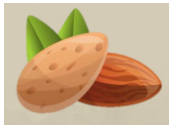




RICE | BUSINESS

VETERANS BUSINESS BATTLE

SEMI-FINALISTS 2020



Almond Finance is a financial services company that utilizes a mobile application to bring micro-lending, marketplace mapping and digital transaction services to rural communities in Myanmar. Almond Finance integrates these three services, extending the reach of existing digital payment firms and lending institutions. This B2B service is highly interoperable with existing platforms and generates revenue through a small fee charged on lending and transactions executed through its service. Founder Adam Swartzbaugh is a U.S. Army Green Beret Veteran.



KnightCase is a patented, double layer pillowcase uniquely designed to safeguard the user’s head from the viruses, bacteria, and other pathogens that can be found in hotel and non-sanitized pillows. Developed with frequent travelers in mind, the product utilizes a textile that meets the highest federal standards of protection for medical first responders. Founder Scott Cubbler is a U.S. Marine Corps Veteran.



TriFitness Gym is a functional fitness facility that provides training and coaching to the country’s growing 50+ age population. Located in Houston, TX, TriFitness Co-Founders Jake Trione and John Adiletta are seeking investments to expand on their successful model by opening additional gym facilities. Jake Trione is a U.S. Coast Guard Veteran.



weshowup.io helps arts, culture and entertainment organizations improve their margins and reach new audiences. It achieves this through a payment platform that allows audience members to pay what they want when the perception of value for a performance is highest – at the *end* of the event! Founder Kahlil Ashanti has over 30 years of entertainment experience (having won both New York Times *Critics Pick* and *Scotsman Fringe First Awards*) and is a U.S. Air Force Veteran.



Crew Trace Systems is a pre-seed startup developing a defense and maritime sensor platform that securely monitors personnel aboard naval vessels. The technology seeks to address shortcomings in safety and accountability procedures by giving commanders real time situational awareness throughout their ships. Founder Dean Meredith is a U.S. Marine Corps Veteran. Co-Founder Sean Ublacker is a U.S. Navy Veteran.



Cowboy Cricket Farms is an emerging industry leader in the entomophagy (edible insects) market in the United States. It is the largest producer of crickets in the US and specializes in the processing of crickets into nutritionally dense foods for humans. Founder and CEO Kathy Rolin is a U.S. Coast Guard Veteran. Co-Founder and COO James Rolin is also a U.S. Coast Guard Veteran.



Cultured Decadence is a cellular aquaculture startup focused on creating real lobster and crab meat using cell culturing and tissue engineering techniques. Their technology allows them to make high-value portions of the animal and eliminates the need to harvest them in the wild. Cultured Decadence seeks to address the growing demand for nutritious, safe, and sustainable seafood worldwide. Co-founder Ian Johnson is a molecular biologist. Co-founder John Pattison is an MBA graduate and U.S. Army Veteran.



KnowRX is a HIPAA compliant mobile online application that schedules, monitors, and provides information and feedback on drug usage – prescription and over-the-counter medicines – for consumers and designated medical contacts. KnowRX is designed to promote well-being through an online platform for patient and physician engagement. Co-Founder James Powell, M.D., has 24 years' experience as a clinical research executive in the biopharmaceutical industry. Co-Founder David Franklin has 22 years' experience and is a U.S. Navy Veteran.



Milk Money Kitchens provides tech enabled commercially licensed kitchen space for food entrepreneurs to rent, ultimately to grow or launch their independent food businesses. They also provide consulting services to help increase the success of food businesses, while reducing their debt and risk. Founders Nancy and Jeff Preston are both MBA graduates and U.S. Army Veterans.



Sustainment Technologies offers a procurement technology framework layering the emergent technologies of artificial intelligence, blockchain, and internet of things to more efficiently and securely drive the procurement process for discrete manufactured replacement parts. Their technology secures critical technical data associated with parts to automatically detect available manufacturing capacity, calculate accurate pricing and assign contracts, and safely transmit necessary manufacturing codes. Founder Michael Morford is a U.S. Army Veteran and a DoD Procurement subject matter expert.



YouMeMine simplifies the process of finding egg donors and surrogates by providing the only centralized database of profiles from multiple agencies and clinics around the world. YouMeMine allows you to work one-on-one with a matching expert to find an ideal match, or search through the largest global egg donor and surrogate database in the world. Founder and CEO Melanie Murphy is a U.S. Army Veteran.

Capsulomics

Capsulomics is on a mission to detect cancer in its earliest stage, when it can more effectively be treated and cured. Capsulomics offers a non-invasive test intended to detect lethal esophageal cancer and pre-cancer indicators. Co-founder Stephen Meltzer is a medical doctor and an American Cancer Society Clinical Professor at Johns Hopkins. Co-founder Daniel Lutz is an MBA graduate and a U.S. Marine Corps Veteran.

FIELD CRAFT

Fieldcraft is an ingredient marketplace connecting buyers, suppliers, and growers. Fieldcraft's platform helps food and beverage companies discover ingredients, collaborate with suppliers and growers efficiently, and innovate faster. The platform also gives suppliers access to diverse markets, helping them save time and money while improving customer experience. Co-Founder and CTO Kristy Chapman has over 10 years of experience in tech and business intelligence. Co-Founder and CEO Michael Chapman is a U.S. Army Veteran.

FILMOCRACY

Filmocracy is an independent movie streaming service that is built to help independent filmmakers reach their audience through a gamified rewards-based interface. Filmocracy is primarily focused on creating a sustainable, monetized film ecosystem that supports filmmakers and film enthusiasts alike. Founder Paul Jun is a U.S. Air Force Veteran.



Raven Spatial is a location intelligence company that specializes in mappable, on-demand, and crowdsourced aerial-drone and smartphone imagery. A digital marketplace converts customer requests into tasks that users of Raven Spatial's app – *Paypixl* – can fulfill. *Paypixl* users can find, navigate to, and collect imagery for available tasks using built-in navigation and imagery collection queues. Founder and CEO Bobby Quinn is a U.S. Air Force Veteran.



Virimodo is a web app that connects urban residents living in condos, co-ops and apartments with curated, clean energy suppliers to simplify clean energy usage. The platform also helps people to improve their carbon footprint with monthly energy analytics, a utility bill checker, and suggestions for reducing one's carbon footprint. Founder Donna Sanders is a U.S. Marine Corps Veteran.

YOUTUBE LIVESTREAM: 17 APRIL 2020 | 9am – 5pm CST

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