

Founder Institute, World's Largest Startup Accelerator, Launches in Bangkok

Silicon Valley-based Program Launches Sixth Chapter in Southeast Asia

NOVEMBER 5, 2013: Today the Founder Institute (<http://fi.co>), the world's largest startup accelerator with over 1,000 graduate companies, is announcing its official launch in Bangkok, Thailand. The Silicon Valley-based program now operates in six locations across Southeast Asia, and has launched 140 companies in the region since 2010. In order to celebrate the launch, the Bangkok Founder Institute has scheduled several free events where attendees can meet local entrepreneurs and learn more about the program;

- [Founder Night Out](#) (2013-11-15, 07:00 PM ICT)
- [Bangkok Startup Ideation Bootcamp](#) (2013-11-20, 06:00 PM ICT)
- [Bangkok Startup Pitch Bootcamp](#) (2013-11-26, 06:30 PM ICT)

In the Founder Institute's part-time, four month program, promising startup entrepreneurs can "learn by doing" and launch a technology company through structured training courses, practical business-building assignments, and expert feedback from a large network of business mentors. Since sessions take place at night, participants are not required to quit their day job to enroll.

Anybody who is interested can apply to the Bangkok Founder Institute at

<http://fi.co/apply/bangkok>. The Final Application Deadline is on December 1st, but those who apply by the Early Application Deadline on November 17th are eligible for a variety of scholarships - including the [Female Founder Fellowship](#), which is offered to the best overall female applicant.

Graduate companies across the Founder Institute's Southeast Asia chapters in Singapore, Jakarta, Kuala Lumpur, Ho Chi Minh City, and Hanoi, include notable startups like [Gridblaze](#) (acquired for a seven figure sum earlier this year), [Appota](#), [Clubvivre](#), [Eumakh](#), [EventNook](#), [FlightOffice](#), [Identifii](#), [Pouch](#), [Stilomo](#), and more.

"Bangkok, and Thailand in general, is a very fast growing startup ecosystem," says **Adeo Ressi, Founder & CEO of the Founder Institute**. "In just a matter of months, there has been a large influx of foreign venture capital into the region, and three major funding incubator programs have launched. We believe that the Founder Institute can play a vital role at the earliest stage of company development, in order to prepare founders to build enduring companies, using Silicon Valley best practices."

The Bangkok chapter will be led by three leaders of the burgeoning Thai startup ecosystem: **Krating Poonpol**, **Benjamin Ranck**, and **Charle Charoenphan**.

Krating Poonpol is a proclaimed technology entrepreneur and designer, and the Founder of [Disrupt University](#), the hub for progressive Thai innovators that will help prepare them to stay ahead of the curve and innovate. His previous company, Moblitz Inc., raised \$1.2 Million in seed funding, and launched a top 10 most favorite application on the iPhone in 2010.

Benjamin Ranck is a serial entrepreneur and currently the CTO of [Jetabroad](#), a fast growing online travel company. Previously, Benjamin Co-Founded two companies (Chatterspike, a data mining company, and All Over Geo, a mobile software company that focuses on the construction industry) and helped launch the Founder Institute Sydney chapter.

Charle Charoenphan is the Founder and Managing Director of [HUBBA](#), Thailand's first coworking community for startups, which began the coworking movement in the Thailand. In addition, Charle has started several companies and helps organize the biggest tech conference in Thailand, and Startup Weekend in Bangkok.

Expected Mentors for the program include:

- **Adeo Ressi**, CEO of TheFunded.com and the Founder Institute
- **Adrian Vanzyl**, CEO of Ardent Capital
- **Dr. Jay Jootar**, Chairman of the VC Group
- **Ian Borders**, Founder & CEO of MergePay
- **Jakob Lykkegaard Pedersen**, Co-Founder & Investor, Pocket Playlab
- **Matt Walters**, Principal of Ardent Capital
- **Natavudh Pungcharoenpong**, Founder & CEO of Ookbee
- **Natsakon Kiatsuranon**, CEO & Co-Founder, ShopSpot Mobility Pte Ltd
- **Oranuch Lerdsuwankij**, Co-Founder, Thumbsup
- **Patai Padungtin**, Principal / Evangelist , Bulk Asia Co., Ltd.
- **Pawoot Pom Pongvitayapanu**, Founder & Managing Director, TARAD.com
- **Rapeepat Pattanakulchai**, Managing Director, PKM Consulting Group
- **Supachai Parchariyanon**, Managing Director and Founder , MCFIVA
- **Tom Srivorakul**, CEO, Whats New Group – a division of Ardent Capital
- **Tomas Laboutka**, CEO & Co-Founder, Hotel Quickly
- **Yod Chinsupakul**, CEO/Co-Founder, Wongnai Media Co., Ltd.
- And many more to be announced.

Learn more about the Founder Institute at <http://fi.co>.

About the Founder Institute

The Founder Institute (<http://fi.co>) is the world's largest entrepreneur training and startup launch program, helping aspiring founders across the globe build enduring technology companies. Without being required to quit their day jobs, promising startup entrepreneurs in the program “learn by doing” and launch a company through structured training courses, practical business-building assignments, and expert feedback from a large network of business mentors. In only 4.5 years of operation, the Founder Institute has helped launch over 1,003 companies across 55 and six continents. Our goal is to “Globalize Silicon Valley” and help promising entrepreneurs launch companies that will create over 20,000 new jobs per year by 2020.

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