



News release

For immediate release

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Australians dominate entrepreneurs selected for the EY 2017 Asia-Pacific Accelerating Entrepreneur program

- ▶ **High-growth start-ups have been selected from Australia, Hong Kong, mainland China and Singapore**
- ▶ **Seventy-five per cent of the nominated entrepreneurs are Australian**
- ▶ **The program will commence at next month's EY 2017 Strategic Growth Forum Mediterranean, where the entrepreneurs will receive mentoring and coaching**

SYDNEY, 23 JANUARY 2017. EY has selected 24 high-potential and innovative start-up entrepreneurs from across Asia-Pacific to take part in its 2017 Accelerating Entrepreneurs program. The program enables entrepreneurs to scale their businesses through support, expert guidance and networking opportunities.

Australians make up 18 of the 24 participants, demonstrating a strong appetite among local entrepreneurs for mentoring and coaching to support strategic growth.

Participants were chosen based upon their potential to grow across borders, their entrepreneurial spirit, leadership qualities, financial performance, strategic direction and innovative thinking. Coming from Australia, mainland China, Hong Kong and Singapore, the entrepreneurs' 2017 program will begin at the EY Strategic Growth Forum Mediterranean in Rome from 8-10 February 2017, where they will also have an opportunity to meet with the participants selected for the 2017 EY EMEA Accelerating Entrepreneurs program.

Schalk Barnard, EY Oceania Growth Markets Leader, says:

"The entrepreneurial spirit is stronger than ever in Australia and we're delighted to see so many talented and innovative Australians taking part in EY's Accelerating Entrepreneur program. We look to these entrepreneurs to push the boundaries of innovation and become the next



generation of world leaders. With its long history of nurturing the businesses of tomorrow, EY provides emerging businesses with the leading practices for accelerating their growth.”

“The 2017 Accelerating Entrepreneurs program will begin with our Strategic Growth Forum Mediterranean event next month in Rome. The event will give our Asia-Pacific entrepreneurs access to some of the world's preeminent business minds, networking opportunities, and also a chance for them to collaborate with our other Accelerating Entrepreneurs from around the world.”

The 2017 Accelerating Entrepreneurs from Asia-Pacific are:

Australia:

- ▶ **Alfonso Ordonez, Co-founder, ASG Capital Group Pty Ltd**
Investing in technology solutions such as Hobspot that connects users with shared hobbies
- ▶ **Dr. Raghav Murali-Ganesh, Co-founder and COO, CancerAid**
Improving healthcare outcomes with the use of digital tools
- ▶ **Dr. Nikhil Pooviah, Co-founder, CancerAid**
Improving healthcare outcomes with the use of digital tools
- ▶ **Nicholas Press, Managing Director and CEO, CEC Systems Pty Ltd**
Delivering integrated solutions in global shipping and logistics
- ▶ **Renece Brewster, Founder and CEO, Data Creative**
Predicts trends before they happen and offers commercial solutions
- ▶ **Tania Jolley, Co-founder and Managing Director, DNA Security Solutions**
Protecting the community by innovating new DNA tagging technologies
- ▶ **Christopher Gilbert, Managing Director, Equitise**
Bringing the Australasian investment network together
- ▶ **Beau Leese, Co-founder and Co-CEO, Intersective**
Connecting work and learning through technology
- ▶ **Wes Sonnenreich, Co-founder and Co-CEO, Intersective**
Transforming professional projects into powerful learning experiences
- ▶ **Alex Paine, CEO, IoL Technologies Pty Ltd**
Creating energy-efficient, smarter spaces through advanced LED technology solutions
- ▶ **Naomi Lindermeier, Founder and Director, Kimberlin Education**
Specialist educator with a passion to connect classroom to community and industry



- ▶ **Danielle Fletcher, Company Director, Kimberlin Education**
Strategy and marketing specialist with a passion to connect classroom to community and industry
- ▶ **Andrew Leary, Managing Director, Lockliv Corporation**
Aims to bring to market globally patented wireless safety and security alert systems
- ▶ **Kristy Chong, Founder and CEO, Modibodi**
Performance underwear that combines fashion, comfort and reusable hi-tech protection to give women more comfort and confidence everyday
- ▶ **Marta Higuera, Co-CEO, OpenAgent, Australia**
Making it easier to sell your property
- ▶ **Philip Livingston, Founder and Managing Director, Redback Technologies**
Creating integrated hardware and software technologies to capture, store and manage solar energy
- ▶ **Jessica Wilson, Founder and CEO, Stashd App**
Making western fashion accessible to the Chinese millennial market
- ▶ **Loic Barancourt, CEO, Thinxtra**
Pioneer of internet of things with a vision to leverage technological innovations to improve business processes and people's lives

China:

- ▶ **Tao Li, Founder and Executive Director, APUS Group**
Pioneering a new approach to how we use our smartphones

Hong Kong:

- ▶ **Norma Chu, Founder and CEO, DayDayCook**
Spreading the joy of cooking to the millennials as the largest multi-channel cooking and lifestyle content creator in China
- ▶ **Martin Tsang, CEO, EV Power**
Electric vehicle charging service provider
- ▶ **Danny Yeung, CEO, Prenetics Limited**
Market leader in genetic testing and digital health in Southeast Asia

Singapore:

- ▶ **Manoj Sharma, Founder and CEO, CusJo**
Smarter survey analytics, with real-time benchmarking to drive innovation



▶ **Michele Ferrario, Co-founder and CEO, StashAway**

Singapore's low-cost, intelligent, digital wealth management solution that builds personalized investment portfolios to help you achieve your financial goals

The selected entrepreneurs will receive the following comprehensive program of one-to-one guidance, networking and insight-sharing:

- ▶ Attendance at the EY Strategic Growth Forum Mediterranean event in Rome from 8-10 February 2017.
- ▶ The opportunity to network and form ongoing relationships with EY Growth Coaches, global entrepreneurs, industry leaders and EY professionals who will be gathered at the event.
- ▶ Access to a dedicated EY service executive to focus on the business issue most critical to the growth acceleration of participants together with an EY Growth Navigator session to help assess capabilities and provide growth plans.
- ▶ Access to EY's unparalleled global entrepreneurial ecosystem.

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Notes to editors

About EY

EY is a global leader in assurance, tax, transaction and advisory services. The insights and quality services we deliver help build trust and confidence in the capital markets and in economies the world over. We develop outstanding leaders who team to deliver on our promises to all of our stakeholders. In so doing, we play a critical role in building a better working world for our people, for our clients and for our communities.

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About the EY Accelerating Entrepreneurs program

The EY Accelerating Entrepreneurs program helps fast-growth start-ups from around the world to scale their business through one-to-one guidance, networking and insight sharing. Split into three regions: Europe, Asia-Pacific and North America, the program is designed to help accelerate entrepreneurs through the next steps of their growth journey to becoming the global market leaders of tomorrow.