



THE UNIVERSITY
of EDINBURGH



AI Accelerator

Company Profiles 2026 - 2027



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About

The AI Accelerator is where ambitious AI-driven businesses come to grow.

Over six months, you'll get the support, connections, and expertise you need to tackle global challenges and create real-world impact.

From AgriTech to FinTech, this is about accelerating high-growth ventures into global success stories.



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Team



FABRIZIO FORMICHELLA
Interim Programme Manager

Fabrizio is an experienced Programme Manager, having progressed from supporting successful accelerator programmes to leading their design, development and delivery, including the University of Edinburgh accelerator and ECCI Green-Q Programme.

With experience across business support and technology startups, he understands the needs of growing businesses. Since the programme's inception, Fabrizio has supported and now leads its curation, organisation and development, continually refining it to maximise value for participants and stakeholders.



SARAH HALL
Programme Administrator

An alumni of Edinburgh University, Sarah brings four years of startup support experience, ranging from mentorship administration to events coordination and community engagement. They previously worked at CodeBase, working closely with companies in the technology sector across all business stages, from ideation stage to scale up.

Sarah supports the programme manager on the organisation and running of the programme and makes sure everything runs smoothly.



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Entrepreneurs in Residence



DANIEL WINTERSTEIN

Technical Entrepreneur in Residence

Daniel is an entrepreneur, AI and data expert and Co-Founder of Good-Loop, an ethical advertising company. He brought carbon accounting into digital advertising, and is a member of the IAB Sustainability Group.

Daniel has worked with organisations including Harrods, Ministry of Defence, and Scottish start-ups ZoneFox (now Fortinet Edinburgh), QikServe, and Silent Herdsman (now AfiCollar). He was awarded Scottish Director of the Year-Start Ups in 2019 and is also a ScotlandIS Technology-for-Good award winner.



RACHEL JONES

Commercial Entrepreneur in Residence

Rachel has 30+ years of experience in innovation, manufacturing, technology, and strategic leadership. She is the founder of SnapDragon, an award-brand protection agency.

Since stepping down as CEO, Rachel has taken on an ambassadorial and non-executive director portfolio, alongside mentoring for TechScaler, AccelerateHER and Barclay EagleLabs, and volunteering as a coach with Smart Works Scotland. She also serves on the board of Glencraft and is chair of the Scottish Anti-Illicit Trade Group.



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Investors in Residence



HUNTER MOORE

Investor in Residence

Hunter Moore is a Principal at Sure Valley Ventures, a specialist AI venture capital firm. He leads their university outreach programme, partnering with accelerators, incubators, and founder ecosystems across UK higher education to identify and support the next generation of AI-native founders. Hunter runs deals end-to-end, from origination and due diligence through to close and works closely with portfolio companies at board level.



PAUL EXCELL

Investor in Residence

Paul is an experienced Partner, Investor, Award-Winning Executive Coach, Board Advisor and Global CEO with an established track record of exceptional impact in innovative high-growth technology startups and scale-ups. He is committed to paying it forward and social mobility after starting his own career as an apprentice at 16.



**EWAN
MCMILLAN**

CEO, Calterra

About

Calterra combines geospatial AI with developer tools to help nature restoration projects plan faster, monitor continuously, prove impact and access the capital needed to scale.

Connect

web:
calterra.io

linkedin:
linkedin.com/company/calterraai



Problem

Nature restoration is constrained by slow, fragmented and largely manual workflows. Developers rely on field surveys, basic GIS, spreadsheets and infrequent monitoring to plan projects and demonstrate compliance. This makes projects expensive to originate and difficult to verify at scale. Investors therefore lack the continuous, trustworthy evidence needed for due diligence, leaving high-quality projects unfunded and contributing to the UK's £2 billion nature-finance gap.

Solution

Calterra provides a full-lifecycle platform for nature restoration projects. Its Developer Hub uses geospatial AI to automate site assessment, restoration planning, monitoring and compliance reporting. The resulting data creates continuous, auditable evidence from day one. Calterra's Marketplace then connects verified projects with investors and carbon buyers, helping developers deliver projects faster while giving capital providers the transparency needed to fund them confidently.

