



About MDV-Mohr Davidow Ventures

MDV invests in innovative entrepreneurs with deep expertise in energy and materials, Internet services, life sciences, semiconductors, and software and systems. The firm's venture team engages very early in the life of a company to impact its long-term success. For more than 20 years, MDV's mission has been to identify, invest in, mentor and develop young companies that redefine how organizations and individuals apply new technologies and scientific advances. MDV has \$1.4 billion dollars under management.

MDV's Involvement with the Stanford Racing Team and Machine Learning

MDV has a track record of working successfully with innovators in universities, national labs, government agencies and R&D to commercialize and bring to market ingenious technologies in areas such as software, electronics, sensors, networking and systems – all aspects of the Stanford Racing Team's autonomous vehicle entry into the DARPA Grand Challenge. In preparing its entry – better known as Stanley – the team has sharply focused on machine learning (the ability of a machine to improve its performance based on previous results) and heuristics (a problem-solving technique in which the most appropriate solution is selected using rules). Team members have been preparing Stanley for his 150+ mile journey by “teaching” it how to make driving decisions based on recording and then coding in software driving decisions previously made by team members driving over a variety of challenging terrain.

Other examples of MDV seed funded investments that have employed machine learning techniques include Pharmix and Proofpoint.

MDV has been providing strategic guidance to the Stanford Racing Team for the past year. As with the technology startups that MDV backs, the partners have served the team in an advisory role on key decisions, operations and, where needed, played a hands-on role drawing upon the business, technology and marketing expertise within the firm.

MDV and Stanford Collaboration

MDV and Stanford University have a longstanding relationship. For years the firms' partners have worked closely with students and faculty to mentor and support innovation. Some of the companies MDV has funded as a result of its ties to Stanford include:

- Brion Technologies
- Cooligy
- ParAllele BioScience (acquired by Affymetrix)
- Pharmix
- Pixim

MDV general partners Erik Straser and Jim Smith (both Stanford PhDs) formed the Stanford School of Engineering's BASES – Business Association of Stanford Engineering Students – with three other students in 1996. The organization encompasses students and faculty from all schools at Stanford, including Business, Engineering, Law, Medicine, Humanities and Science. BASES's goal is to build the next generation of entrepreneurs. BASES has become one of the largest student entrepreneurship organizations in the U.S. MDV remains an active BASES sponsor.





MDV partners also lecture and teach on campus. Venture Partner and Stanford alumnus Donna Novitsky has co-lead the Global Entrepreneurial Marketing (GEM) with course originator, Stanford Professor Tom Kosnik. The GEM course is offered in the Stanford School of Engineering, Management Science and Engineering Department and instructs graduate students about how to develop markets in concert with developing products.

MDV is also active in the Stanford Technology Ventures Program (STVP). STVP is the entrepreneurship, education center located within Stanford University's School of Engineering. Its mission is to build a world-class program dedicated to accelerating high-technology entrepreneurship research and education for engineers and scientists worldwide. MDV partners are regular guest lecturers. STVP is hosted by the department of Management Science and Engineering within the School of Engineering. Created in 1925, the School of Engineering has eight departments, several interdisciplinary research and teaching centers, and many laboratories and cross-disciplinary programs.

MDV Representatives Investments

Agile (NASDAQ: AGIL) helps companies drive profits, accelerate innovation, reduce costs, and ensure regulatory compliance throughout the product lifecycle. More than 10,000 customers in the automotive, aerospace and defense, consumer products, electronics, high tech, industrial products, and life sciences industries use Agile solutions

Brocade (NASDAQ: BRCD) offers the industry's leading intelligent platform for networking storage. The world's leading systems, applications, and storage vendors have selected Brocade to provide a networking foundation for their SAN solutions. Brocade allows organizations to simplify SAN implementation, reduce the total cost of ownership of data storage environments, and improve network and application efficiency.

Energy Innovations was founded in 2000 to deliver cost-effective, grid-competitive solar electric power. EI offers the world's first mass-produced rooftop photovoltaic tracking concentrator system, called the Sunflower, designed to bring the cost of solar below that of utility-supplied electricity. The company's goal is to reduce the payback time for a solar system so that it becomes a sensible and logical investment to electricity users around the world, whether they are grid-connected or not.

FormFactor (NASDAQ: FORM) is an industry leader in the design, development, manufacture, sales and support of precision, high-performance advanced semiconductor wafer probe cards. The company's products are based on its proprietary technologies including its Microspring® interconnect technology and design processes.

Jadoo Power Systems provides portable fuel cell power systems to power devices such as TV cameras, satellite telephones, surveillance cameras and other products that need to be portable but have hefty power requirements. Rather than standard batteries, Jadoo employs hydrogen fuel cells, which weigh less, last longer, recharge more quickly and cost less than traditional batteries.





ParAllele BioScience accelerates healthcare breakthroughs by providing comprehensive genetic discovery solutions to the life science research, pharmaceutical and diagnostic sectors. The company's products and services aid in the understanding of how subtle genetic variations contribute to disease risk, prognosis and drug response and will lead to new and more effective drugs, diagnosis, and the ability to better tailor therapies to individual patients.

Proofpoint provides enterprise-class messaging security solutions that protect organizations from the threats and risks of both inbound and outbound email and other messaging streams. Its platform enables companies to stop spam, defend against viruses and network attacks, and prevent leaks of confidential information. Proofpoint applies advanced machine learning techniques to messaging security, resulting in more thorough classification of unstructured content as found in email messages and attachments containing valuable or non-public information

Shutterfly is an e-commerce company specializing in digital photo products and services for the consumer and professional photography markets. The company provides customers with simple ways to organize, enhance and archive images; share pictures with family and friends; order professional-quality prints and create an assortment of personalized items.

VaST Systems provides tools and models for electronic system level, system-on-chip, and real-time embedded software development used in the semiconductors, automotive electronics, wireless devices, and consumer electronics industries. VaST's solutions enable architectural-driven design, allowing users to create a virtual system prototype in software that becomes the golden reference model for the true concurrent development of hardware and software.

On the Web: www.mdv.com

For more information contact:

Pamela Mahoney, MDV-Mohr, Davidow Ventures (650) 854-7236 pmahoney@mdv.com



Drivers not required.
Grand Challenge 2005



ANDROID



Honeywell

