

Sep 17,
2020

Most Recent Coverage:

◆ [Retina](#), a Santa Monica, California-based startup using AI to analyze and predict customer behavior, is planning to raise its next round in Q2 2021, said Emad Hasan, CEO and co-founder.

Brief Summary:

Retina analyzes customer behavior and their lifetime value to brands using artificial intelligence and machine learning, analyzes a customer's transaction data and history determine when and where a customer's next purchases will be made.

◆ [website](#)

Investors:

Crosscut Ventures and Comcast Ventures

Sep 09,
2020



Most Recent Coverage:

◆ [Just Auto](#), the Los Angeles, California-based pay-per-mile insurtech, is planning to start its Series A in December, said Robert Smithson, co-founder and CEO.

Brief Summary:

Just Auto offers a flexible policy on a monthly basis and its price-per-mile quote changes every 30 days based on the driver's last 90 days of driving. |

◆ [website](#)

Investors:

ManchesterStory Group, Crosscut Ventures, Plug and Play, Smithson and other private investors

CEO:

Robert Smithson



Interesting Fact:

Just Auto's aim prior to raising its Series A has been to prove unit economics. It's important to concentrate on underwriting loss ratios and show that the underlying metrics behind the business are sound prior to pursuing rapid growth. CTO Murray Macdonald told FHM.

Jun 17,
2020



Most Recent Coverage:

◆ [HONK Technologies](#), a Los Angeles-based roadside assistance insurtech, is seeking strategic partnerships to fuel growth, said Corey Brundage, CEO and founder.

Brief Summary:

Similar to booking a ride with Uber or Lyft, HONK customers can call via mobile or app for nearby roadside assistance with real-time tracking and estimated arrival times.

◆ [website](#)

Investors:

Altpoint Ventures, Structure Capital and Venture 51

CEO and founder:

Corey Brundage



Interesting Fact:

HONK CEO Corey Brundage founded the company after his finance and now wife's vehicle broke down on the side of the road in late 2013. Being part of the millennial generation, Brundage assumed "there was an app for that." He found out the hard way that there was not an app to assist with quick and efficient roadside assistance.

Apr 03,
2020



Most Recent Coverage:

◆ [Avinew](#), a Westlake Village, California-based insurtech focused on autonomous vehicle coverage, is in the midst of its Series A round, said Dan Peate, CEO and founder

Brief Summary:

Avinew plans to offer insurance for autonomous and semi-autonomous vehicles. Avinew's model is to offer a discount to drivers based on how many miles their vehicle is in autopilot. Its usage-based insurance program uses an AI-driven mobile app to collect telematics data and detect when semi-autonomous or autonomous features are engaged.

◆ [website](#)

Investors:

from Crosscut, American Family Ventures, Draper Frontier, and RPM Ventures

CEO and founder:

Dan Peate

Interesting Fact:

CEO Dan Peate founded Avinew, which insures autonomous vehicles, 3.5 years ago after he purchased a Tesla and discovered the insurance premium was almost as expensive as the monthly car payment. He founded the company based on the belief that insurance should reward consumers for driving safer vehicles.

Mar 25,
2020



Most Recent Coverage:

◆ [Concierge Technologies](#) , a diversified global holding company trading over the counter under the ticker symbol CNCG (OTCQB: CNCG), could seek partnerships as it prepares to rollout Marigold & Co. this summer, CEO Nicholas Gerber told this news service. Marigold & Co. is a Fintech platform with a debit card and app that features native tap-and-pay.

Brief Summary:

Concierge Technologies was founded in 1996 and is headquartered in San Clemente, California. It is comprised of five operating units, including Denver-based Marigold & Co., the creator of debit card app, which recently became a subsidiary.

◆ [website](#)

Feb 26,
2020



Most Recent Coverage:

◆ [CoinGenius](#), an AI-based data and analytics firm bringing insights to cryptocurrency traders, has about \$1.2m left unspoken for in its \$3m seed round, it is understood.

Brief Summary:

CoinGenius is developing a platform that aggregates cypto investment data, which is siloed throughout the Internet, runs it through its proprietary algorithms, and generates meaningful insights for crypto investors.

