

SoCash, a Singapore-based startup that offers a mobile app enabling its users to withdraw cash from its network of merchants, is prepping for its Series B extension, said Hari Sivan, CEO.

Brief Summary:

SoCash turns retail shops in "virtual ATMs" that allow customers to withdraw cash or make loan payments at the time of purchase using their SoCash app. It has 16K shops that are part of its "virtual branch" network in Singapore, Indonesia and Malaysia.



Investors:

Glory Ltd of Japan, Vertex Ventures Standard Chartered Bank's innovation, investment and ventures arm, SC Ventures

CEO:

Hari Sivan







*Assembly Payments, a Singapore-based payment automation technology company, is gearing up for a capital raise, said Rimal Gokani, Co-CEO.

Brief Summary:

Assembly simplifies complex payment workflows using API technology, according to the company. Its technology allows customers to move funds, make payments and receive payments without delays. The company has more than 100 customers across fintech, B2B platforms, remitters, property tech and cryptocurrency exchanges.



co-CEO:

Tim Dickinson







Canopy (SG), a Singapore-based financial data aggregation platform, is evaluating its next capital raise for US growth, Tanmai Sharma, CEO and founder.

Brief Summary:

Canopy's solution converts data in any file format, for any asset, in any currency including: PDF, Excel, data feeds and others for standardization to an API for itCanopy's solution converts data in any file format, for any asset, in any currency including: PDF, Excel, data feeds and others for standardization to an API for it



Investors:

Credit Suisse, Lionrock Capital, Dymon Asia Ventures and Seeds Capital

CEO and founder:

Tanmai Sharma





Interesting Fact:

Sharma was previously Managing Director (Credit Trading) at Deutsche Bank.

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Most Recent Coverage:

♦SOCASH, a Singapore-based startup that has developed a mobile app enabling its users to withdraw cash from its network of merchants, is interested in raising more capital, said Hari Sivan, Co-founder and CEO.

Brief Summary:

SOCASH will hopefully be "making a bet" on expanding into Japan towards the end of this year, Sivan said. SOCASH is also now running a pilot with a company in New England, he said.



Investors:

Glory Ltd., SC Ventures, Vertex Ventures

CEO:

Hari Sivan





Interesting Fact:

SOCASH's goal has been to scale up and eventually go for an IPO, but the company has also received interest from strategics about collaborating. A future relationship with a strategic partner could possibly eventually lead to an acquisition of SOCASH if it accelerated its growth and lessened its risk. If the company did pursue an IPO, a listing on an exchange in Hong Kong would probably be most likely, according to Sivan.



Airwallex, a Hong Kong-based cross-border payments company, is exploring acquisitions and strategic partnerships to fuel growth, said Lucy Liu, president and co-founder.

Brief Summary:

Airwallex allows businesses to send fast payments globally. It charges 0.5% - 1.0% above their interbank FX rate and payments can be made in 23 currencies to 130 countries.



Investors:

Tencent, Sequoia Capital China, DST Global, Hillhouse Capital, Horizons Ventures, ANZi Ventures, Square Peg Capital, Gobi Partners and Salesforce Ventures

CEO and co-founder:

Jack Zhang





Interesting Fact:

COVID-19 caused about a 20% slowdown against its initial growth targets, the executive said. But Airwallex is not as impacted as other industries due to the digital nature of its platform. The upside is that many customers are forced to adapt to offer digital payments solutions to their customers and see the value of Airwallex's payments platform. Additionally, certain verticals of Airwallex have seen growth amid the pandemic such as online education providers.



MyDoc, a Singapore-based digital healthcare startup, is starting conversations for its next capital raise, said Snehal Patel, CEO and co-founder.

Brief Summary:

MyDoc is a digital healthcare platform that aims to control costs of health insurance premiums,. Its mobile app allows patients to monitor their acute, chronic and preventive medical care needs. The app allows users to track health data, view medical screening results, access video chats with physicians 24/7, and refill prescriptions.



CEO and co-founder:

Dr. Snehal Patel





Interesting Fact:

A sale to a strategic is a more likely exit option than an IPO, Patel said. It has had some "soft" conversations with potential acquirers who offer synergistic services; however, MyDoc expects those options are at least three to five years away as it is aiming for "massive traction" in both the US and UK markets over the next two years.



*CreditEngine, the Tokyo-based provider of an online lending platform for financial institutions, is looking to raise its Series A round and expand into emerging markets, CEO and founder Seiichiro Uchiyama told this news service.

Brief Summary:

CreditEngine anticipates its largest customer segment will be banks. In 2019, the company launched commercially with two very large Japanese bank partners who offer SMB lending, Uchiyama said. One of these partners, Mizuho Bank, Ltd., will use CreditEngine's online lending platform for its Mizuho Smart Business Loan. CreditEngine is now also live with Mitsubishi UFJ Bank, he said.



Investors:

500 startups in Japan and DNX Ventures

Interesting Fact:

The company is mainly seeking expansion in South and Southeast Asia, Uchiyama said. The company has launched in Japan and is now looking to replicate its model in new markets, he said.



◆Tepleton, a Singapore-based startup seeking to combine its blockchain platform with underlying, secure cross-chain technology, may seek more funding next year to build its global presence, said CEO Juden Tao.

Brief Summary:

The company's Tepleton Pay platform provides consumers with a TEP-card that can satisfy cross-border technology, said the CEO, while Tepleton Bank can process insurance and loan payments, provide consumers with access to credit as well as handle cash transfers, deposits and withdrawals.





CXA Group, a Singapore-based company offering an Alpowered health and wellness benefits platform, is in the process of an equity raise, which is a continuation of its B round, said Rosaline Chow Koo, founder and CEO.

