL FUNDING RAISED
💰 \$25m

KEY INVESTORS
🐙 Hedosophia, Octopus Ventures



Julia Salasky

Legl

Mission

Legl automates core compliance, risk and client lifecycle processes, driving better firm operations and better client insights and client experience. Our mission is to make legal services work better for everyone.

Next 12 Months

Our plan is to grow our customer base significantly. We have a lot of really exciting plans and products launching in the next year, including moving into some new areas and developing areas of emerging demand, such as our AI features.

Overcoming Challenges

The obstacles we face change with every stage of the business. As our customer base has grown and we have started to see demand from customers outside of our core law firm market, we are constantly having to consider how to prioritise.

Advice For Founders

I don't love dispensing abstract advice! It's been critical to me to have founder networks so that I can absorb the experiences of people who have been there before, and absorb those data points into my own decision-making framework, which is typically drawn from first principles and in the context of the situation at hand.

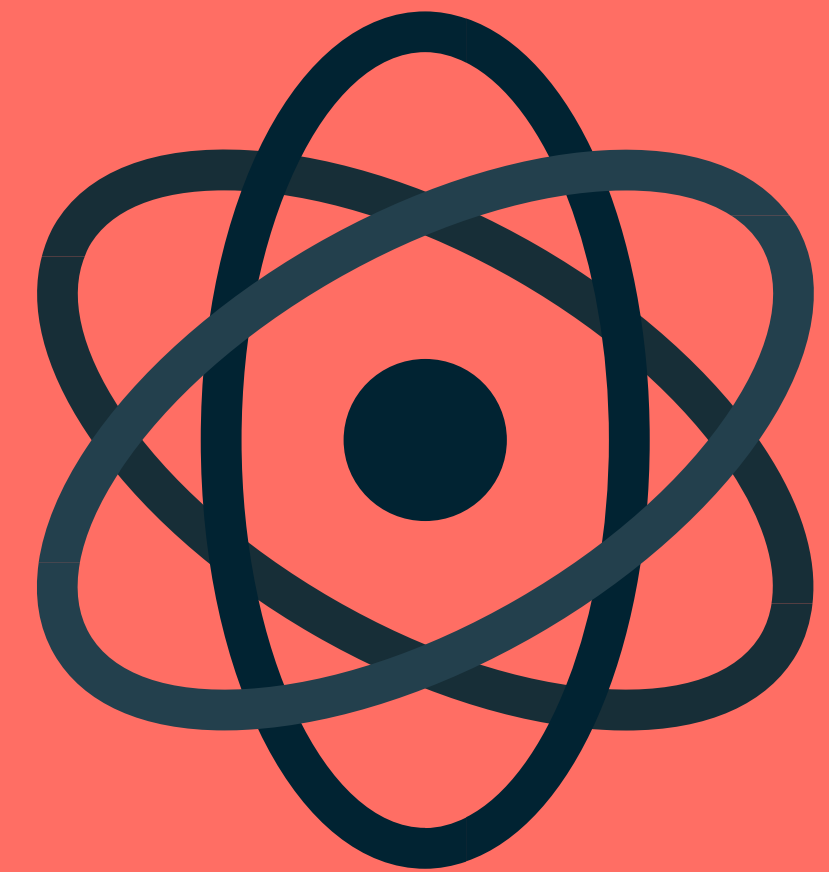
Future Fifty

It's always really valuable to hear other founders' journeys, and I'm really grateful for the opportunity to join the Future Fifty programme, which has been set up in a way to leverage peer experiences and build that curated network, including for our exec team.





QUANTUM



Oxford Quantum Circuits



Oxford Quantum Circuits is a University of Oxford spin-out, which aims to create a quantum-enabled future by developing enterprise-ready quantum computers based on superconducting qubits and OQC's patented Coaxmon chip.