◆ [website](#)

Investors:

Amnis Ventures

Interesting Fact:

The company expects with the backing of this seed round it could increase revenue from \$6m, with \$2.4m in profit, in its first year up to \$30m, with \$12m in profit, within 4 years.

Feb 13,
2020



Most Recent Coverage:

◆ [Omnidya](#), a Los Angeles, California-based AI-driven insurtech, is in the process of raising seed funding, said Kumar Patel, CEO.

Brief Summary:

Its platform originally began by creating machine learning-powered bots which shop for insurance on behalf of consumers. Now Omnidya is branching out beyond the data collection market and is in development to offer its own branded insurance products, the executive said.

◆ [website](#)

CEO:

Kumar Patel



Interesting Fact:

Patel previously was the president of KNVP Ventures and the Chief Strategy Officer of CJT Communications. He holds a Juris Doctorate (JD) from California Southern Law School and received his BA in Political Science from UC Riverside.

Dec 31,
2019



Most Recent Coverage:

◆ [CoinGenius](#), a Southern California-based startup which aggregates data and then generates meaningful insights for crypto investors, is seeking additional seed capital, co-founder and CRO, Tim Bogert told this news service.

Brief Summary:

CoinGenius could be described as the “Bloomberg for crypto,” Bogert said. The company aggregates, much needed investment data, which is siloed throughout the Internet.

◆ [website](#)

Investors:

Amnis Ventures

Interesting Fact:

In Q1, the company is planning to offer a sophisticated Wallet technology called “cointainers” which allows for the transfer of any digital asset, as it is blockchain agnostic, Bogert said.

Dec 30,
2019

The logo for Chargezoom, featuring the word "chargezoom" in a white, lowercase, sans-serif font, centered within a solid blue square.

Most Recent Coverage:

◆ [Changezoom](#), a white-label integrated payments platform provider, is looking for investors to help speed up its "software roadmap," CEO and founder Matt Dubois told this news service.

Brief Summary:

Chargezoom's target customers are independent sales organizations (ISOs) and merchant processors. It turns payment processing companies into fintechs that can offer their own branded integrated payments systems.

◆ [website](#)

Interesting Fact:

Merchant processing is a highly commoditized business, so being able to offer your own branded integrated payments solution as a value-add, creates stickiness with customers and allows sales teams to win more deals, Dubois said. There is very little loyalty between merchants and their processors, so if you can offer something above and beyond your competitors that goes a long way and creates that stickiness, he said.

Dec 06,
2019



Most Recent Coverage:

◆ [Coinmine](#), a Los Angeles-based provider of cryptocurrency mining tools, is raising its Series A round over the next three months, said Farbood Nivi, CEO and co-founder.

Brief Summary:

Coinmine is a personal crypto device, for the home. Plug in, connect to WiFi, and tap the currency you want to mine in the Coinmine app, according to the company. Coinmine's flagship product is Coinmine1, which is a coin mining device about "the size of an xbox" and could also be described as an "Alexa for coin mining" because it is simple and easy to use. It launched in 2018 and uses crypto influencers, podcasts and online advertising to penetrate the market.

◆ [website](#)

Advisors:
Gunderson

Investors:

M13, Republic Labs, Gumi Crypto, Canaan Beta and early Uber investor Shervin Pishevar

Oct 31,
2019



Most Recent Coverage:

◆ [ComCard](#), a Los Angeles-based startup getting ready to launch a corporate charge card, plans to seek seed capital later this year, co-founder and CTO Alex Bondarevskyi said.

Brief Summary:

a Los Angeles-based startup getting ready to launch a corporate charge card
◆ [website](#)

Oct 31,
2019



Most Recent Coverage:

◆ [TipTags](#), the Los Angeles-based creator of a patented map-based messaging system, is in the midst of raising \$800,000 in pre-seed funding via a convertible note, CEO Tim Roberts said.

Brief Summary:

the Los Angeles-based creator of a patented map-based messaging system
◆ [website](#)

Oct 30,
2019



Most Recent Coverage:

◆ [Carpe Data](#), a Santa Barbara, California-based insurtech data company, expects to close its Series C round in Q4 of this year or Q1 2020, said Max Drucker, CEO and president.

