

# TSSG



## Disruptive Innovation

Eric Robson – Research Manager

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Waterford Institute of Technology  
INSTITIÚID TEICNEOLAÍOCHTA PHORT LÁIRGE



We create economic impact by translating our knowledge base and innovation into leading edge products and services by continuing our engagement with Industry in collaborative R&D, knowledge generation and transfer.



131 including Senior Managers, Principle Investigators, PhD Students, Research Fellows, Postdoctoral Research and



Industry Engagement: 210 direct industry projects completed in Ireland over the past 5 years



R & R Funding (1996 – 2016) – 86Million(EU, SFI, EI etc)



Leading SFI funded SRC Centre working with IBM, Cisco and Alcatel-Lucent.



Working extensively with multinationals such as IBM and Cisco through its world class research programmes, such as the Science Foundation Ireland (SFI) Connect Centre.



Created 14 Spin Outs, including leading international start-ups such as FeedHenry Ltd, a groundbreaking mobile cloud platform company (acquired by RedHat NYSE: RHT in 2014 for €65 million)



One of Ireland's leaders in the EU collaborative R&D programmes (FP7/Horizon 2020) and has worked with over 450 companies across 35 countries.



- 1 Networks & Cloud  
Network Visualisation, Software Defined, Networking (SDN) & Software Platform and Infrastructure as a Service
- 2 Mobile  
Mobile Cloud Platforms (PaaS) and advanced mobile applications
- 3 Communications Services  
Communications Services Platforms (Paas) and applications e.g. Web RIC

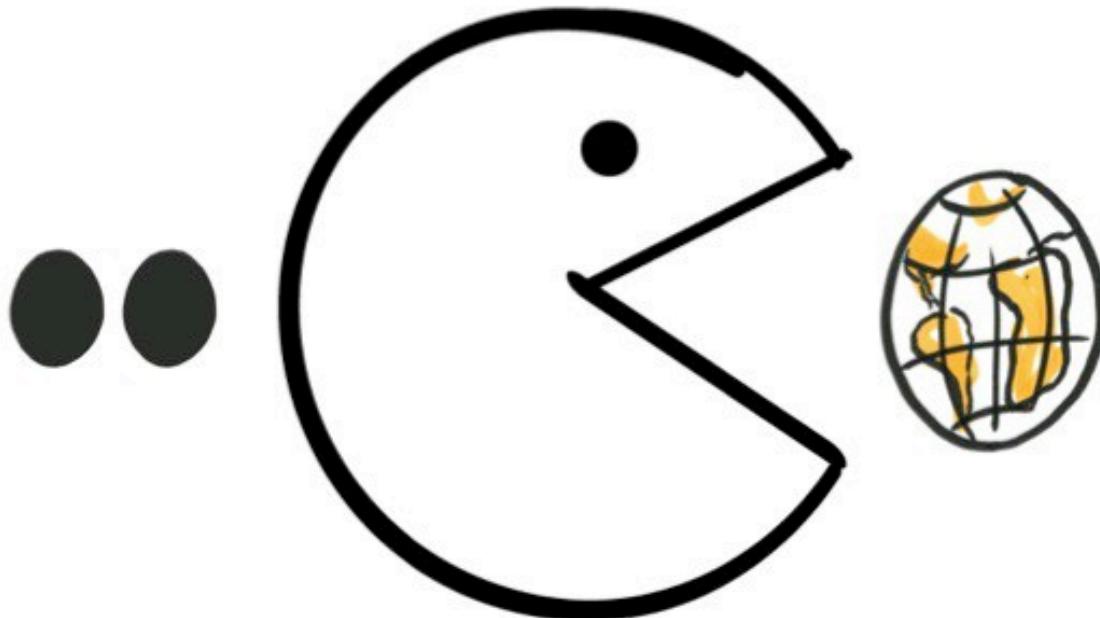
- 4 International Professional Services  
Engineering the next generation of software technologies in areas such as IoT.
- 5 Virtual and Augmented Reality  
VR / AR Communications, 3D User Interfaces Education, Simulation and enabling hardware
- 6 Data Mining  
Predictive Analytics, Social Computing and Data Security.

