

YouNoodle Evolves YouNoodle 1K Study and Launches YouNoodle Live Giving Top Global Startups The Opportunity to Pitch a Panel of Tech VIPs Virtually

Conducted entirely online, YouNoodle's virtual 'demo day' encourages global sourcing of innovation and investment in the startup ecosystem

San Francisco, CA – September 16, 2014 – YouNoodle (www.younoodle.com), a data-driven startup recruitment engine and customized end-to-end platform for the creation, management, and judging of startup competitions, today announced the launch of YouNoodle Live. As part of the ongoing YouNoodle 1K campaign, YouNoodle Live gives 6 startups from YouNoodle 1K the opportunity to pitch virtually to an exclusive group of venture capitalists, corporate innovation managers, and seasoned entrepreneurs. A full list of the presenting startups can be found here www.younoodle.com/live/startups.

“The startups presenting at YouNoodle Live are a representative sample of some of the top innovators in our worldwide network, that in many circumstances would have never had the opportunity to present their startups on a global scale,” said Torsten Kolind, CEO and Co-Founder of YouNoodle. “Opening up a dialogue between startups and influencers across borders is at the heart of YouNoodle and also a great benefit offered to the YouNoodle 1K network.”

YouNoodle 1K focuses on the top 1,000 entrepreneurs and ideas selected from over 28,000 startups coming through more than 400 YouNoodle-driven startup competitions worldwide in the past 12 months. It uses judging and evaluation data from competitions to paint a picture of the global startup ecosystem. The program offers members in the YouNoodle 1K network opportunities to gain access to experts, investors and business development opportunities from all over the world.

Key statistics from the top-tier YouNoodle 1K network include:

- *Sales and Size Matter* – Having a startup that was scaling sales made you almost five times as likely to make it into YouNoodle 1K compared to concept stage startups.
- *Funding Counts* – Startups with funding were 1.5 times more likely to make it into YouNoodle 1K compared to startups without funding.
- *Education Makes a Difference* – Within YouNoodle 1K, 6% completed high school, 55% had an undergraduate degree, 35% had a graduate degree, and 4% had a PhD.
- *Young Or Old You Can Still Be a YouNoodle 1Ker* – The youngest person in YouNoodle 1K is 18, the oldest is 76, and the most common age is 26.

"YouNoodle 1K startups have been selected through combined scores of the more than 4,000 experts that interact and judge entrepreneurs and business ideas across YouNoodle's growing network," said Rebeca Hwang, Co-Founder of YouNoodle. "YouNoodle Live helps to simplify the global sourcing of innovation for organizations that want to reach beyond their current infrastructure for new ideas and removes the geographic barriers to innovation and potential investment."

About YouNoodle

YouNoodle (<http://www.younoodle.com>) is a data-driven startup recruitment engine and customized end-to-end platform for the creation, management, and judging of startup

competitions. Top universities, corporations, accelerators, as well as governments use YouNoodle's tools to host challenges and judging processes, recruit high-potential entrepreneurs, and grow their startup ecosystems. Having facilitated more than 400 international competitions across 100 countries, YouNoodle has created a global talent network of 50,000 startups and has become a premier resource for expanding access to the best ideas and brightest talent across the globe. Based in Silicon Valley with a team comprised of 10 different nationalities who speak 18 different languages, YouNoodle creates a local and global opportunity network that expands the borders of the startup landscape and equalizes opportunities for entrepreneurs worldwide.