Brief Summary:

The company offers an employee benefits and wellness marketplace platform,



Investors:

HSBC, Singtel Innov8, Telkom Indonesia MDI Ventures, Sumitomo Corporation Equity Asia, Muang Thai Fuchsia Ventures, Humanica, Heritas Venture Fund, B Capital Group and EDBI, Philips and RGAx, a subsidiary of Reinsurance Group of America.



♦ Galileo Platforms, a Hong Kong-based startup that has built a platform that uses blockchain to connect all of the participants in the insurance ecosystem, is looking to raise an A-1 round starting this month, CEO Mark Wales said.

Brief Summary:

a Hong Kong-based startup that has built a platform that uses blockchain to connect all of the participants in the insurance ecosystem website

Investors:

Greenlight Re



*Body Composition Technologies, a Singapore-based company which provides technology for scanning the human body through a smartphone camera, is looking to raise more capital, CEO Vlado Bosanac and Director Barry Dick told this news service in a joint interview.

Brief Summary:

BCT's technology lets a person snap a selfie and then receive data related to body fat percentage, body shape and dimensions, Bosanac said. For insurers, BCT's product helps with gaining a greater understanding on the risks they are underwriting.





*Diro Labs, the creator of an identity verification platform that stores user information securely on the blockchain, plans to set up its corporate headquarters in the US in the next few months, CEO Vishal Gupta said.

Brief Summary:

Instead of relying on photos of these original documents, Diro verifies that a person can login to multiple third-party websites. These websites might include a government database from 1 of 200 countries, such as a social security website, as well as one or two additional websites, such as online portals the person uses for paying a phone or utility bill.

website

Interesting Fact:

Diro placed first this month at the DEMOvation Challenge at the Bank Innovation Ignite Conference in Seattle. Twelve presenters were narrowed down to two finalists, Diro, and OpenDoor, an online bond trading platform, through an audience vote. Diro was then crowned the winner by a three-judge panel after a follow-up presentation from both companies and a subsequent Q&A session with the judges.





*Blockchain App Factory, a Chennai, India-based company offering a wide range of blockchain-related products and services, is now considering a capital raise, a company source told this news service.

Brief Summary:

Blockchain App Factory has completed 42 projects and is working on 20 more. The company is headquartered in Chennai, India and was founded eight years ago. It has been bootstrapped to date and it is profitable.



Interesting Fact:

Eventually, Blockchain App Factory will likely become an acquisition target for a strategic buyer, the source said. This most likely will occur once there is more regulatory clarity in the industry and blockchain technology becomes more mainstream, the source said. In the next three to four years, digital assets will be more ubiquitous, and STOs will start to take the place of traditional offerings, including IPOs, he said.



SoCash, a Singapore-based startup that has a developed a mobile app that lets users withdraw cash from its network of merchants, is likely to seek its Series B in February, CEO Hari Sivan told this news service.

Brief Summary:

In Singapore, soCash has already created a peer-to-peer payment network that enables shops to disburse cash. The network is based on QR-codes and requires users to link the soCash app with their bank account. After completing this one-time step, a user can open their mobile app to choose a place to get cash.



CEO:

Hari Sivan





Interesting Fact:

The demand for convenient cash withdrawal is growing, but the distribution of cash through ATMs and other services is becoming more expensive, Sivan said, highlighting a \$7.00 ATM fee he recently encountered in Las Vegas.



Origami, a Japan-based cashless QR-code payments provider, is planning to raise a large Series D financing next year, a company source told this news service.

Brief Summary:

Origami started its mobile payment services in 2015 and officially launched Origami Pay in May 2016. The technology is accepted at convenience stores, international fast food chains, taxis, department stores and shops across several industry verticals.





◆InstaReM , a Singapore-based, cross-border payments company, is now raising a Series C round, COO and co-founder Michael Bermingham told this news service.

Brief Summary:

InstaReM provides payments to more than 60 countries and 3.2bn people across the globe, according to the company. World Bank recently ranked InstaReM as the most competitive remittance platform in a number of Asian corridors for three consecutive quarters, according to a June press release.



Interesting Fact:

In August, InstaReM appointed Nilesh Pathak as Chief Technical Officer. He previously headed JP Morgan's Regulatory Technology Group. The new CTO is expected to strengthening InstaReM's existing technology capabilities as well as develop new tech.



♦Silot, a Singapore-based company providing an e-payments platform and artificial intelligence for banks, is raising a Series A round to fuel international expansion and to finance additional tech research, CEO and founder Andy Li said.

Brief Summary:

Silot offers banks a platform which supports many new payment types including Alipay, WeChat Pay, Prompt Pay and PayNet. In addition to its banking platform, the company also offers an artificial intelligence product, called Silot Knowledge Graph (SKG), which allows Silot's bank customers to make more informed decisions prior to issuing merchant loans.



Interesting Fact:

Silot is now speaking with many potential investors from Southeast Asia, Japan, China, and the US, about investing in the Series A, Li said. Prior to founding Silot, Li was Deputy General Manager of Baidu Global Payment. He also has held positions at publicly traded tech companies including SEA (Garena) (NYSE: SE) and Sohu's Changyou (NASDAQ: CYOU).





ZAGG Protocol, a startup developing blockchain technology for the Gifts, Benefit, Rewards, and Loyalty (GBRL) industry, plans to raise up to \$40,000,000 in an ICO, according to its Global CTO Paul Reddy.

Brief Summary:

a startup developing blockchain technology for the Gifts, Benefit, Rewards, and Loyalty (GBRL) industry website