# Innovation Model





# Software is eating up the world\*



\* Marc Andreessen  
in Wall Street Journal

## How Software is Eating the world?

“Software is disrupting across all the Industries”



Entertainment Industry

\$47 B Market Value



Transportation Industry

\$40 B Market Value



IoT Industry  
(A Google Company)

\$3.2 B Market Value



Travel & Hospitality Industry

\$22 B Market Value



Social Media Industry

\$242 B Market Value



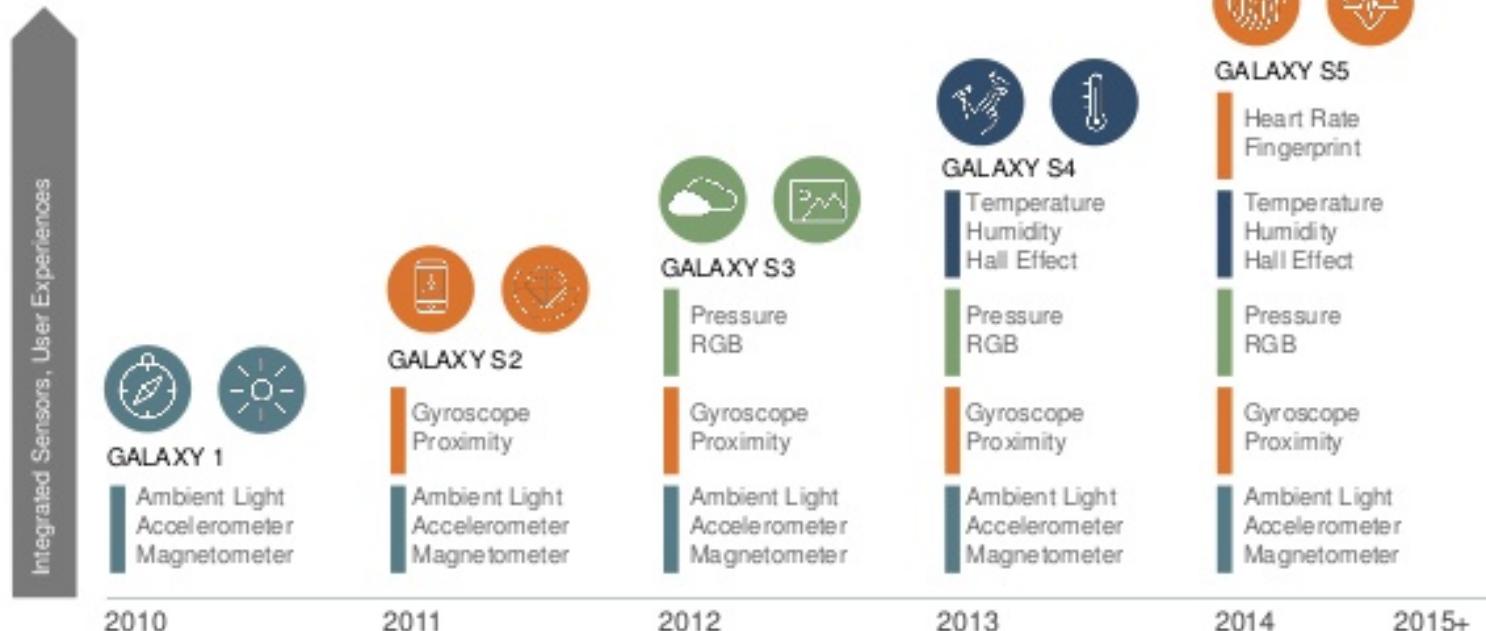
E-Commerce Industry

\$172 B Market Value

# Key Driver



Side benefits of Moore's law: cost of sensors  $\Rightarrow$  zero



Source: Qualcomm



# New systems, not just new products

Ubiquitous connectivity and sensors enable fundamentally new approaches

## Operating efficiency

Know exactly how the product is operating all the time

## Product design

Knowing exactly how a product operates enables new designs

## System design

Understanding everything in a system enables a new system

# Case Study: Vehicle Telematics



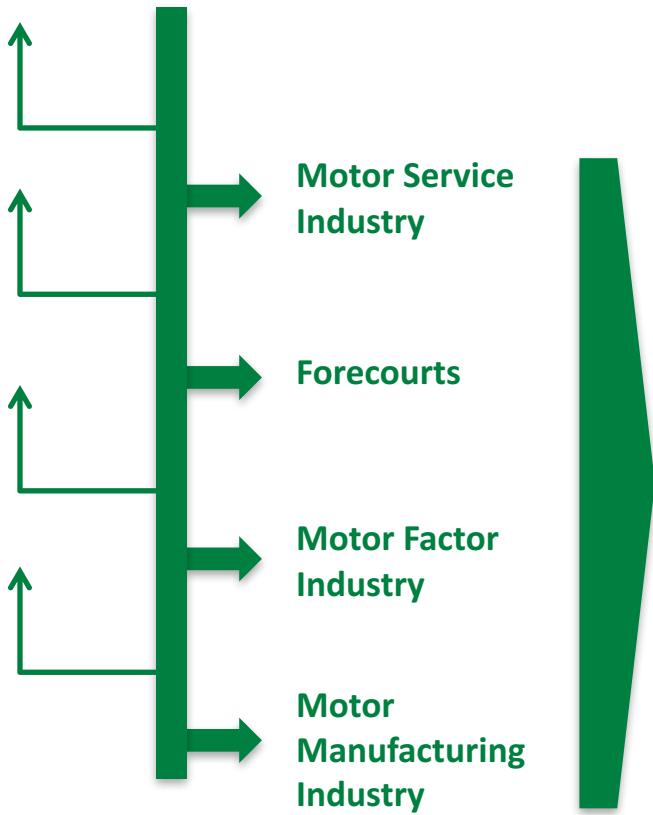