Brief Summary:

a Santa Barbara, California-based data-focused insurtech that has a product focused on the commercial space and a separate offering for claims decision-making
◆ [website](#)

Advisors:
Cooley

Oct 14,
2019



Most Recent Coverage:

◆ [Wizely Finance](#), a Los Angeles-based company that has created a white label lending platform for community banks, expects to book more than \$1bn in consumer loans by June 2021, said Paris Benson, founder and CEO.

Brief Summary:

a Los Angeles-based company that has created a white label lending platform for community banks
◆ [website](#)

Investors:

Act One, Mucker Capital, Reform Ventures and Rashaun Williams.

Aug 28,
2019



Most Recent Coverage:

◆ [Praedicat](#), a Los Angeles-based company that develops liability risk management modeling tools for insurers, reinsurers, and businesses, could raise capital if either of two new product directions gains traction, CEO and founder Dr. Robert Reville told this news service.

Brief Summary:

Praedicat is helping insurers, reinsurers, and industrial companies assess risk by offering a suite of products backed by AI, machine learning, analytics and smart data modeling.

◆ [website](#)

Investors:

2012 Praedicat was spun out from RAND Corporation, a nonprofit think tank. Rand and Risk Management Systems (RMS) provided Praedicat some initial start-up funding, Reville told FHM. In 2014, the company raised a \$4m venture round and in 2018 it completed a \$6m Series AA round of financing which included Frank McMahon, a new investor as well as existing investors Jacques Dubois and RMS, as reported by Praedicat.

CEO:

Dr. Robert Reville



Interesting Fact:

In July, Praedicat announced that Hiscox, the specialist global insurer, had licensed two of its products, CoMeta and Oortfolio, for use within its London Market casualty business.

Aug 14,
2019



Most Recent Coverage:

◆ [AutoClaims Direct](#), a Carlsbad, California-based company whose technology streamlines claims management for auto insurers, looks to partner with other insurtechs, which could, in turn, lead it to acquire companies in the space with complementary offerings, CEO and founder Ernie Bray told this new service.

Brief Summary:

The company has not made any acquisitions and has not taken outside funding in its 16-year history. ACD, has revenue in the “mid-teens” and is pushing \$20m in annual revenue, he said.

◆ [website](#)

Interesting Fact:

Bray started ACD in 2003 after working for several years as an insurance adjustor. During his time as an IA, Bray saw a great deal of inefficiency in the way insurers handled claims. At the time, most companies still used paper-based systems and some did not even use email. Most adjustors would also take polaroid pictures of damage rather than using cameras that could take pictures that could be more easily converted into digital images, he said.

Jul 05,
2019



Most Recent Coverage:

◆ [Launch Mobility](#), a Los Angeles, California-based startup with a technology platform that helps dealerships and fleet operators set up car sharing services, is considering its options for raising capital, CEO and co-founder Paul Hirsch told this news service.

Brief Summary:

a Los Angeles, California-based startup with a technology platform that helps dealerships and fleet operators set up car sharing services
◆ [website](#)

Jul 03,
2019



Most Recent Coverage:

◆ [HazardHub](#) , a San Diego-based company providing risk data to the insurance market, is in the process of making some decisions on a potential capital raise, CEO Bob Frady told this news service.

Brief Summary:

HazardHub is a provider of comprehensive risk data for the property insurance industry. (Founded 2016)

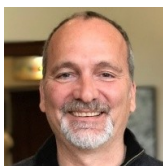
◆ [website](#)

Investors:

HazardHub raised capital on August 11, 2020, September 10, 2019, November 13, 2018 from investors including Global Insurance Accelerator, MarketScout InsurTech, and Lloyd's Lab, according to CB Insights.

CEO:

Bob Frady



Interesting Fact:

In March, Sapiens (NASDAQ:SPNS), announced it had entered into an agreement to partner with HazardHub, and would be integrating HazardHub's real-time, comprehensive sets of risk data into its CoreSuite for Property & Casualty.