Market

Calterra serves nature-project developers, landowners and investors across UK peatland and woodland markets, before expanding into European and North American restoration markets.



DR TIM HURST

Co-founder,
Canongate AI

About

Canongate is building the operating system for Political Risk and Violence insurers. It supports the full underwriting workflow, turning raw political intelligence into clear, defensible decisions. It scores every country daily, giving underwriters the evidence to select better risks and price them properly.

Connect

web:
canongate.ai

linkedin:
linkedin.com/company/canongate-ai



Problem

Political Violence and Political Risk underwriters are among the most underserved in insurance. Property and cat lines have models and analytics built around them, while PV and PR teams face rising submission volumes armed with broker narratives, annual country reports and the news. Skilled underwriters compensate with experience and judgement, but with so much business to quote, there is no time to research every risk properly. The market that insures instability has never had the tools to measure it.

Solution

Canongate is the operating system for Political Violence and Political Risk insurers. Our National Stability Index scores every country, every day, across all PV and PR perils, giving underwriters a consistent, current measure of the instability they insure. An AI analyst sits on top, answering questions on any risk in seconds. Underwriters can triage submissions quickly, focus their expertise where it matters, and select and price with evidence behind their judgement, not just alongside it.

Market

Every Political Violence and Political Risk insurer worldwide needs this. We start with Lloyd's, the global home of the specialty market, then expand to company markets and international carriers.



**GUY
GADNEY**

Co-founder &
CEO, Charismatic
Entertainment
Limited

About

Charismatic.ai revolutionises video content production from idea to screen. It is a unique system to generate scripts, storyboards and metadata to semi-automate production processes for the creator economy and Hollywood.

Connect

web:
charismatic.ai

linkedin:
linkedin.com/company/charismatic-ai



Problem

The entertainment industry is going through a highly disruptive transformation triggered by social media, YouTube, Netflix and now AI. This has upended commissioning models for film and TV, changed advertising dynamics and seen audiences move online. Now AI is poised to transform end-to-end production models, enabling anyone to create Hollywood quality movies and TV series with minimal teams. Traditional media companies are not structured nor prepared for this revolution, which is largely being played out on social media platforms.

Solution

Charismatic.ai bridges the gap between traditional creative practitioners and new AI capabilities. We bring the values, skillsets and language of entertainment production into the AI world, enabling existing companies and creators to lean in to AI and create their productions rapidly, whilst also retaining creative control of every step of the process. This unique approach is technically and practically different to LLMs, creating credibility and defensibility in the market.

Market

Our market is the global generative AI media market worth £46.9bn in 2025, and forecast to reach £266bn by 2030 (AVB).



**DR ASHIMA
CHOPRA**
CEO, DATAMBIT

About

Datambit delivers real-time AI-powered deepfake detection, protecting trusted communications, identity verification, and digital security against synthetic media, fraud, impersonation, and AI-driven deception.

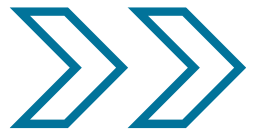
Connect

web:
datambit.com

linkedin:
linkedin.com/company/datambit/



DATAMBIT



Problem

AI-generated voice and video are enabling fraud, identity theft, misinformation, and security breaches at unprecedented scale. Existing rule-based detection systems cannot keep pace with rapidly evolving deepfakes, leaving governments, enterprises, financial institutions, and media organisations vulnerable to costly attacks and erosion of digital trust.

Solution

Datambit provides real-time AI-powered detection of synthetic voice and video, enabling organisations to verify authenticity before trust is compromised. Our multimodal AI platform continuously adapts to emerging deepfake threats and integrates via API, SaaS, or on-premise deployment, protecting communications, identity verification, and digital security across enterprise and government environments.

Market

Government, defence, financial services, media, and regulated enterprises needing trusted AI-powered protection against deepfake fraud, identity attacks, and synthetic media.