FOUNDERS

- 👤 Gerald Mullally
- 👤 Peter Leek

LOCATION

- 📍 Oxford

EMPLOYEES

- 👥 120+

STAGE

- 🚀 Series B

TOTAL FUNDING RAISED

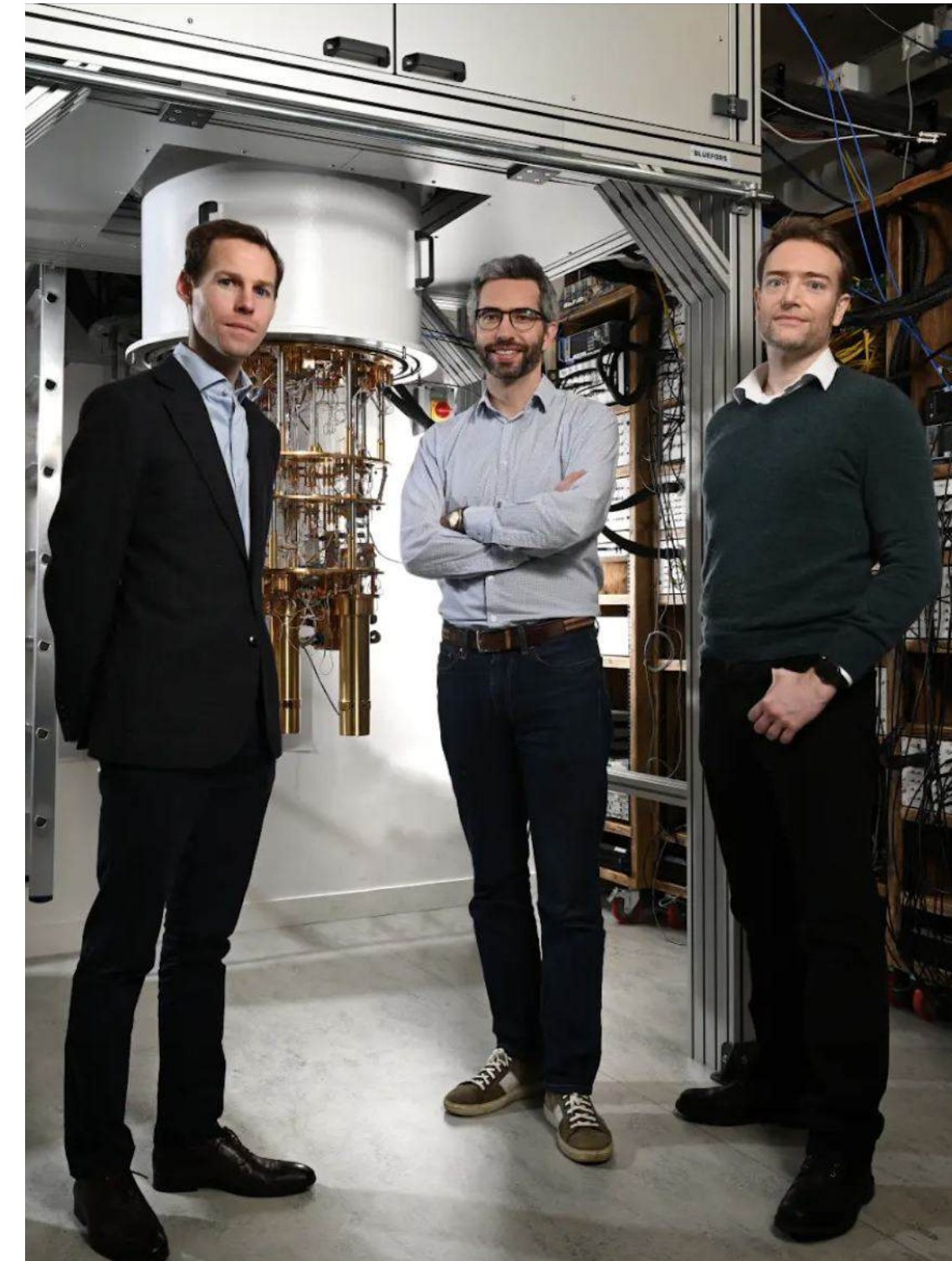
- 💷 £100m

KEY INVESTORS

- 👤 SBI Investments, Chevron Technology Ventures, Oxford Science Enterprises (OSE), University of Tokyo Edge Capital Partners (UTEC), Lansdowne Partners, OTIF, acted by manager Oxford Investment Consultants (OIC)



Quantum Motion



Quantum Motion is developing a revolutionary technology platform; not just a qubit, but a scalable array of qubits fabricated on silicon with a CMOS compatible process.

