

A STARTUP **REINVENTION**

BUILDING THE STARTUP **REPUTATION**

Accelerate St. Louis is a regional effort to showcase the startup explosion reshaping the region. Economic development, business, civic, political and venture capital leaders are united in supporting the movement. Accelerate St. Louis provides information and resources to startups, connects entrepreneurs and investors, and helps tell this new St. Louis startup story as it evolves.

St. Louis has always fostered a spirit of innovation. Accelerate St. Louis is the place to showcase the best of what is happening right now.

4 PILLARS OF STRENGTH



1

HISTORY/HERITAGE

With a rich history of entrepreneurial success, St. Louis has been the launching ground for many of America's biggest and best companies. Today, a savvy new group of startups is aiming to take their brands global and become drivers of a new St. Louis economy. With equal parts talent and drive, these entrepreneurs say it's the environment in St. Louis that helps them succeed quickly. The regional startup ecosystem combines multiple innovation hubs, top-tier support organizations, and highly skilled mentors ready and willing to lend advice.



2

NEWSTARTUPS

From household names like Square, Yurbuds and Answers.com, to newer ventures like LockerDome, Aisle411 and MediBeacon, the St. Louis region is exploding with new companies and new ideas. These new companies are innovating in plant and life science, financial services, information technology and advanced manufacturing.

There's a lot of buzz about the innovative culture and entrepreneurial ecosystem in St. Louis. Incubators provide dense collision points and serve to connect entrepreneurs in new ways.

It's all built on the robust spirit of innovation that is ingrained in the history of St. Louis.



3

AVAILABLE CAPITAL

No startup can get off the ground without capital investment. The extensive range of private funds and public support in the St. Louis region is an asset. Venture capital, angel investors, high-profile accelerators and public funds are all readily available for high-growth startups. Regional leaders are raising an additional \$100 million to further ignite the region's growth in key sectors.

VENTURE CAPITAL

BioGenerator Rivervest Cultivation Capital

ANGEL INVESTORS

Arch Angels Prosper Billiken Angels

ACCELERATORS

SixThirty Capital Innovators

PUBLIC FUNDS

Missouri Technology Corporation Helix Fund

ENTREPRENEURIAL COMPETITIONS

Arch Grants Olin Cup STL Startup Challenge

4

PRIME ECOSYSTEM

St. Louis has a robust ecosystem that enables entrepreneurs to launch and grow their vision. The capital efficiency of the market means founders spend less on real estate and talent which gives their business longer runways. The region has the perfect mix for a growing startup hub: premier educational institutions; top cultural amenities; strong mentors; competitive cost-of-living; and affordable real estate. Combine that with the region's leading role in fields such as plant and life science, financial services, information technology, aviation and renewable energy. St. Louis is a place where big ideas grow.