

# IDG Ventures Boston Entrepreneurs' Network April 4, 2006

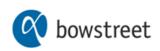
Michael A. Greeley mgreeley@idgventures.com (617) 534-1200



## **IDG Ventures Boston**

#### Partnering with great entrepreneurs to build great companies































One Exeter Plaza, Boston MA 02116

Phone: 617-534-1200



## **IDG Ventures Boston - Overview**

- A "next-generation" firm created by experienced investors and operators with strong personal networks and domain expertise
  - \$100M fund formed in late 2001
  - \$180M fund formed in April 2005
  - Limited Partners include IDG, Yale, Princeton and other outside limited partners
- Pursuing a differentiated strategy that resonates with entrepreneurs and co-investors
  - <u>Team</u>: four experienced, hands-on general partners
  - <u>"Capital gap"</u>: focus on early-stage, capital-efficient start-ups
  - <u>IDG</u>: Strategic relationship to assist portfolio companies
- Independent partnership with focus on investing in high-growth, early stage information and healthcare technology companies



## IDG Ventures: Global \$1 Billion Network of Funds

Current Funds

Boston \$280M, 2 funds (2001 and 2005)

China
 \$800M, 4 funds (1992, 2000 and 2005 x 2)

Europe \$100M, 2000

San Francisco \$120M, 1996

Vietnam \$100M, 2004

- Each fund is operated as an autonomous unit
  - Dedicated pools of capital
  - Local decision making
  - Local economics



## **IDG Ventures Boston Team**

- David Aronoff, General Partner
  - Greylock, General Partner
  - Attitude Network, Co-founder/VP
  - Chipcom, Director of Engineering
  - AT&T Bell Labs
  - BS University of Vermont, MS USC, MBA Harvard
- Jeff Bussgang, General Partner
  - Upromise, Co-founder/President
  - Open Market, VP/exec team
  - The Boston Consulting Group
  - BA Harvard, MBA Harvard

- Michael Greeley, General Partner
  - Polaris Venture Partners
  - GCC Investments, Mng. GP
  - Wasserstein Perella, VP
  - BA Williams, MBA Harvard
- Chip Hazard, General Partner
  - Greylock, General Partner
  - Bain & Company
  - BA Stanford, MBA Harvard



Each partner has broad-based business training plus either 10+ years of investing experience or senior operating experience in start-ups





- \$2.4 billion in revenue13,500 employees

#### **Publications**



**COMPUTERWORLD** 





300 publications in 85 countries

#### Research





World's leading provider of IT, Health/IT intelligence

#### **Events**







168 conferences in 35 countries

#### DB/LeadGen





IDG websites, database

Reaches 120 million IT buyers worldwide, representing 95% of worldwide IT spending



## **Investment Strategy**

|             | Startups<br>(75%)  | Emerging<br>Winners (20%)  | Recapitalizations -Restarts (5%)   |
|-------------|--|--|--|
| Criteria    | Strong founding team<br>with differentiated<br>product/market vision | Strong team and existing VC support, GA/beta product w/significant pipeline/momentum | New team and vision around existing product asset with significant historic investment |
| \$ Invested | \$1-3M initial, \$6-10M in aggregate                                 | \$3-6M initial, \$6-10M in aggregate   | \$2-6M initial, \$6-10M in aggregate  15-25% ownership target                          |
| IDG Role    | 20-30% ownership target  Lead or co-lead                             | 10-20% ownership target  Lead or co-lead   | Lead or co-lead  |



## **Operating Principles**

- Entrepreneur as partners
  - Responsible, committed, helpful board members
  - Clean term sheets; fair valuations
- Clear, issues-driven due-diligence
  - Transparent process: "you know where we stand"
- Understand motivations of existing VC or angel investors when coming into later round opportunities
  - Will set valuation and lead round to galvanize followers and insider commitments



### **Current Sector Focus**

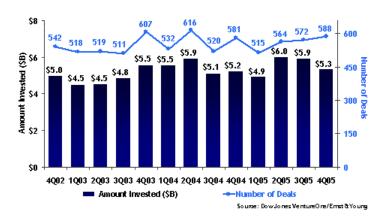
- Computing at the edge
  - Web Services
  - Wireless Applications
  - Wireless Infrastructure
- Enterprise IT
  - Datacenter Virtualization
  - Open Source
  - SaaS
- Managing in an Insecure World
  - Information Security
  - Compliance
  - Physical and Homeland Security