# What other products?



*Data recorded and sent to ABC Insurance*

**ABC Insurance**

*Information is managed in mySafeDrive and reported back to partners*



- Approved Partner
- Free Vehicle Health Check
- Schedule Servicing/Tyre Change
- Discounted Rates
- Nationwide Partner
- Marketing Support
- Brand Awareness
- Loyalty
- Branding Management
- Regular Updating and Communication.
- Games and Competitions
- Customer engagement

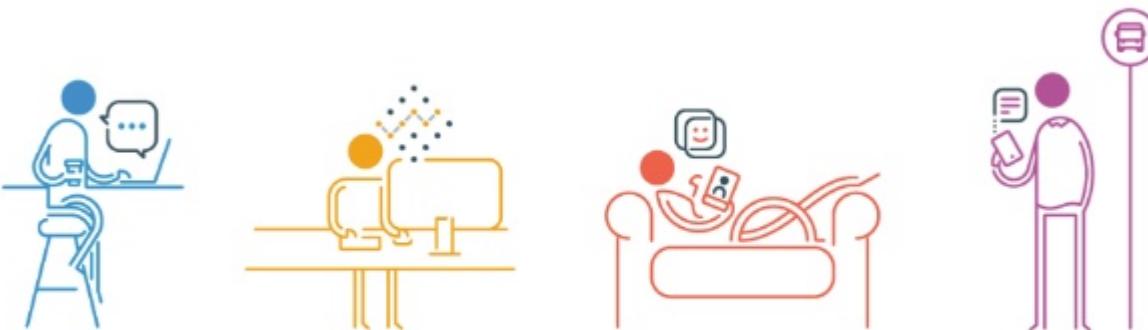


# Case Study: Web Communications



**Altocloud** is a software services company that combines machine learning with real-time communications, this SaaS solution intelligently identifies the optimal online visitors and delivers tailored chat, voice, video and content so customers get the information and help they need at exactly the right moment.

altocloud



## Connect with your Digital Customers

Altocloud connects your business with the right customers at the right time in their journey – improving conversions and enhancing customer experience.