**PAUL
GREAVES**

Founder & CEO,
fixzy.ai

About

Fixzy replaces slow, manual property assessments with an end-to-end AI workflow that detects damage, generates instant repair scopes, and produces auditable compliance reports for social housing providers.

Connect

web:
fixzy.ai

linkedin:
linkedin.com/company/fixzyai



Problem

Awaab's Law requires social landlords to investigate hazards within strict statutory timescales, communicate findings and maintain an auditable record of every decision. Yet inspections remain manual, evidence is fragmented and experienced surveyors are increasingly scarce. Multiple visits, inconsistent repair scopes and disconnected systems slow repairs, increase costs and make compliance difficult to demonstrate. As regulation tightens across England and Scotland, landlords need a faster, more consistent and evidence-based approach to property inspections and repairs.

Solution

Fixzy brings AI technology already proven in UK and Australian property insurance into social housing. Using computer vision, it detects, locates and measures visible property damage, generates an instant itemised repair scope, creates 2D and 3D property plans and produces written compliance reports from a single inspection. Every finding is time-stamped, evidence based and auditable, giving landlords a consistent digital record that supports faster repairs, better decisions and regulatory compliance.

Market

Proven across UK and Australian property insurance, Fixzy is expanding into a multi billion pound property claims and repairs market spanning insurance, social housing and residential asset management.



**JAY
THOMSON**

Founder & CEO,
Maaten Ltd

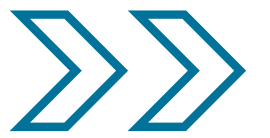
About

Maaten's AI agents run your paid media across Google, Meta, TikTok and more, testing and optimising continuously, with one reconciled report from first impression to revenue.

Connect

web:
maaten.com

linkedin:
linkedin.com/company/maaten



Problem

Companies pay agencies £5,000 to £30,000 a month to manage ads manually across Google, Facebook, Instagram, TikTok and LinkedIn. Each platform reports different numbers, so nobody knows the true return. A human team runs about 10 campaign tests a year and finds mistakes weeks after the budget is spent. The ad platforms are now APIs and the testing is automatable, but the industry still sells hours. Advertisers are paying expert prices for work software should do.

Solution

Maaten replaces the manual agency work with specialist AI agents. Each agent owns one job: bids, budgets, creative testing, reporting. They work through the platforms' own APIs, as approved developers for Google, Meta, TikTok and LinkedIn, and every result lands in a unified dataset, so clients see a single reconciled view from first impression to revenue. A deployment runs thousands of controlled tests a year for a fraction of a retainer. People set the strategy and make the judgement calls.

Market

Advertisers will spend roughly £700bn on digital ads in 2026. Managing that spend is a £80bn+ services layer, still sold mostly as human hours. That layer is replaced by Maaten.



**GATLEEN
BHAMBRA**

Co-founder,
Mater-AI

About

Thermoelectric materials can convert waste heat into usable electricity. However, they are currently inefficient and the pace of research is slow. Mater-AI uses AI to accelerate thermoelectric material discovery.

Connect

web:
mater-ai.com

linkedin:
linkedin.com/company/mater-ai



Problem

Over 70% of generated energy is lost as waste heat, climbing to over 90% in data centres. Thermoelectric devices can convert this heat to electricity, but current devices are hindered by inefficient materials. Due to the complex nature of these materials and the slow pace of traditional R&D, little progress has been made in reaching the limits of their efficiency.

Solution

By using AI we can explore candidate thermoelectrics from across the materials space rapidly, as opposed to traditional methods that tweak known materials. This allows us to generate, screen and validate novel thermoelectrics that are more diverse than those explored traditionally, and at a faster pace. In doing so, we will produce materials with higher efficiencies and thereby improve thermoelectric devices. Better materials mean better devices, and better devices will help solve the world's waste heat problem.

Market

Data centres, IoT sensors, space exploration, quantum, industrial waste heat, transport.