- IT-Life Sciences Convergence
  - Tools for Life Sciences
  - Smart Devices
  - Health IT
- Consumer Infrastructure
  - Technology-enabled Marketing
  - E-commerce
  - Financial Services/Payments
- Platform Semiconductors & Related Technologies
  - Digital Home Convergence
  - Next Generation Computing
  - Imaging and Displays

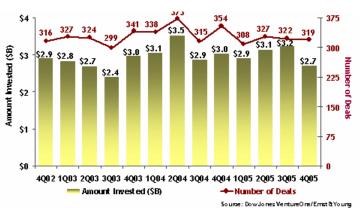


## **Venture Statistics**

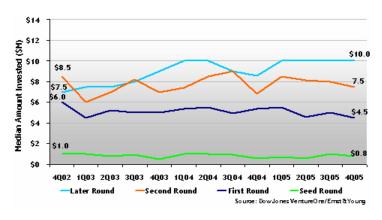
Equity into Venture-Backed Companies (quarterly)



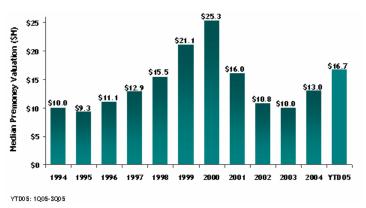
Equity Investment in Information Technology Companies



Median Amount Invested by Round Class



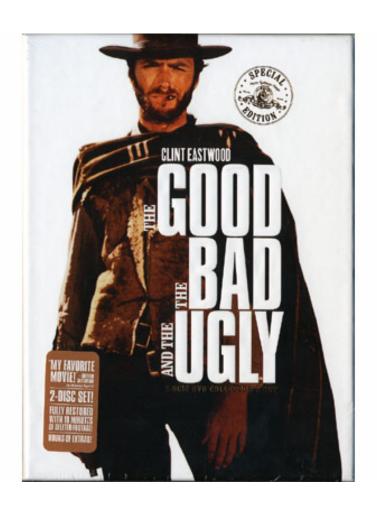
Median Premoney Valuations by Round Class



Investments & round size down; valuations up



## **Venture Environment**





## The Good...

- Changing environment conducive to us establishing a leadership position in the New England market
  - Capital gap still exists
  - Many funds still in transition
  - Entrepreneurs welcome new entrants
- Few practitioners of true early stage investing, overall number of practicing VCs declines 2004 & 2005 for first time since 1991
- Many pockets of innovation
  - Wireless
  - Med Tech
  - Consumer Internet
  - Digital Home
  - Open Source
  - Cleantech / Advanced materials / Nano
- Emphasis on capital efficiency understood by (most) entrepreneurs
- Good ingredients for company-building (experienced teams, nimble service providers, fairly robust macroeconomic environment)
- Signs of life in M&A market (Tech M&A up 19% y/y, prices 2.7x revenue)



## The Bad...

- Mediocre equity returns expected across public equity asset class
- Returns generated by a few large winners
- Investment opportunities that "check all the boxes" see heavy competition
- VC fundraising of \$25.2bn, up from \$17.3bn in 2004
- Median valuations up 28% 2005/2004
- Lake Wobegon problem: great dispersion in returns, but everyone is convinced (ourselves included!) they are above average

Source: Venture Source



## ...And The Ugly

- Bill Sahlman observations at HBS, January 2006
  - Industry is "structurally unattractive" (too much capital, little barriers to entry, high barriers to exit, fierce rivalry)
  - Median rate of return will be 0%
- IPO market remains all but closed to VC-backed companies less than 6-10 years old and \$80M+ in revenue and visibility to near term profitability
- Acquirers in each category are few, resulting in reverse auction risk and dearth of "stupid multiples"



## Advice From the "Cheap Seats"

- Preparation, preparation, preparation...
  - business plan, references (customers/personal), pitch
  - advisors
- Milestone funding strategy: "2 plus 3" rule
- Be on message: How do you uniquely solve market need?
- You are always fundraising
- Venture capital is expensive/onerous/burdensome but it works!