# TSSG



Disruptive Innovation

&

Technology Platforms

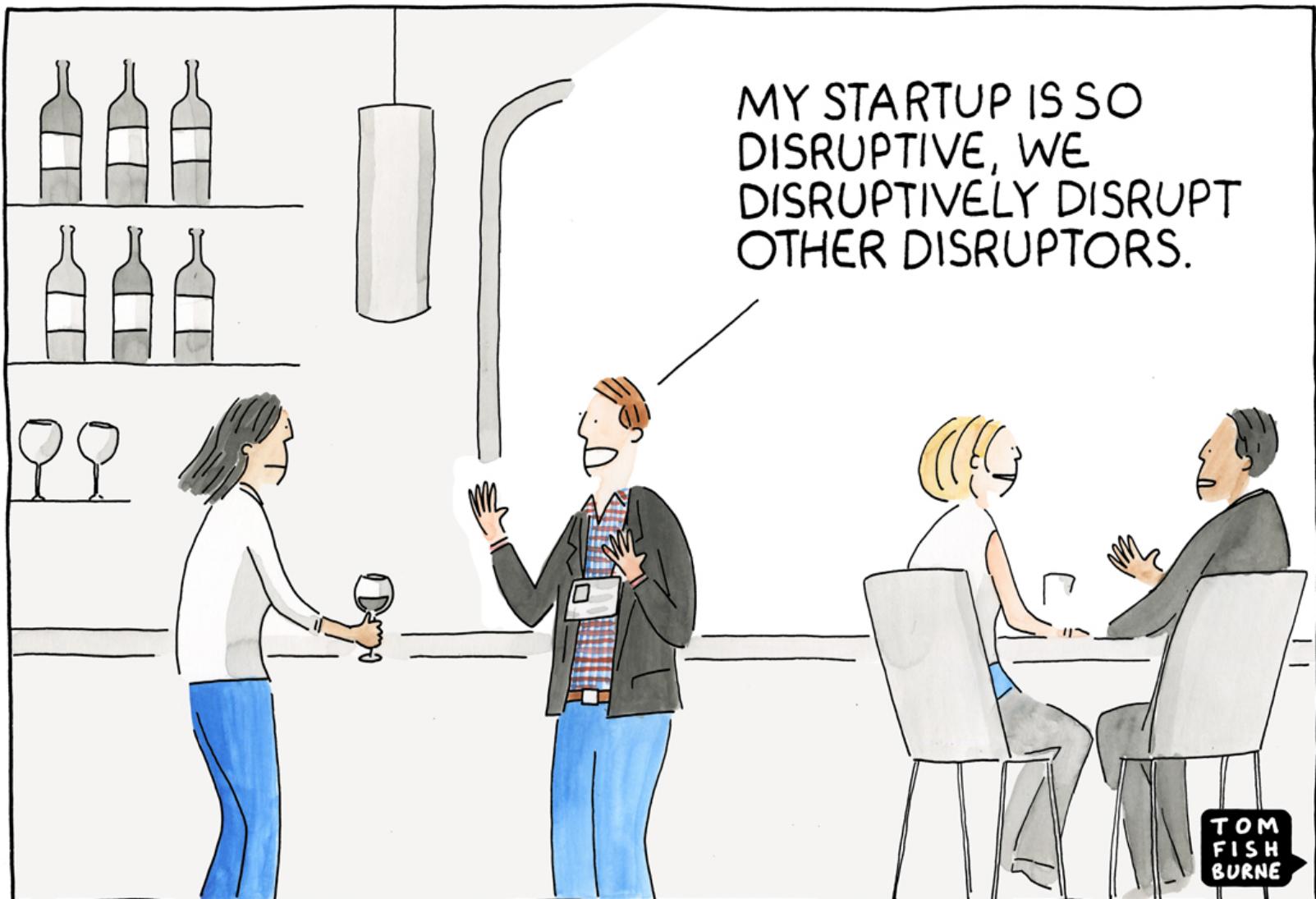
Eric Robson – Research Manager

