

Commerce

Empowering merchants with advanced, secure, and integrated payment solutions that simplify operations and drive business growth across India, Southeast Asia, and the Middle East.

Made with **GAMMA** 

### **Company Background**

1998

Founded in India by Lokvir Kapoor, Rajul Garg, and Tarun Upadhyay, initially focusing on smart card-based payment and loyalty solutions for the petroleum retail sector.

2019-2021

Acquired Qwikcilver (gift card technology) and Fave (consumer fintech), achieved unicorn status with valuation exceeding \$1 billion, later surpassing \$5 billion.



Shifted to cloud-based POS systems, transforming their business model.

Filed confidentially for a \$500 million IPO targeting \$5.5-\$7 billion valuation, dissolved Singapore branch in 2024, signaling strategic

refocus.

Today, Pine Labs serves over 150,000 merchants across India, Southeast Asia (Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia), and the Middle East (UAE), supporting industries ranging from small retail to large chains. The company has secured significant funding from investors such as Sequoia Capital, Temasek, PayPal, and Mastercard, reflecting its growth trajectory.

### **Core Mission & Product Vision**

#### Mission

Pine Labs' mission is to empower merchants of all sizes with advanced, secure, and integrated payment and commerce solutions that simplify operations, enhance customer experiences, and drive business growth. It aims to transcend traditional payment processing by acting as a comprehensive commerce partner, addressing merchants' operational, financial, and technological needs across local and emerging markets.

#### **Vision**

Pine Labs aspires to be the leading omnichannel merchant commerce platform in Asia and beyond, integrating offline and online channels into a seamless ecosystem. It envisions:

- Offering a full suite of financial services (payments, lending, insurance)
- Providing intelligent, data-driven tools for business growth
- Expanding globally while maintaining a focus on emerging markets

The 2021 launch of Plural (online payment gateway) and acquisitions like Fave underscore this ambition.

## **Unique Selling Proposition**



#### **Unified Payment Acceptance**

Supports over 100 payment methods (cards, UPI, QR codes, digital wallets), reducing operational complexity.



### **Embedded Financial Services**

Offers Buy Now Pay Later (BNPL), EMI, and merchant loans directly at the POS, boosting sales and cash flow.



### **Real-Time Analytics**

Provides actionable insights via dashboards for sales, inventory, and customer behavior.



### Scalability and Flexibility

Device-agnostic, catering to small merchants and large enterprises with a hybrid cloud architecture for reliability.



### **Merchant Ecosystem**

Integrates loyalty programs, gift cards (via Qwikcilver), and invoicing, creating a holistic business tool.

This positions Pine Labs as a transformative platform, not just a payment processor.

### **Problem Statement and Solution**

### **Fragmented Payment Systems**

Managing multiple payment methods and devices complicates operations.

**Solution:** Integrated POS Platform - A single terminal for all payment types, streamlining checkout and reconciliation.

### **Limited Financing Access**

Traditional lending options are slow or inaccessible, hindering growth.

**Solution:** Financing Options - Instant EMI, BNPL, and merchant loans embedded at the POS, enhancing affordability and liquidity.

### **Operational Inefficiencies**

Legacy systems lack integration, analytics, and scalability.

**Solution:** Cloud-Based Tools - Scalable infrastructure with analytics and integrations (e.g., billing, CRM), reducing manual effort.

### **Customer Retention Challenges**

Difficulty offering financing (EMI/BNPL) or loyalty programs reduces repeat business.

**Solution:** Engagement Features - Loyalty programs and gift cards to foster customer loyalty.

This unified approach addresses merchants' core pain points effectively.





# mment Process



### **Competitive Analysis**

Competitor	Strengths	Weaknesses	Pine Labs Advantage
Razorpay	Strong online payments, APIs	Weaker offline POS presence	Robust offline solutions, broader VAS
Paytm	Large user base, wallet ecosystem	Limited financing, analytics	Deeper merchant tools, EMI/BNPL focus
Mswipe	Affordable SMB solutions	Narrow VAS scope	Comprehensi ve platform, scalability
BharatPe	Aggressive SMB acquisition, QR focus	Secondary POS offering	Wider merchant reach, advanced features
Square	Simple UX, integrated ecosystem	Limited emerging market presence	Regional focus, financing integration
Stripe	Global reach, developer- friendly	Less physical retail focus	Strong offline POS, merchant ecosystem

Pine Labs stands out with its offline retail expertise, integrated financing, and regional adaptability.

