

Seventh Annual SXSW Accelerator® Startup Competition Announces 2015 Winners

Two-day pitch competition showcases the world's most innovative technology solutions

AUSTIN, Texas (March 15, 2015) – The world's most innovative technology solutions were in the spotlight March 14-15 at the seventh annual <u>SXSW Accelerator</u> startup competition, presented by <u>Oracle</u>, which wrapped up tonight with an awards ceremony that recognized this year's winners. Six leading startups earned top honors in the following categories: Enterprise and Smart Data Technologies, sponsored by <u>Rackspace</u>; Entertainment and Content Technologies, sponsored by <u>Technology Industry</u> Group; Digital Health and Life Sciences Technologies, sponsored by <u>Shell Technology Ventures</u>; Innovative World Technologies, sponsored by <u>IBM</u>; Social Technologies sponsored by <u>Dyn</u>; and Wearable Technologies.

From a mobile solution that uses music to treat tinnitus to a GPS-tracker wristphone designed for kids, there was a wide array of cutting-edge innovations introduced at this year's competition. SXSW Accelerator is the marquee event of SXSW Interactive Festival's <u>Startup Village</u> and features 48 startups from around the globe presenting innovative products in front of a live audience and panel of expert judges that includes successful entrepreneurs, investors and industry influencers. <u>Prezi</u> served as the official presentation platform for the competition.

Over the two-day competition, a few trends emerged including an increased awareness for creating products that keep personal and corporate data safe and technology solutions targeted to industries not typically known as being tech-savvy, such as farming and manufacturing. And as a testament to SXSW Accelerator's growing worldwide appeal, six of the 18 finalists that advanced to day two of the competition were international startups, a trend that did not go unnoticed by SXSW Accelerator Event Producer Chris Valentine.

"The number of international startups that want to be a part of SXSW Accelerator continues to grow and proves how popular the competition is becoming around the world," said Valentine. "This year's startups were the strongest entries yet, and I'm excited to see how these companies will evolve and grow as a result of the exposure they received here."

In addition to the six category winners, three startups were recognized with special awards including the Bootstrap Award, recognizing the finalist that has achieved the most with the fewest resources; the Most Innovative Award, recognizing the finalist that has created a product and/or service that is thought-provoking and changes the world for the better; and the Best One-Minute Speed Pitch Award for the alternate with the most successful pitch delivery.

The winners of the 2015 SXSW Accelerator competition are:

Enterprise and Smart Data Technologies:

Partpic Atlanta, GA.

Digital Health and Life Sciences Technologies:

<u>Tinnitracks</u> Hamburg, Germany

Innovative World Technologies:

SLANTRANGE San Diego, CA.

Wearable Technologies:

Tinitell

Stockholm, Sweden

Entertainment and Content Technologies:

Zype

New York, NY.

Social Technologies:

RealSavvy

Austin, TX.

Bootstrap Award:

SIX

Tokyo, Japan

Most Innovative:

BioBots.io

Philadelphia, PA.

Best One-Minute Speed Pitch:

ShotTracker

Overland Park, KS.

The grand prize winners receive \$4,000, two badges for the 2016 SXSW Interactive conference, various SXSW Accelerator sponsor gifts and, most importantly, exceptional exposure to SXSW attendees and potential investors who are looking for the latest in cutting-edge technology and innovation.

About SXSW Interactive

The 22nd annual SXSW Interactive Festival returns to Austin from Friday, March 13 through Tuesday, March 17. An incubator of cutting-edge technologies and digital creativity, the 2015 event features five days of compelling presentations and panels from the brightest minds in emerging technology, scores of exciting networking events hosted by industry leaders and an unbeatable lineup of special programs showcasing the best new websites, video games and startup ideas the community has to offer. From hands-on training to big-picture analysis of the future, SXSW Interactive has become the place to preview the technology of tomorrow today. Join us in March 2015 for the sessions, the networking, the evening events, the 18th Annual SXSW Interactive Innovation Awards, SXSW Accelerator, the SXSW Gaming Expo, the SXSW Trade Show, SXSW Create, the Digital Creative Job Market, cross-industry conversations with attendees from SXSW Film and SXSW Music, and most of all, the unforgettable inspirational experiences that only SXSW can deliver.

SXSW Interactive 2015 is sponsored by Miller Lite, Esurance, AT&T, IFC, Mazda, Monster Energy, McDonald's, Philips and The Austin Chronicle.

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