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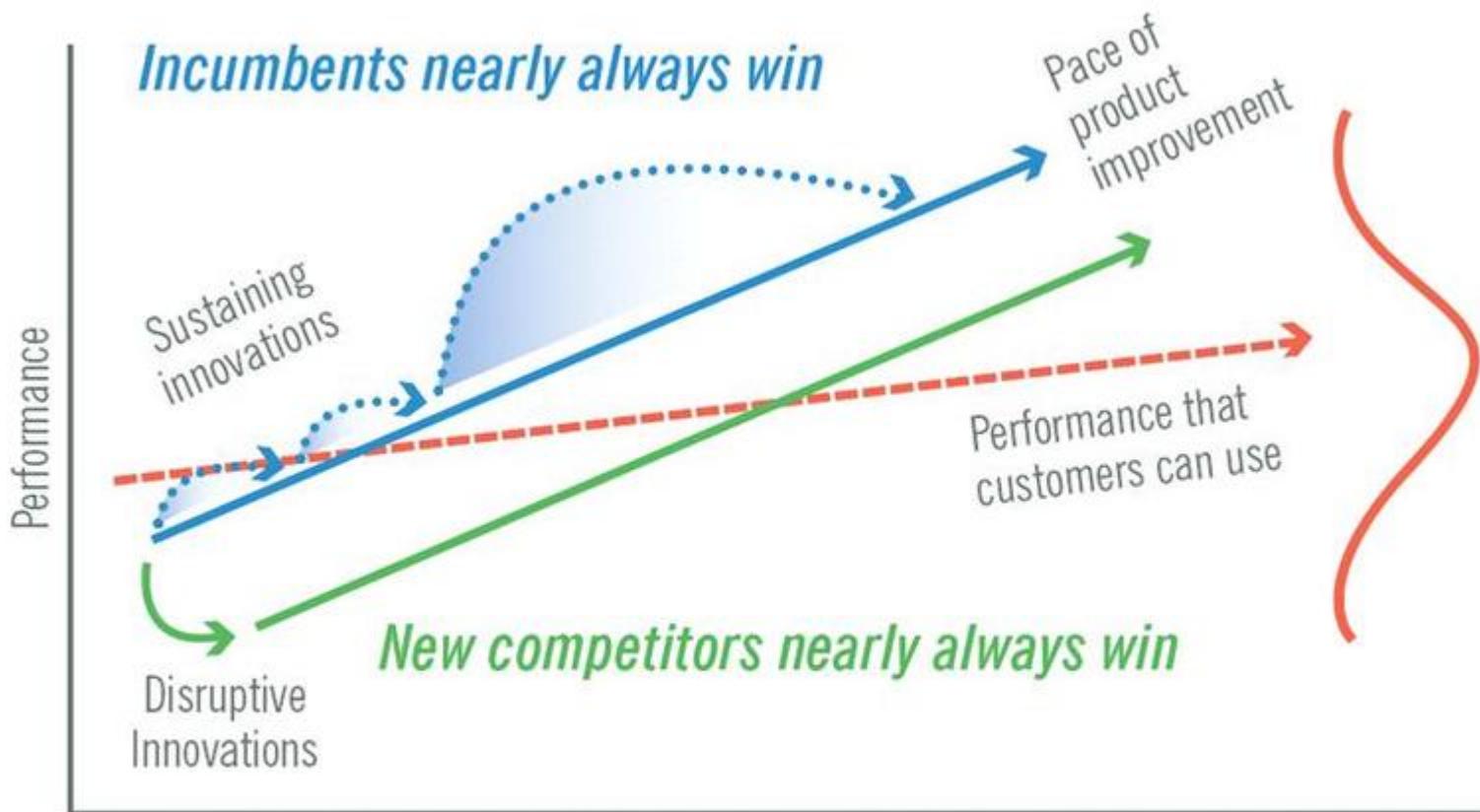


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# Disruption!