FOUNDERS

- 👤 John Morton
- 👤 Simon Benjamin

LOCATION

- 📍 London

EMPLOYEES

- 👥 70

STAGE

- 🚀 Series B

TOTAL FUNDING RAISED

- 💷 £62m+

KEY INVESTORS

- 👤 Bosch Ventures (RBVC), Porsche, UK National Security Strategic Investment Fund






Riverlane



Riverlane’s mission is to make quantum computing useful sooner. To achieve this, Riverlane is building the Quantum Error Correction Stack to comprehensively control all qubit types and correct the millions of data errors that prevent today’s generation of quantum computers from achieving useful scale.



FOUNDERS


- 👤 Steve Brierley

EMPLOYEES

- 👥 94

LOCATION

- 📍 Cambridge



STAGE

- 📈 Series C

TOTAL FUNDING RAISED

- £ £96m

KEY INVESTORS

- 👤 Amadeus Capital Partners, EDBI, Cambridge Innovation Capital, ETF Partners, Altair, Planet First, National Security Strategic Investment Fund



Steve Brierley

river
lane

Mission

Quantum computing is an amazing idea – the ability to harness the power of the atom to perform computation will transform many industries. Back in 2016, I was a research fellow at the University of Cambridge, and at that time, the majority view was that building a useful quantum computer wouldn't be possible in our lifetime – it was simply too big and too hard a problem.

I disagreed, but needed to validate this. By meeting with teams building quantum computers, I saw an amazing rate of progress – a 'Moore's Law' of quantum computing with a doubling in power every two years, just like classical computers have done. That was the catalyst moment for me, and it became clear that if that trend continued, the next big problem would be quantum error correction. I founded Riverlane to make useful quantum computers a reality sooner!

Next 12 Months

A few years ago, there was a lot of focus on developing software applications to solve novel problems on small-scale quantum computers, a phase known as the 'noisy intermediate-scale quantum' (NISQ) era. However, after the limits of 'NISQ' became apparent due to considerable error rates hindering calculations, the industry has now shifted to building large, reliable quantum computers to overcome the error problem.

We've been supporting this shift from the start through the invention of our 'quantum error correction stack'. Following the close of our \$75m Series C funding round in August, we're now focused on its development and expanding our operations to meet growing demand from hardware companies and governments worldwide.

Overcoming Challenges

The UK has already done a great job of building a strong quantum computing ecosystem. We are second only to the US in the number of quantum start-ups and the scale of private investment into the technology.

The challenge now is how to scale this up to create trillions of pounds of economic benefit in the UK. The government's current 10-year national quantum strategy lays out a clear mission-led plan to do this. I'd like to see continued support for this strategy and for our ambitions not to slip to ensure the UK maintains a lasting, critical role in the global quantum ecosystem.

