

About six startups grab attention of global groups and angel investors

## Young Cos Find Capital, Love in Hyderabad Meet

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At least half a dozen startups building technology solutions ranging from hiring apps to communication services are gaining attention from investors at an entrepreneurial gathering in Hyderabad.

While angel investors have committed to backing a few, Microsoft Ventures, the newly launched investment arm of the global software maker, has invited a few chosen startups to make more detailed presentations.

"Three firms have caught our interest and we have invited them for further discussions," said Ravi Narayan, director of Microsoft Ventures Accelerator. On the shortlist are Bangalore-based adventure activity travel guide Thrillophilia, website tool tester RobusTest and Zip.pr, which has developed a mobile application that creates a unique code for a consumer's postal address that can be shared with multiple retailers.

The three-day entrepreneurial summit organised by industry networking forum, The Indus Entrepreneurs, has also helped angel investors hone in on potential startups they can invest in. Murali Bukkapatnam, president of **IE**, said he would invest in Hyderabad-based startup Story Express. The seven-month-old company, founded by IIT students Ankit Mishra, 21, and Mudit Tanwani, 22, helps users create videos by simply attaching the material to chosen templates. "We expect sev-

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eral deals to be signed post this event," said Bukkapatnam co-founder of Getdomestichelp.com and an angel investor with Hyderabad Angels.

Whistle Talk, a referral job hunting IT solution, also gained investor attention. Founded by Vinoo Chacko, 32, the Bangalore-based company has built a hiring solution that integrates the social networking accounts of a company's employee base with the company's job postings, creating a referral base for job searches.

"These startups have great promise," said Suresh Challa, a member of the Hyderabad Angels, an investment group.

Other angel groups including the Indian Angel Network were also active at the summit. Prajakt Raut, a vice-president at IAN, has drawn up a list of about half a dozen startups to pursue including Kloudisk which offers cloud based services to companies for storage and easy work flow.

Founded by three students from the Birla Institute of Technology and Science in Pilani—D Ravi Teja, Chaitanya Nallaparaju and Varun Yellina—Kloudisk was incubated at the campus incubator in Hyderabad.