

# Global accelerator Startupbootcamp Insurance and MMI Holdings host their first Fast Track day in South Africa

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MMI Holdings partners with Europe's leading accelerator programme showcasing South Africa's entrepreneurial talent in the global market. FastTrack is open to innovative early stage startups specialising in insurance

*Johannesburg, October 15, 2015* – JSE listed MMI Holdings has upped its investment in innovation by becoming an early investor partner in the first ever insurance incubator programme managed by Startupbootcamp, a leading international startup accelerator. The programme launched in South Africa on June 16th, and is making great headway already. Startupbootcamp selected South Africa as one of 18 global destinations for the insurance FastTrack tour after witnessing the recent growth in financial innovation in the region. These startups will gain access to the Startupbootcamp Insurance global community. After the FastTrack tour, Startupbootcamp Insurance will select ten startups to take part in their three month intensive 2016 insurance accelerator in London.

Following a call for innovative early stage startups specialising in insurance, Startupbootcamp and MMI Holdings hosted their first FastTrack day in Johannesburg on October 7th 2015 and Cape Town on 9 October 2015. Focused on the region's insurance startups, the events were open to innovative early-stage companies looking for expert advice and exposure. FastTrack events are a bite-sized glimpse into the value of a Startupbootcamp programme. Ten groups attended and presented their innovative insurance ideas: Edurance, ETX Insurance, Tapiwa M. Maswera, Pride Life, My Digi Vault, Nick Bizos, Social Based Insurance, Outsourced Risk, My Travel Risk and Insurance Glue.

"What an incredibly exciting opportunity it was to present my big idea to MMI and the group of mentors", remarked one of the applicants. "I think this is a great opportunity for young innovators like myself to get an idea off the ground".

As promised, global award-winning Startupbootcamp (SBC), delivered an international network of mentors, partners and investors who sat in on the presentations and guided the entrants. The mentors included MMI Holdings' Disruptive Innovation Strategy team: Jaco Oosthuizen and Jonathan Stewart, representatives from Barclays Africa and Glocell and Startupbootcamp COO Jens Hartwig, who was "pleasantly surprised by the diversity of different insurance ideas and concepts."

Hartwig says "I am pleased with the response from South Africa and I look forward to seeing more proposals come through by 30 October."

Oosthuizen says "thus far the programme has exposed some very interesting solutions globally and we are keen to explore them further and provide the kind of support required to scale these startups into significant players."

To recap, the benefits of successful FastTrack startups include them joining the watch list and have the potential to be selected for the Startupbootcamp Insurance accelerator program as well as:

- Extensive mentorship from 400+ entrepreneurs, investors, and partners
- Access to top markets in London, Europe, Asia-Pacific
- 3+ months free office space
- €15K in cash per team
- €450K+ in partner services
- Exposure to 200+ Angels & VCs
- Invitation to SBC global alumni network

Applications are open to all early stage startups in insurance until 31 October 2015. For more information on the application process, visit: [www.startupbootcamp.org/accelerator/insurance-london.html](http://www.startupbootcamp.org/accelerator/insurance-london.html)

### **About Startupbootcamp Insurance**

Launched in 2015, Startupbootcamp Insurance is the leading Insurance accelerator, and the only program of its kind to attract such wide industry support. Based in London, its partners include: Admiral, Allianz, ERGO, Lloyds Banking Group, Metropolitan, MMI Holdings, Momentum, PWC, Route 66 Ventures, Unipol Ideas, as well as an extensive mentor and alumni network from more than 30 countries across the globe. The award-winning accelerator offers Insurance startups access to world class industry expertise during

an intensive three month program. At the end of the program, startups pitch at Demo Day to more than 250 investors.

Other Startupbootcamp programs are currently active in Amsterdam, Barcelona, Berlin, Copenhagen, Eindhoven, Istanbul and London with other cities and vertical programs to be announced soon.

For more information:

- [www.startupbootcamp.org](http://www.startupbootcamp.org)
- [www.startupbootcamp.org/programs/Insurance](http://www.startupbootcamp.org/programs/Insurance)
- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)

### **About MMI Holdings Limited:**

MMI Holdings Limited (MMI) is an insurance-based financial services group listed on South Africa's stock exchange, the JSE. The group listed in 2010 at a market capitalisation of R26.7bn, now forms part of the JSE Top 40 Index at R50.9 bn.

Our vision is to be the preferred lifetime financial wellness partner, with a reputation for innovation and trustworthiness. Innovation is therefore core to the vision and values and an essential enabler to achieving the business strategy.

Our commitment to client centricity and financial wellness means we have to keep up with the current needs of our clients and continuously develop solutions for future client needs. We serve a diverse group of retail and institutional clients through our client-facing brands Momentum, Metropolitan, Guardrisk and Eris.