Advice for Founders

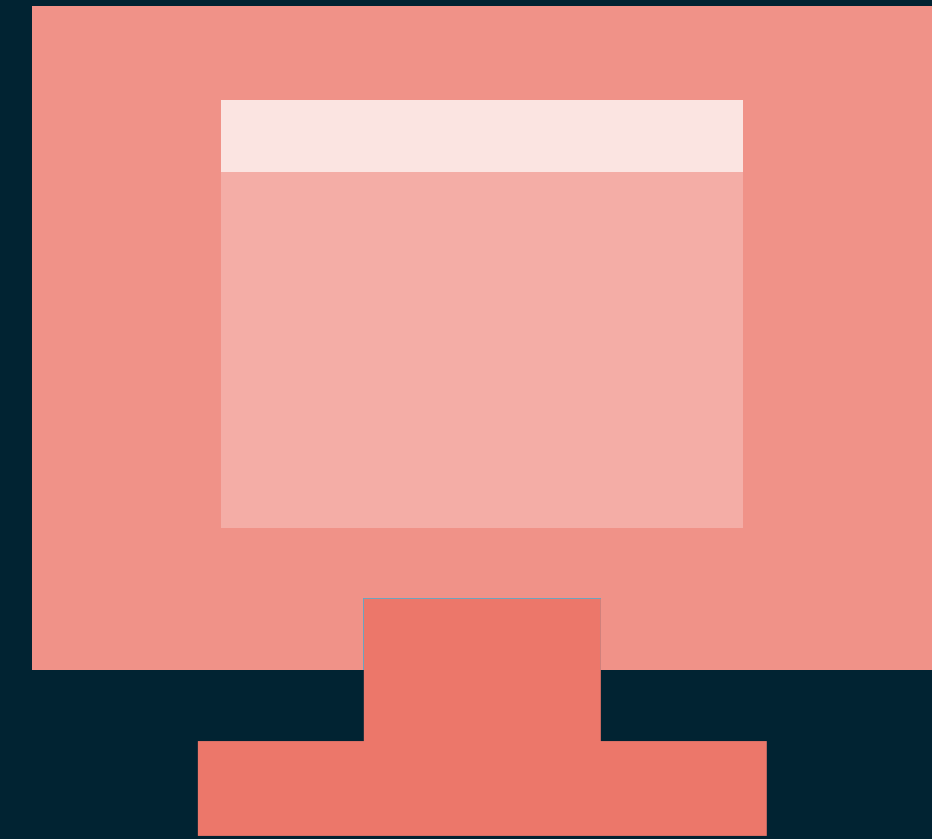
Have a bold and ambitious vision that's underpinned by proven insight and data. In my case, it was that the presumption that a quantum computer was simply too hard to ever build could be disproven and overcome. Once you have this, be ready to learn fast and pivot fast in your tactics but never lose sight of your goal. The quantum computing market is expected to grow to \$28b-\$72b over the next decade, so I expect many unicorns to emerge, and we certainly hope to be one of them.

Future Fifty

Tech Nation has an excellent track record of picking and supporting high-growth leaders. We've found it very beneficial to have access to all the great events and networking opportunities the programme offers.



SAAS & SERVICE PLATFORMS



Amiquis



Amiquis is the UK's most trusted onboarding and compliance platform, making it fast and simple for large organisations to deliver online, accessible, reusable products and services to their staff and clients. Partnering and integrating with governments, regulatory bodies and hundreds of organisations across sectors, Amiquis has supported 2m+ onboarding journeys, helping people to move job, move home or engage with a professional advisor digitally.

FOUNDERS

 Callum Murray


LOCATION

 Edinburgh

EMPLOYEES

 75

STAGE

 Series B

TOTAL FUNDING RAISED

 £13m

KEY INVESTORS

 FNZ, Equity Gap, Ex Operator angels



CloudNC



CloudNC's mission is to enable single-click manufacturing. It is reinventing precision machining by saving manufacturers hundreds of machine programming hours a year with CAM Assist, which accelerates CNC CAM programming with AI. CloudNC is backed by leading venture capital firms Atomico and Episode 1 Ventures, alongside Autodesk and Lockheed Martin as strategic partners.

FOUNDERS

 Chris Emery

 Theo Saville

LOCATION

 London

EMPLOYEES

 150


STAGE

 Series B

TOTAL FUNDING RAISED

 £61m

KEY INVESTORS

 Atomico, Autodesk, QVentures, Episode 1 Ventures, Lockheed Martin Global, British Patient Capital







evaluagent





evaluagent enables call centres to enhance customer experience through intelligent automation, insights, quality assurance, and continuous improvement. By integrating customisable, AI-powered conversation analysis, organisations can extract insights from 100% of interactions, improving agent performance as well as customer experience.


evaluagent 




FOUNDERS

-  Jamie Scott
-  Michelle Dinsmore


EMPLOYEES

-  70


STAGE

-  Series A


LOCATION


-  Middlesbrough

TOTAL FUNDING RAISED

-  £15m

KEY INVESTORS

-  PeakSpan Capital







FYLD



FYLD is a digital platform that empowers utilities field teams and managers to make real-time, data-driven decisions. Using AI, it enhances productivity, safety, sustainability, and revenue by providing true visibility into field operations for smarter, faster decision-making.

