

press release

SuperCharger FinTech Accelerator Programme – first cohorts selected to drive breakthrough innovation in Asia

*Standard Chartered co-creating the future of financial services with technopreneurs
at the intersection of finance and technology*

Hong Kong, 12 January 2016 – Hong Kong’s first homegrown FinTech accelerator programme with the aim of helping local and international early-stage and more established start-ups grow in Asian markets, the **SuperCharger**, today announced the top eight FinTech finalists selected to participate in an intensive 12-week programme which will help the start-ups in taking a quantum leap to the next level. The 8 finalists were selected from 160 applications received from more than 20 countries.

Standard Chartered’s **Regional Chief Information Officer for Greater China, North Asia and Hong Kong, Mr Ericson Chan**, said: “On behalf of the SuperCharger, I am delighted to announce our first-ever cohort of start-ups. This programme brings together a high calibre group of cohorts with expertise in data analytics, peer-to-peer lending, artificial intelligence, microcredit solutions and microfinance as well as digital payments. By sponsoring this programme, the Bank believes that we can co-create the future of financial services with technopreneurs at the intersection of finance and technology. With our strategic location adjacent to the world’s largest FinTech market, China, we aim to help them to scale and leapfrog into their next stage of development.”

The Bank’s **Global Chief Innovation Officer, Ms Anju Patwardhan**, welcomed the announcement and said: “Standard Chartered is proud to be associated with the SuperCharger FinTech Accelerator Programme. By supporting the innovators who are transforming financial services through the creative application of new technologies, we aim to continue the Bank’s strong record of encouraging innovation which we believe is a key driver of economic growth in our markets. Congratulations to all our finalists.”

The **SuperCharger FinTech Accelerator Programme** is a partnership between Standard Chartered Bank (Hong Kong) Limited, one of Hong Kong's three note-issuing banks; together with technology giant, Baidu, which dominates China's internet search engine market; as well as technology and innovation hub, TusPark Global Network, which has successfully incubated 19 publicly-listed companies.

Four of the finalists are in their early stages of development; with the other four being later-stage growth companies. The programme has been structured to uniquely include these two tracks in a single programme to encourage startups to learn from each other and cross-fertilise through the exchange of ideas and the potential of partnership. **The eight finalists include:**

Early-stage:

- **Amareos (Hong Kong)** uses artificial intelligence to extract market sentiments daily from global news, blogs and social media.
- **Funding Societies (Singapore)** is a peer-to-peer (P2P) lending platform for small-medium enterprises (SMEs) in Singapore to raise funds for growth, investors to lend for good returns and banks to reach the under-served segment.
- **Gatecoin (Hong Kong)** is a regulated digital currency exchange that offers payment infrastructure as a service leveraging the blockchain.
- **Neat (Hong Kong)** is creating the world's first artificial intelligence-powered mobile personal financial assistant, to do so they are building Asia's first mobile branchless bank.