Jun 03,
2019



Most Recent Coverage:

◆ [Ephesoft](#) , an Irvine, California-based company providing document management and process automation software mainly to insurance companies and other FIs, is looking to raise its Series B round, founder and CEO Ike Kavas told this news service.

Brief Summary:

an Irvine, California-based company providing document management and process automation software mainly to insurance companies and other customers in financial services
◆ [website](#)

May 21,
2019



Most Recent Coverage:

◆ [CarLabs](#), a Calabasas, California-based startup building AI-powered chatbots for companies in auto sales, finance and technology, plans to raise a Series A round in Fall, CEO and co-founder Martin Schmitt told this news service.

Brief Summary:

a Calabasas, California-based startup building AI-powered chatbots for companies in auto sales, finance and technology
◆ [website](#)

Interesting Fact:

CarLabs CEO Martin Schmitt described the Los Angeles area startup as being really like two companies in one. One distinct group is product development, which operates like a tech startup. It has a large engineering team and those engineers spend their time both discussing how they can implement the latest AI research and consuming large amounts of coffee, Soylent, and Red Bull. Its other distinct group is professional services. They are more buttoned up. This group works closely with its large OEM customers to understand their AI pain points, he said.

Apr 19,
2019



Most Recent Coverage:

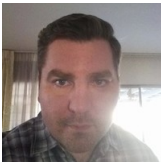
◆ [Avocado Payments](#), a Los Angeles-based developer of software that lets merchants accept Apple Pay and Google Pay without a hardware terminal, has just completed raising a seed round and could be ready to raise an A round next year, CEO and founder Chris Sturm told this news service.

Brief Summary:

a Los Angeles-based developer of software that lets merchants accept Apple Pay and Google Pay without a hardware terminal
◆ [website](#)

CEO and founder:

Chris Sturm



Interesting Fact:

Sturm is also the owner of 8M Labs, a consulting firm he started in 2011 that focuses on rapid application prototyping for startups and established businesses.

Apr 12,
2019



Most Recent Coverage:

◆ [Carpe Data](#), a Santa Barbara-based company generating alternative data for the insurance industry, just raised its Series B round, which it has yet to announce publicly, a source familiar with the company told this news service.

Brief Summary:

Carpe Data gathers and refines a range of emerging and alternative data sources such as social media and other online content. As a result, insurers are able to gain a deeper insight of risks, which enhances all facets of the insurance lifecycle.

◆ [website](#)

Apr 04,
2019



Most Recent Coverage:

◆ [IDMERIT](#), a Carlsbad, California-based identity verification company, is expanding internationally and may consider a strategic investment that could increase its customer base globally, CEO and founder Tony Raval told this news service.

Brief Summary:

a Carlsbad, California-based identity verification company
◆ [website](#)

Feb 27,
2019



Most Recent Coverage:

◆ [Omnichain Solutions](#), a Los Angeles-based startup that has created a SaaS-based solution that also leverages blockchain technology, providing visibility into all parts of a customer's supply chain, has sought to first create a market-ready product before seeking any type of external capital, CEO Pratik Soni said.

Brief Summary:

The company leverages blockchain/distributed ledger to provide a technological solution for the supply chain.

◆ [website](#)

CEO and founder:

Pratik Soni



Interesting Fact:

We first wanted to have a product that was 100% ready for market. I am of the theory – “if you build it, they will come,” which is different than a lot of technology companies these days, the CEO said. Often today a company starts raising money off a concept or whitepaper, but with that approach, it can sometimes be difficult to advance beyond the launch phase, he said.

Feb 07,
2019



Most Recent Coverage:

◆ [Edge](#), the San Diego, California-based creator of a non-custodial wallet for multiple cryptocurrencies, is in the process of closing a seed round, CEO and co-founder Paul Puey said.

Brief Summary:

San Diego-based Edge launched its first bitcoin wallet in 2014. It then spent about a year and a half developing a more advanced version capable of supporting several cryptocurrencies in addition to platform technology which now supports other applications, the CEO said.

◆ [website](#)

CEO:

Paul Puey



Interesting Fact:

Puey holds degrees in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science from UC Berkeley. Prior to co-founding Edge, he held lead engineering positions with Nvidia and Chromatic Research and also owned and operated several non-technical small businesses in California. He is an advocate for bitcoin and an avid rock climber who frequently climbs at Joshua Tree.