FOUNDERS

- 👤 Shelley Copsey
- 👤 Anish Patel
- 👤 Karl Simons

EMPLOYEES


👤 65

STAGE

👤 Series A

LOCATION

📍 London



TOTAL FUNDING RAISED

£ £28m

KEY INVESTORS

👤 Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan, Boston Consulting Group, Scotia Gas Networks



Shelley Copsey



Mission

We want to drive a change in how field work activities take place in the infrastructure sector. Today, there are productivity challenges, safety challenges, and quality challenges. Through deployment of real-time AI driven insights, we want our customers to be able to deliver every day's operations safely and highly efficiently, allowing everybody to go home to have dinner with their families at the end of the day.

Next 12 Months

We've got great information from fieldworkers about what actually takes place on site, what their challenges are, and what stops them doing their work every day. With a really solid software base from our algorithms in over a million work sites, we're now looking at how we turn that data into value for our customers. We want to predict how a day will unfold, allowing for earlier intervention to bring to life the promise of every single day's operations being safely delivered.

Overcoming Challenges

We work in an industry that lags behind in digitisation, so we always have that problem of the status quo being seen as 'good enough'. We need to help construction and utilities companies to actually embrace digital assets and understand what they can do for their businesses.

Another challenge is how to scale your product team whilst maintaining the culture of your business. We've gone from 40 people to 60 people this year, and we're beginning to feel that as we grow. We want to always make sure that FYLD stays FYLD.

Advice For Founders

Maintaining culture is so important. We have always operated at a really fast pace in a slow moving industry, so as people join the business, I need to ensure they don't accept the pace of the industry we work in. That's the only way we can keep up the pace of growth that we have. At every stage of your business, you'll find new problems, so having resilience and grit is paramount. Stay positive and you will get those breakthroughs.

Future Fifty


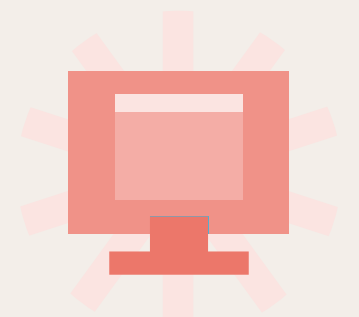
Future Fifty fosters meaningful connections, not just with people that are in the tech industry, but with other founders of scaling businesses. I'm looking forward to getting to know more founders who are at a similar stage, as well as gaining access to investors and mentors who are three or four years ahead in the journey.



Koru Kids



Koru Kids is London's fastest growing childcare brand, making it easier and more affordable for families to access high quality childcare. Koru Kids supplies fantastic, highly vetted, trained nannies (part time, full time and after school) to families throughout the UK, and their software and coaches make the entire process - initial and ongoing - seamless and easy.

FOUNDERS


- 👤 Rachel Carrell

EMPLOYEES

- 👥 45

LOCATION

- 📍 London



STAGE

- 📈 Series B

TOTAL FUNDING RAISED

- £ £20m

KEY INVESTORS

- 👤 Atomico, Forward Partners, JamJar Investments, 7percent Ventures, Samos Investments, Rocket Internet, Albion VC, Conduit Connect



Rachel Carrell



Mission

Our aim is to help families flourish, by giving children the best possible start in life, helping parents, and creating high quality jobs for people who work in childcare.

Next 12 Months

We've been on a journey to profitability, which is going very well. Our platform seamlessly connects parents and child carers, and we'd like to develop the services around that platform over the next year to bring further value to parents. We're also thinking about how to further increase platform efficiency, building on our proprietary AI co-pilot.

We're also expanding geographies quickly. We currently operate in 15 cities across the UK, and we're excited to double down on that expansion and become truly UK-wide.

Overcoming Challenges

Our core product is finally doing amazingly, the metrics are incredible, the growth is strong, the company is in a stable place, so I'm thinking, what problem do we go after next? The challenge is one of strategy and focus, and thinking about how we prioritise and sequence the things that we're going after. What's clear is that this is an enormous market with a lot to be built.