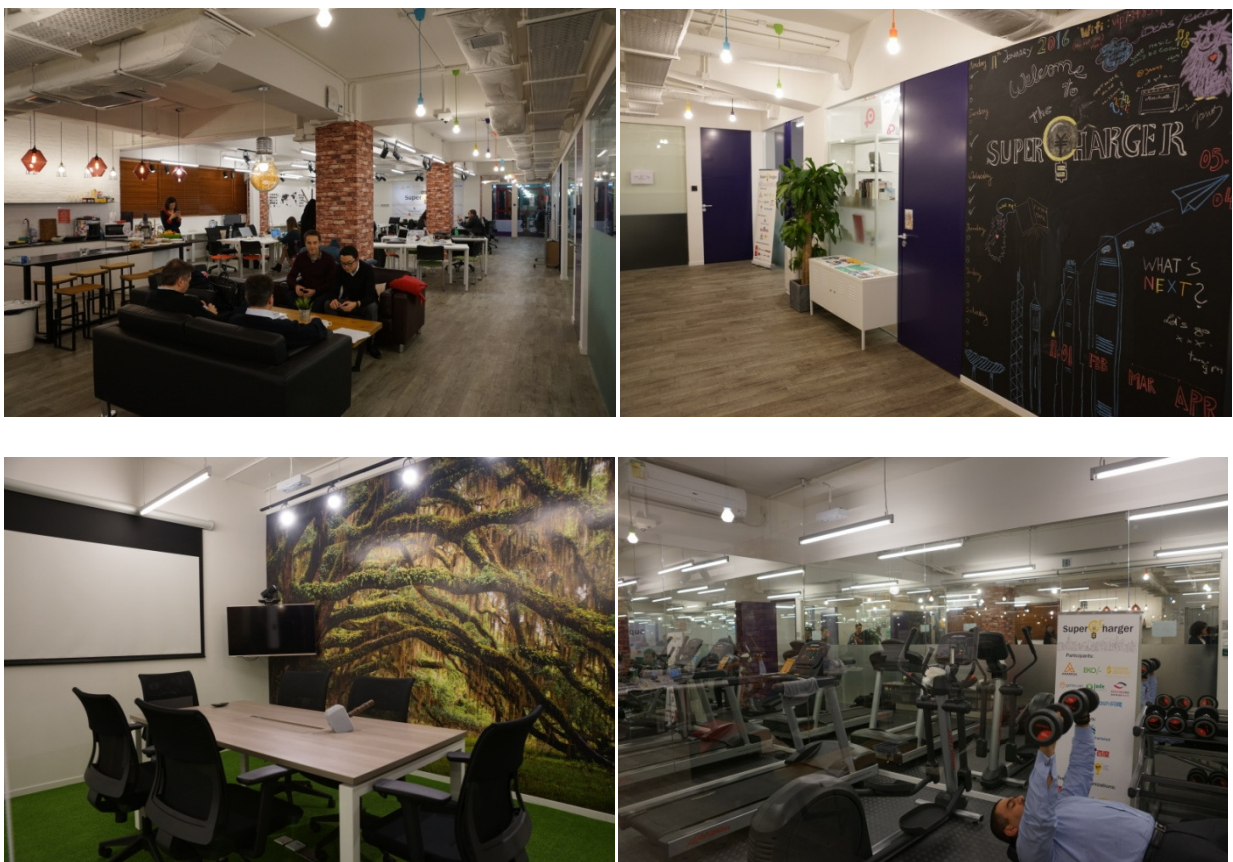
Later-stage:

- **Eko Financial Services (India)** is a peer-to-peer network for payments on the mobile phone, smartphones and feature phones.
- **Jade Payments (United Arab Emirates/ Hong Kong)** is a stored value payments solution provider, specialising in integrated closed and open loop solutions.
- **MicroCred (Hong Kong)** is part of the MicroCred Group, Hong Kong-based innovative financial services company, focusing on financial inclusion in China by lending to Micro and SMEs.
- **WeCash (China)** utilises big data techniques to provide credit scores and suitable financial services to users.

During the programme which will culminate in April 2016, all eight finalists will be based in Hong Kong at the TusParkHK Innovation Hub which offers a world-class co-working space, engaging

environment and meeting rooms. Technopreneurs will be part of a structured curriculum and receive coaching and mentoring from Baidu's technologists, Standard Chartered's bankers as well as venture capitalists and industry experts to refine their business model, develop market entry strategies, navigate the regulatory landscape and identify joint ventures opportunities.

New business ideas will be pitched to the public at the Demo Day which will be held on 8 April 2016 in Hong Kong. Selected businesses will be given an opportunity to take part in an international roadshow to markets by Innovate Finance and Digital Finance Institute at the end of the programme.



Caption: At the TusParkHK Innovation Hub, FinTech startups can take advantage of world-class co-working spaces, meeting rooms, common areas and even a fitness centre.



Caption: Mr. Jon Tzen Ng, Head, Digital and Innovation, Hong Kong and China, welcomes SuperCharger finalists to Hong Kong.



Caption: Eight selected FinTech startups commence their 12-week SuperCharger programme which will help them to scale and leapfrog into their next stage of development.



Caption: The SuperCharger finalists attend a Mentor Speed Dating session to discuss the topics of regulation, market strategy, business proposition and fundraising.

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Standard Chartered

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Standard Chartered PLC is listed on the London and Hong Kong Stock Exchanges as well as the Bombay and National Stock Exchanges in India.

The history of Standard Chartered in Hong Kong dates back to 1859. It is currently one of the Hong Kong SAR's three note-issuing banks. Standard Chartered incorporated its Hong Kong business on 1 July 2004, and now operates as a licensed bank in Hong Kong under the name of Standard Chartered Bank (Hong Kong) Limited, a wholly owned subsidiary of Standard Chartered PLC.

For more information please visit www.sc.com. Explore our insights and comment on our blog, BeyondBorders. Follow Standard Chartered on [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [Facebook](#).

Useful links:

- **About Baidu** – [click here](#)
- **About TusPark Global Network** – www.tnglobal.com and www.tuspark.com
- **About the SuperCharger FinTech Accelerator Programme** – [click here](#)