RAGS SATHANANDAN

Co-founder,
Platform3

About

platform3 is the AI-first platform built for accounting firms, automating complex deliverables - financial statements, working papers, technical reviews - with the trust and oversight accountants need.

Connect

web:
platform3.ai

linkedin:
linkedin.com/company/platform3ai



Problem

Accountants face growing pressure - skills shortages, rising demand, regulatory load - forcing firms to do more with less. AI is an obvious opportunity, but adoption stalls on trust and operating model uncertainty. The standard AI tools lack the context, transparency, and control that a regulated profession demands. Accounting is built on accuracy, so firms won't easily trust AI on deliverables carrying professional and regulatory significance. Platform3 closes this uncertainty gap with trusted infrastructure built around accounting workflows and standards.

Solution

platform3 is the AI platform for complex accounting deliverables that demand real professional judgement. We deploy agents that augment accounting teams - planning, gathering, preparing, reviewing - orchestrated by a central agent applying the right skill to each task. The platform leverages both AI and deterministic skills, so we can provide trust in how each workflow operates. Every action is captured in an audit trail, giving firms full visibility and oversight. Built with accountants, for trust and control.

Market

UK accounting services is a £20bn+ sector. We are targeting the Top 100 UK firms first, expanding into Europe and then globally as trust and adoption build.



**STEFAN
LJUTZKANOV**

CEO & CPO,
SportERP

About

SportERP builds the AI-native platform for international sports federations and national governing bodies. Using research-backed standards, agentic AI and one data model to replace spreadsheets, consultants and disconnected systems.

Connect

web:
sporterp.co.uk

linkedin:
linkedin.com/company/sporterpglobal



Problem

Sport is a £488 billion industry still run on spreadsheets. 57% of FIFA member organisations have no formal development framework, and most federations lose over £100,000 a year to disconnected systems, manual reporting and duplicated admin. The people who could fix this face a false choice: software vendors with no research credibility, or consultants with no scalable technology. Neither leaves the organisation with usable data, and neither survives the next change of leadership.

Solution

SportERP combines a research institute, a platform and sport-specific delivery. Our Research Lab develops international standards for organisational health, athlete and coach development. Those standards are encoded into an AI-native platform built on a single multi-tenant data model, with RuNari, our agentic AI layer, sitting across it. Federations get benchmarking, assessment and reporting in days rather than years, with the research credibility that governing bodies require before they will adopt anything.

Market

£488 billion global sport industry. Serviceable market £53 billion: international federations, national governing bodies, elite clubs and academies. Beachhead is Olympic summer federations, starting with badminton and football.



**MATTEO
FORTE**

Founder & CEO,
Switch

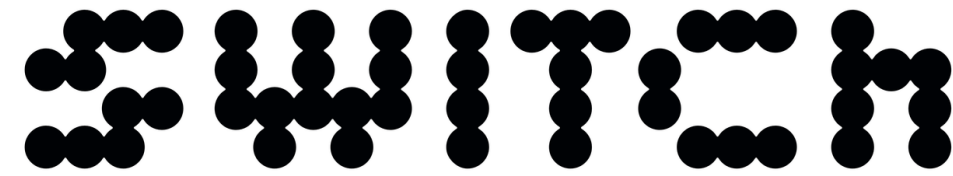
About

SWITCH builds Myles: an AI agent that runs urban fleets by forecasting demand, rebalancing vehicles and answering operations questions live, at 92%+ accuracy. Deployed across four countries.

Connect

web:
getswitch.io

linkedin:
linkedin.com/company/streetwitcher



Problem

80% of new vehicles ship with built-in connectivity, so mobility and logistics operators are drowning in telemetry data. However, fewer than 6% use AI to make operating decisions, with the rest still running on dashboards and human judgement. Every major vertical has its AI winner: Harvey in legal, Sierra in support, Cursor in developer tools. The mobility and logistics sectors account for 10% of global GDP and yet have no AI winner. The data exists but the decisions are still made by hand.