# What is Disruptive Innovation



Source: Clayton Christensen, *The Innovators Solution*



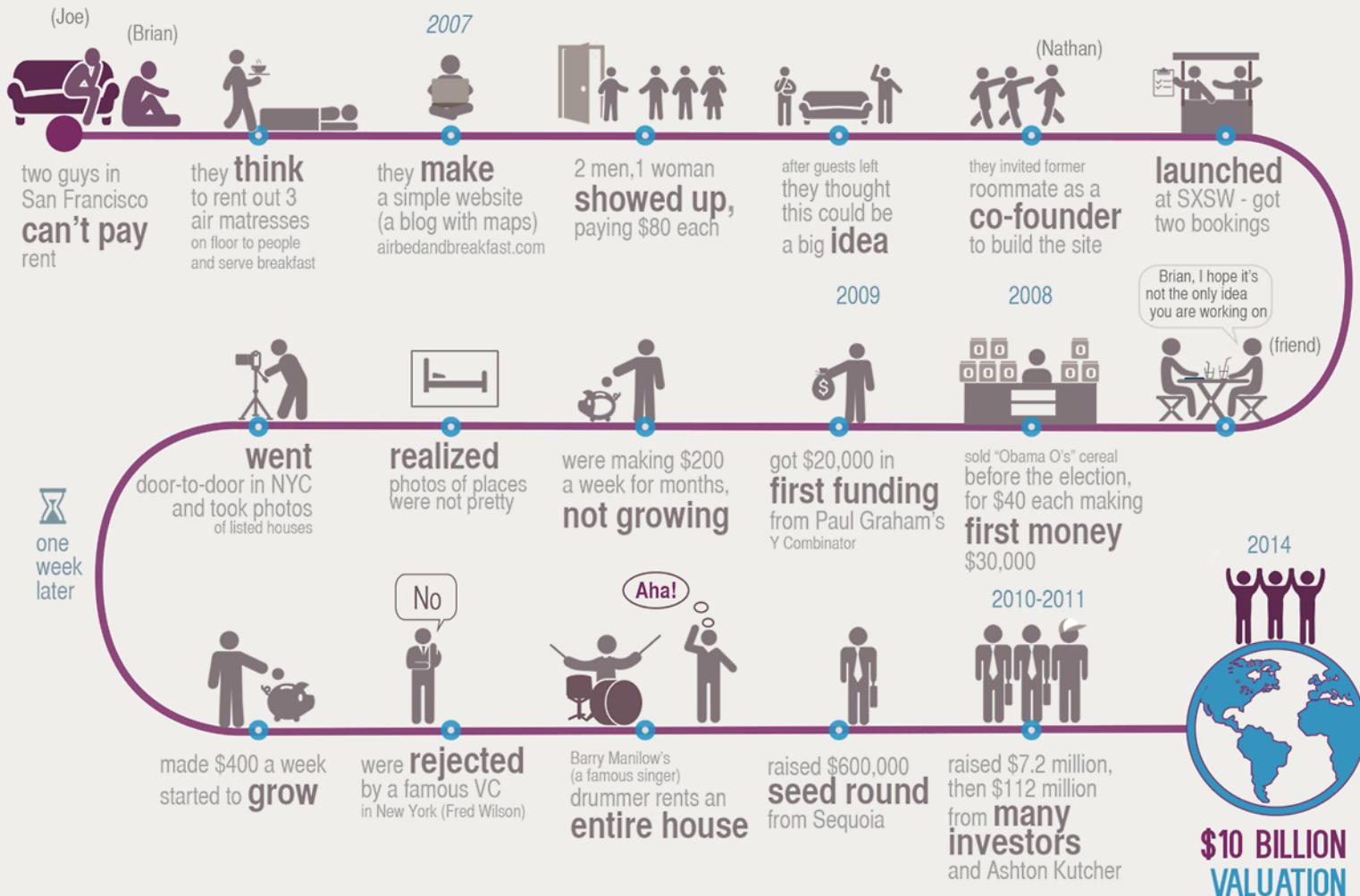
# The Platform Poster Child:



# HOW AIRBNB STARTED

Or How 3 Guys Went From Renting Air Mattresses To A 10 Billion Dollar Company

BY ANNA VITAL





# Reminder

- 4 key Assumptions that Govern Business
  - How is value created?
  - How is value consumed?
  - How is quality controlled for the value creation?
  - How does value creation scale?