Advice For Founders

The most important thing for me is being surrounded by a group of founders who are going through a similar journey and who are humble and honest about what's going on. Almost everything I've learned along this journey from outside my own company has been from other founders, whether it's learning from an experience that they had, or reading a book they recommended, or seeing them do something and it not working, or even just knowing that there are other people going through similar kinds of challenges.

Future Fifty

An opportunity to connect with other founders and top people in the tech industry is always something you should say yes to! I can already see that some of the ideas we are now working on as a company came from conversations sparked by connections I made through Future Fifty.

Secondmind



Secondmind is a cloud-based optimisation software to empower engineers with essential tools and assurance to revolutionize automotive design, development, and driving experiences.

FOUNDERS

 Gary Brotman

LOCATION

 Cambridge

EMPLOYEES

 56


STAGE

 Series B

TOTAL FUNDING RAISED

 £48m+

KEY INVESTORS

 Amadeus Capital Partners, Atlantic Bridge, Cambridge Innovation Capital, Mazda



Veremark



Veremark is a global workplace trust platform that enables pre-employment screening and background checks in 180+ markets to ensure you hire the right people and protect your culture, rescreening and continuous monitoring to ensure people all continue to behave appropriately as well as a whistleblowing platform to enable anonymous and confidential incident reporting along with other products to help workers feel safer at work.

FOUNDERS

 Daniel Callaghan

LOCATION

 London

EMPLOYEES

 120


STAGE

 Pre Series B

TOTAL FUNDING RAISED

 £15m

KEY INVESTORS

 Stage2 Capital, Samaipata, ACF Investors







Tyk



Tyk enables modern platform, product, and development teams to design, build, and secure their APIs. Since 2016, Tyk's API Experience platform has helped some of the world's biggest enterprises build better, more efficient API platforms and experiences, including RBS, GoDaddy, Hotelbeds, T-Mobile, and Modulr.

FOUNDERS

- Andrew Murray
- James Hirst
- Martin Buhr

EMPLOYEES


150

STAGE

Series B

LOCATION

London



TOTAL FUNDING RAISED

£31.5m

KEY INVESTORS

MMC Ventures, Scottish Equity Partners



James Hirst



Mission

Connect every system in the world. We believe a connected world is a better world, so we're making it trivial to connect and combine data and systems.

Next 12 Months

Every day, hundreds of millions of people have their transactions, devices, transportation, and entertainment connected by Tyk's API Experience platform, right across the globe. Our focus for 2025 to 2026 is to scale efficiently and rapidly, launching new capabilities for system-to-system connectivity, moving us closer to achieving our mission of connecting everything.

Overcoming Challenges

The bigger and more successful an organisation grows, the harder it is to implement change the way you used to as a 20, 50, or even 100-person company. But the agility that comes from the earlier days, along with the ability to identify and then implement high-impact changes, is more critical to maintain than ever.

It's a delicate balance between the credibility of being a bigger scale-up versus the ongoing agility and innovation of a small one. It's a hard one to get right but I'm convinced the only way you can do it is to build a fantastic team around you and give them the power to take ownership.

Advice For Founders

As you grow there will invariably be warnings not to 'rock the boat'. These could be anything from financial signals turning red to the physical toll that entrepreneurship takes on you. But one of the most important pieces of advice I can give is to remain true to the mission and values that fueled your success so far.

While the temptation might be to follow a more conservative path as you scale, sticking to what might feel counterintuitive is often what will differentiate you from companies that eventually regress to the mean.

Future Fifty

As a founder, there are no shortage of folks keen to 'share' their advice on how to lead your business, but there are few things more dangerous than a linkedin 'expert' or a recently exited 'growth consultant' (3yrs experience, late hire at 'insert series D firm here', lifecoach). FutureFifty cuts through that.

It connects us with our peers, those on the same path, and those who've walked the same trail just a few years prior. These connections offer an ability to share openly, learn and support that isn't possible in any other forum I've been a part of. There's no money involved, no vested interests, just collegiate support. That's priceless.