Solution

Myles is the first AI employee for mobility and logistics operators. It connects to each client's existing fleet-management, telematics, booking, logistics and other operational systems, then unifies city telemetry, demand, weather and events into one live state. It forecasts what happens next with 92%+ accuracy and turns predictions into fleet decisions: forecasting demand, rebalancing vehicles, flagging disruptions and answering operations questions in plain language. Available as a standalone AI Agent or embedded via API and MCP.

Market

€2.4B today serving 44.7K connected urban fleet operators, stepping up to a €15B public and intermodal planning market and a €60B mobility-data horizon.



**MIKE
OATEN**
CEO, TIKOS

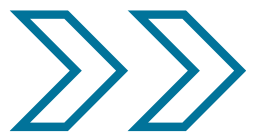
About

TIKOS® is a patent-pending AI assurance platform that solves the AI "black box" problem by analysing deep-learning models in real-time, enabling testing and continuous monitoring in high-stakes environments.

Connect

web:
tikos.tech

linkedin:
linkedin.com/company/tikos-tech



Problem

AI is untrustworthy. Bias, hallucinations, security flaws and technical failures plague AI deployments in high-stakes environments, yet organisations cannot see inside the models causing them. AI operates as a black box: inputs go in, outputs come out, but the internal decision-making is invisible and unauditable. Regulation is tightening fast: the EU AI Act, FCA Consumer Duty, PRA SS1/23 and MoD JSP 936 all demand proof of compliance. Only 14% of CEOs believe their AI systems are compliant (EY).

Solution

TIKOS® is an AI assurance platform that solves the AI "black box" problem by capturing and analysing the internal operations of deep-learning models during inference. Recording every model's internal decision path as a 'Causality Traces', it continuously monitors bias, hallucinations, security risks and performance drift, while generating mathematically grounded explanations for every AI decision, giving the engineers the tools to fix root causes. The result: an enterprise-grade platform that makes AI adoption safe, auditable and provably compliant at scale.

Market

Global AI Assurance market forecast at \$275bn by 2035. With 16,000+ regulated enterprises across the UK and EU needing to build their evidence-based AI compliance now.



**ABDULLAH
AL WASIF**

CEO, Unityflow AI

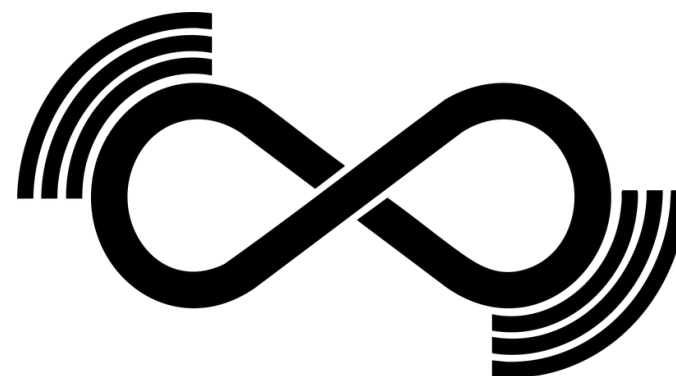
About

UnityFlow AI builds multilingual transcription, data labelling and automation tools for enterprises and public sector teams, helping them deploy practical AI across language and operational workflows.

Connect

web:
unityflow.ai

linkedin:
linkedin.com/company/unityflowai



Problem

Enterprises and public sector teams want to adopt AI, but most tools are not built for multilingual, regulated, or operationally complex environments. Language gaps, poor data quality, compliance concerns and fragmented workflows make it difficult to deploy AI safely and effectively. This leaves organisations relying on manual processes, disconnected vendors and models that often underperform for diverse users and underrepresented languages.

Solution

Unityflow provides practical AI infrastructure for multilingual transcription, data collection, labelling, evaluation and enterprise automation. Our products combine speech AI, workflow automation and human-in-the-loop data services to help organisations build and deploy AI safely. We support both self-serve users and business customers, with tools designed for regulated, multilingual and operationally demanding environments.

Market

Unityflow targets the growing AI infrastructure, transcription, automation and data labelling markets, serving enterprises, public sector teams, and multilingual AI builders globally.



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