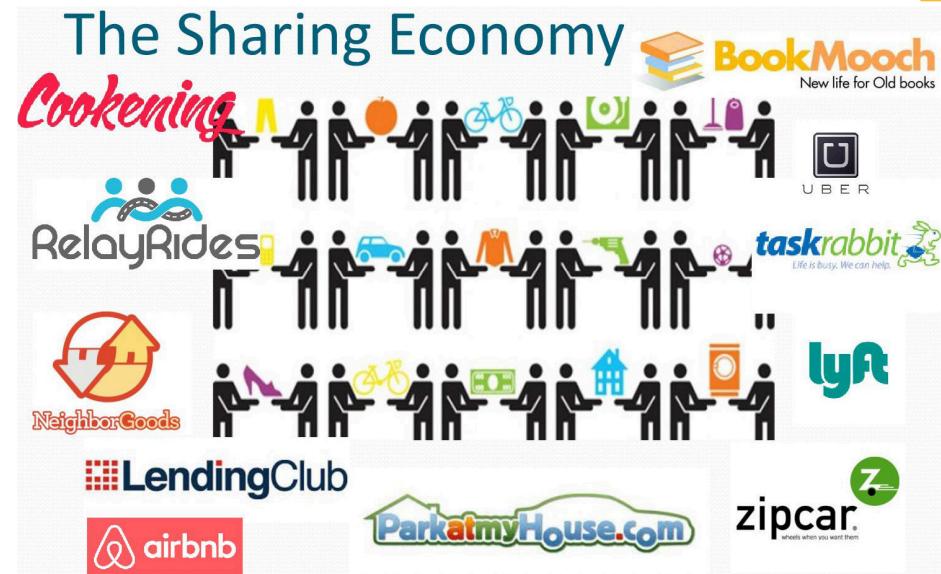
# AirBnB: Value Created

- Problem:
  - Rent and hotel accommodation costs were too high for a niche demographic.
- Opportunity:
  - People had spare room and a desire to use it generate additional income.



# AirBnB: Value Consumed

- Challenge:
  - It wasn't common for many people to stay with a stranger in a new city. It really was a niche market!
- Non-Threat:
  - This common perception is why the hospitality industry view AirBnB is a non-threat.
- Opportunity:
  - Behavioural change – drive a 'Sharing Economy' ethos. Make it socially acceptable.



# AirBnB: Quality Control

- Challenge:
  - Protect the business against bad hosts and bad guests.
- Solution:
  - Build a mutual reputation management system for the hosts and guests.  
Incentivise better reputation through rankings.
  - Develop hosting guides and novel marketing techniques.



# AirBnB: Scale

- Challenge:
  - Consume beachhead market and then rise up the chain.
  - Internationalisation and Regulation
- Solution:
  - Prove product with target market.
  - Internationalise with product targeting low end of market. (Still not a threat!)
  - Rise up the value chain with new products.





# AirBnB – a Platform Play

- The Innovation leap behind AirBnB wasn't a technology break though.
  - The technology is quiet mundane (with all due respect!).
  - The Innovation leap was firmly centred on how the product was consumed.
- In other sectors:
  - Traditional taxi offices being replaced by Uber/Lyft/Hailo etc.
    - Mobile technologies a key enabler here – however the platforms didn't require major technological breakthroughs.
  - Video rental stores replaced by Netflix
    - Netflix started with a niche low end market (mail order films) and through advances in broadband enabled them to target on-demand film customers.



# Future Sectors.

- Key Technology Enablers in the next 5 years:
  - Mobile technology and connectivity (5G/6G).
  - Artificial Intelligence – outsourcing of decision making capabilities.
  - Augmented Reality and Virtual Reality – remove the need to travel!  
Bring the lecture theatre to the student; the boardroom to the exec;  
face to face sales pitches done over AR.
- Sectors ripe for disruption:
  - Financial – insurance (health, life, motor...); investments.
  - Medical – virtual doctors.
  - Education – online MOOCs moving to personalised Learning.



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