SPACETECH



Open Cosmos



Open Cosmos designs, manufactures and operates satellites to understand the world and address global challenges such as the climate crisis, the energy transition or the sustainable use of natural resources. Through its OpenConstellation infrastructure, it provides global satellite data and insights, while its DataCosmos platform enables you to get the insights when and where you need them.

FOUNDERS

- 👤 Aleix Megias Homar
- 👤 Jordi Barrera Ars
- 👤 Rafel Jorda Siquier

LOCATION

- 📍 Oxfordshire

EMPLOYEES

- 👥 120

STAGE

- 🚀 Series B

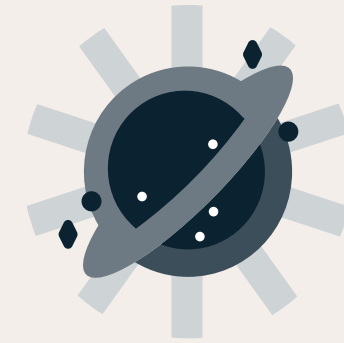
TOTAL FUNDING RAISED

- 💷 £48m

KEY INVESTORS

- 👤 Banco Santander, EIT , In-Q-Tel, A&G, ETF Partners, Accenture Ventures, Trill Impact, Wille Finance, Ireon Ventures, Claret Capital Partners

OPEN COSMOS



SpaceForge



Space Forge is leading the first clean-industry (r)evolution through the in-space research, development and manufacturing of hyper-efficient super materials. The company has pioneered the first dedicated and relaunchable in-space manufacturing satellite with soft-descent and high-precision landing capabilities to provide advanced protection of payload returns. The small-class vehicle, ForgeStar, offers Microgravity-as-a-Service to increase the accessibility and affordability of super materials production.

FOUNDERS

- 👤 Andrew Bacon
- 👤 Joshua Western

LOCATION

- 📍 Cardiff

EMPLOYEES

- 👥 60

STAGE

- 🚀 Series A

TOTAL FUNDING RAISED

- 💷 £21m

KEY INVESTORS

- 👤 UK Space Agency, London Technology Club, NATO Innovation fund, Development Bank of Wales

SPACE FORGE



TRAVELTECH





Flash Pack



Flash Pack launched in 2014 with a vision to revolutionize solo travel for those in their 30s and 40s. In the years since, Flash Pack has fostered over 100,000 friendships, maintaining its commitment to unforgettable experiences, meaningful connections, and unparalleled group dynamics. This is made possible through Flash Pack's 70+ boutique 'can't-do-alone' trips and its unique approach to combating loneliness through shared adventures.

FLASH PACK



FOUNDERS

- Radha Vyas
- Lee Thompson

EMPLOYEES

90

LOCATION

London



STAGE

Series A

TOTAL FUNDING RAISED

£7.8m

KEY INVESTORS

PPF, JamJar

TravelLocal



TravelLocal is a managed marketplace for global tailor-made holidays, with customers in more than 100 countries worldwide. It is revolutionising the global travel industry by connecting travellers directly with handpicked, trusted local experts based in 100+ destinations, from Argentina to Zanzibar. TravelLocal knows its countries better than anyone and are the 'hidden stars' of travel, helping their customers explore the world more sustainably.

FOUNDERS

- 👤 Huw Owen
- 👤 Mark Hudson
- 👤 Tom Stapleton
- 👤 Matthias Woppmann
- 👤 Stefan Richter

LOCATION

- 📍 Bristol

EMPLOYEES

- 👥 57

STAGE

- 👤 Series B

TOTAL FUNDING RAISED

- 📈 £22.1m

KEY INVESTORS

- 👤 Active Partners, Gresham House, Puma Private Equity



Trusted Housesitters



TrustedHousesitters is the leading travel solution for pet people; a global community whose love of pets and travel enables home sharing and pet caring globally. The platform has over 200,000 members in over 140 countries, accounting for more than 10 million nights of pet sitting across the world.

FOUNDERS

- 👤 Andy Peck
- 👤 Rachel Martin

LOCATION

- 📍 London

EMPLOYEES

- 👥 91

STAGE

- 👤 Series A


TOTAL FUNDING RAISED

- 📈 £7.2m

KEY INVESTORS

- 👤 Mayfair Equity Partners





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“The future belongs to those who can
imagine it, design it, and execute it.”