### Key Differentiator & Revenue Model

# **Key Differentiator: Holistic Merchant Commerce Platform**

- Multi-Lender Financing: Market-leading EMI/BNPL options via extensive bank/NBFC partnerships
- Android POS Ecosystem: Smart terminals (e.g., Plutus Smart) enable third-party apps, enhancing functionality
- Data-Driven Insights: Real-time analytics transform POS into a business management tool
- Cross-Border Compliance: Built-in regulatory support for multi-country operations

This creates high merchant stickiness and a competitive moat.

#### **Revenue Generation Model**

- Transaction Fees: Merchant Discount Rates (0.5%-2.5%)
  on processed payments
- Hardware Revenue: Sales or leasing of POS terminals
- SaaS Subscriptions: Fees for analytics, dashboards, and premium software features
- Financial Commissions: Revenue from EMI/BNPL and merchant loans via bank partnerships
- VAS Fees: Charges for loyalty, gift cards, and invoicing services

In FY23, operating revenue reached INR 1,280.5 Cr (37% YoY growth), showcasing the model's success.

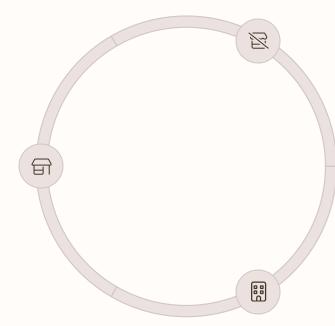
### **User Personas & Journey**

#### **Small Retailer**

Profile: 30-50, urban/suburban shop owner (e.g., grocery store)

Needs: Affordable POS, easy setup, basic analytics

Behavior: Cost-conscious, prefers simplicity



### Mid-Market Chain Manager

Profile: 28-45, manages multi-store retail (e.g., electronics)

Needs: Multi-store integration, financing tools, advanced analytics

Behavior: Data-driven, seeks scalability

### **Enterprise Retail**

Profile: Large chain (e.g., fashion), 100+ stores

Needs: Cross-border support, ERP integration, enterprise-grade security

Behavior: Focuses on efficiency, standardization

For a mid-market chain manager, the user journey includes: Awareness (via bank referral, marketing, or peers), Evaluation (reviews demo, compares features/pricing), Onboarding (signs up, completes KYC, receives hardware/training), Daily Use (processes payments, uses analytics, offers EMI/BNPL), and Expansion (adds stores, adopts new services like loyalty). Key touchpoints include sales demos, support calls, and the merchant portal.

## Pain Points & Proposed Solutions



### **Complex Setup**

Lengthy onboarding and EMI integration

**Solution:** Streamlined Onboarding with self-service KYC and remote setup tools



#### **Hardware Constraints**

Legacy system limitations

**Solution:** App Marketplace to expand third-party integrations on Android POS



### **Analytics Gaps**

Limited customer behavior insights

**Solution:** Al Analytics providing predictive insights for inventory and loyalty



### **Security Risks**

Past breach (2021) raises concerns

**Solution:** Enhanced Security with end-to-end encryption and regular audits



### **Operational Friction**

Reconciliation delays, multi-channel sync issues

**Solution:** Omnichannel Sync with unified dashboard for offline/online sales

### **KPIs and Summary**

### **Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)**

- Merchant Growth: New sign-ups, retention rate (>90%)
- Transaction Metrics: Volume (10% MoM growth), ATV increase
- VAS Adoption: EMI/BNPL usage (>25%), loyalty penetration
- Satisfaction: NPS, CSAT scores
- Revenue: ARPM (\$35+/month), total growth

#### **Summary**

Pine Labs POS Solutions has evolved into a leading fintech platform, addressing merchant challenges with an integrated approach to payments, financing, and analytics. Its strengths—regional expertise, embedded services, and scalability—position it ahead of competitors. To sustain leadership, Pine Labs should enhance security, deepen analytics, and expand omnichannel capabilities. With a robust GTM strategy and focus on merchant success, it is poised to dominate Asia's commerce landscape.