Feb 06,
2019



Most Recent Coverage:

◆ [GoSave](#), a Santa Monica, California-based digital “piggy bank” and financial literacy app provider, is in process of its seed raise, said Andrew Birt, co-founder and CEO.

Brief Summary:

GoSavers are smart piggy banks with an intuitive touch screen and an iOS and Android application that help you teach your child about savings, rewards, goals, chores and financial literacy.

◆ [website](#)

Interesting Fact:

While GoSave is headquartered in California, most of its team resides in Australia. Birt lives in Brisbane with his wife and two little children. Prior to GoSave, Birt served as CMO for CliniCloud. He also co-founded LIFX, a smart bulb lighting company, which was acquired last year for \$51m by Australia-based Buddy Platform Limited.

Jan 25,
2019



Most Recent Coverage:

◆ [Netki](#), a Los Angeles-based identity verification company that is automating the KYC/AML process for crypto, fintech and financial services firms, is in the process of raising a Series A round, CEO Justin Newton told this news service.

Brief Summary:

Netki has developed a platform for automating KYC/AML that is used in the crypto space by exchanges and for token sales. The platform is also popular among fintech and financial services firms. The company has partnerships with PwC and Deloitte and it is also working with one of the largest banks in the US, the CEO said.

◆ [website](#)

CEO:

Justin Newton



Interesting Fact:

Netki's facial recognition algorithm is used for identity verification. Many KYC/AML processes require a person to send a photo ID for verification. Existing technologies typically compare that ID photo with another photo of the same person, looking for discrepancies. Netki's technology is superior, Newton explained, as it first builds a 3D model of the face from an ID photo before making a comparison.

Dec 21,
2018



Most Recent Coverage:

◆ [Payscout](#), a Sherman, Oaks, California-based payment processing services provider, which completed an acquisition in July, will continue seeking buys and has not yet locked into a specific exit path, CEO Cleveland Brown said.

Brief Summary:

Payscout has offices in California, Georgia, New Jersey, China, Malta, and Brazil and connects merchants and consumers on six continents, through credit, debit, ATM, and alternative payment networks.

◆ [website](#)

Interesting Fact:

Brown is a graduate of UCLA and began his career in payments and technology at Union Bank of California in 1992. He is also active in the movie industry, having served as an Executive Producer on six short films and one feature film.

Nov 14,
2018



Most Recent Coverage:

◆ [Vault Logic](#) , a West Hollywood, California-based smart ATM provider whose kiosks let users purchase digital currencies with cash, s planning to launch a security token offering (STO) in December, co-founder and CEO Douglas Scribner told this news service.

Brief Summary:

a West Hollywood, California-based smart ATM provider whose kiosks let users purchase digital currencies with cash
◆ [website](#)

Interesting Fact:

Scribner was also featured in an article in the Wall Street Journal that explored Bitcoin's role in family division. The article, titled "Let Me Tell You Some More About Bitcoin—Hello? Hello?" looked at how some families are increasingly fed-up with the one member of the family who constantly discusses Bitcoin.

Oct 12,
2018



Most Recent Coverage:

◆ [Zebit](#), a San Diego-based company operating an online marketplace which extends credit to its members at 0% interest, is planning to raise a Series C round in late spring or early summer 2019, CEO and co-founder Marc Schneider told this news service.

Brief Summary:

a San Diego-based company operating an online marketplace which extends credit to its members at 0% interest
◆ [website](#)

Interesting Fact:

Schneider said an IPO or a strategic sale are possible eventual outcomes for Zebit. A potential universe of strategic buyers could include large big-box retailers, online marketplaces, or possibly lenders, he said.

Jul 12,
2018



Most Recent Coverage:

◆ [Hixme](#), a Southern California-based insurtech startup offering a digital insurance product, is raising a 'bridge' financing en route to a potential Series C financing late next year, CEO Denny Weinberg said.

Brief Summary:

a Southern California-based insurtech startup offering a digital insurance product
◆ [website](#)

CEO:

Denny Weinberg