“It isn't something you await, but rather create”



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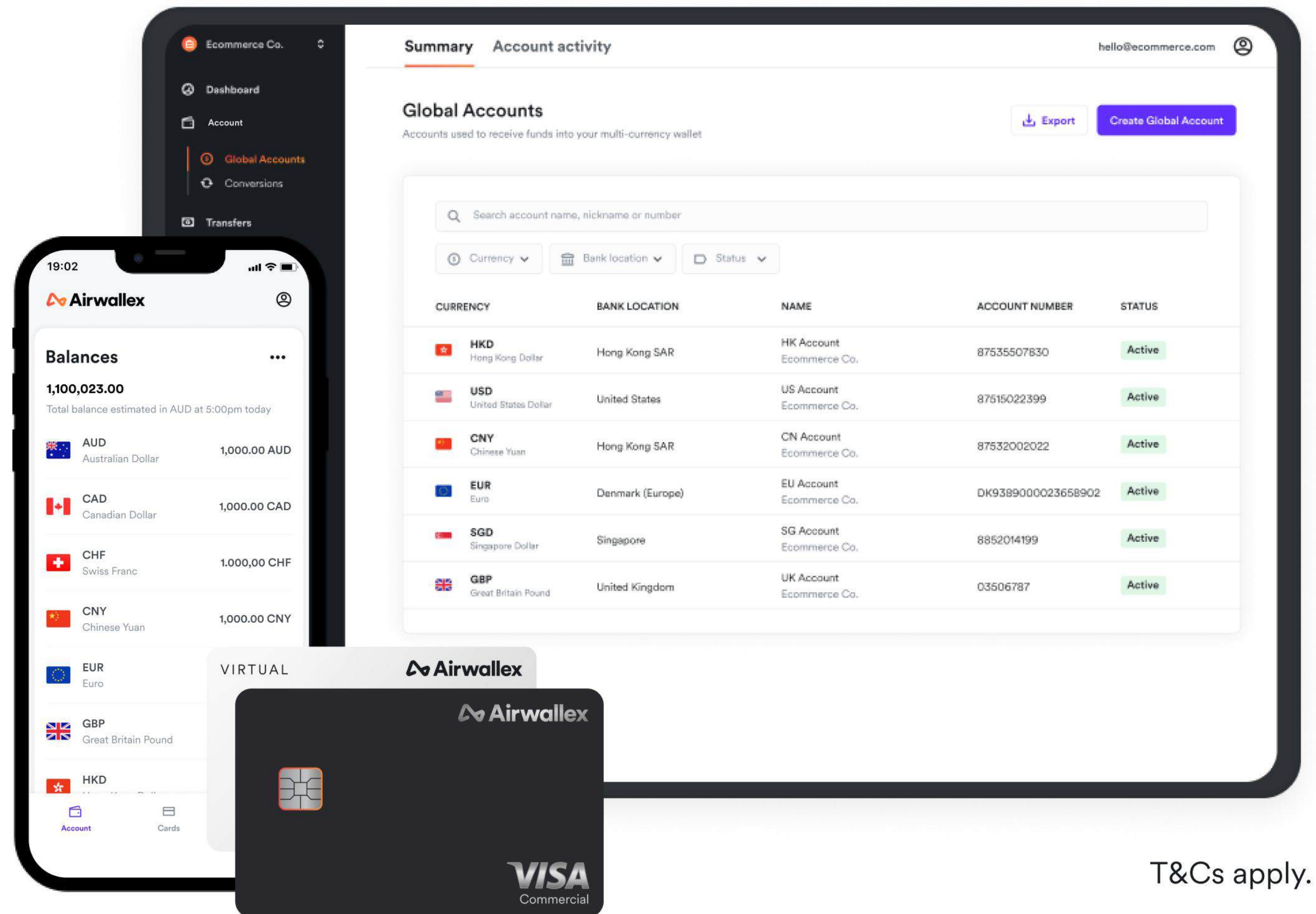
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