**Press Release - 22nd Sept. 2016**

## Building Global Innovators (BGI) – IUL MIT Portugal Accelerator

## Road 2 Web Summit startups announced yesterday the 67 Winning Startups that will be representing Portugal at the Web Summit, Nov. 7 - 11, 2016 in Lisbon - Portugal.

- **More than 16% of the startups (n=11) that won the possibility to showcase their project with an Alpha Pass, are BGI Alumni (scroll down for full list)**
- **19 BGI alumni involved when taking into consideration all "startup" programs at Web Summit**
- **BGI and LisbonChallenge rank #1 *Ex aequo* as the Portuguese-based accelerators with most alumni startups in the road 2 web summit.**

**BGI alumni selected to represent Portugal at the Web summit:**

- doDOC (*)
- Fibersail
- Follow Inspiration
- GleXYZ
- Hole19
- HydrUStent
- Kinetikos
- NU-RISE
- Sensefinity
- TREAT-U (*)
- Watgrid

**BGI alumni present at Web Summit with an Alpha Pass (n=8)[1]:**

- AppyFans
- Casas em Movimento
- eSolidar
- Displr
- pCPR
- Plux
- P3D
- Veniam

Finally, 4.5% are MIT Portugal spinouts (n=3), 2 identified with "*" in above list. The only one from this group which has not benefited from acceleration from BGI is Sensei.

[1] NOTE: this list is correct at this date but may grow as we approach the event.

Web Summit is considered Europe's largest technology marketplace. Instead of the being held in Dublin, as usual since 2010, this here Lisbon will be the stage for the technology event.

More than 50,000 tech CEOs, founders, startups, investors and political leaders driving change across the world are coming together and they will be looking for answers to the questions posed by the tech revolution we're living through.

## For additional information, please contact:

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### About BGI (Building Global Innovators – IUL MIT Portugal accelerator)

BGI is a deep innovation accelerator for technology-based ventures. It has been building global innovators for the last 7 years (7 ed. ongoing), having accelerated 117 ventures, 74 of which are active. The record survival rate of close to 70% places the accelerator among the most successful in the world! To date BGI alumni have aggregately raised 80M€ in venture financing from global investors and created 450 high tech jobs. In 2015, BGI was considered by Hot Topics to be within the 100 most influential accelerators in the world. BGI is an integrant part of the MIT Portugal Program and has been actively working with several MIT entities, which include Deshpande Center for Technological Innovation, Sloan and The Martin Trust centre for entrepreneurship. Website

### About ISCTE-IUL

ISCTE - University Institute of Lisbon (ISCTE-IUL) is a public university established in 1972. Pursuing teaching, research and community service activities, the strategic objectives of ISCTE-IUL are innovation, quality, internationalisation and development of an entrepreneurial culture. With approximately 9.060 students 16% of which are foreign students, 324 PhD Professors, 383 Full-time R&D researchers and 220 non-faculty staff, ISCTE-IUL is proud to be one of the most dynamic and innovative universities in the country for the past 40 years. ISCTE-IUL's priorities are innovation, quality and diversity, both in education and in academic research. With great recognition among companies from all economic sectors, ISCTE-IUL has a high rate of employability of its graduates, in some areas reaching 100% results. This confirms not only the reputation of the institution but also the quality of its teaching. Website

### About MIT Portugal Program

The MIT Portugal Program (MPP) is a large-scale international collaboration involving MIT and government, academia, and industry in Portugal to develop education and research programs related to engineering systems. The high-level partnership represents a strategic commitment by the Portuguese government to science, technology, and higher education that leverages MIT's experience in these important areas in order to strengthen the country's knowledge base through an investment in human capital and institution building. MPP seeks to demonstrate that an investment in science, technology and higher education can have a positive, lasting impact on the economy by addressing key societal issues through quality education and research in the emerging field of engineering systems. The program has targeted Bioengineering systems, Engineering Design and Advanced Manufacturing, Sustainable Energy Systems, and Transportation Systems as key areas for economic development and societal impact. MPP is supported by a national initiative that involves seven Portuguese universities and 14 research centers that target sustainable energy systems, transportation systems, bioengineering and advanced production methods as key areas for economic development. Website