



Startup Grind Chapter Cyprus Press Release, Wednesday, 7 October 2015

FinTech Serial Entrepreneur Hans-Peter Gier (HP) Featured at Startup Grind Cyprus, Nicosia Event

Nicosia, Wednesday, 7 October 2015, PressRelease/ -- Startup Grind Cyprus continued its mission to inspire, educate, and connect startup entrepreneurs, hosting founder of Source Concepts, in a fireside chat, networking, and Q&A event.

The event focused on HP sharing his views on the challenges facing FinTech startups and their chances of survival, with the attendees asking HP questions about the opportunities for FinTech in Cyprus and the requirement to engage more aspiring entrepreneurs to disrupt in this area.

As the Founder of Search Concepts, a fully automated multi-lingual semantic financial news analysis service, HP has also started several other FinTech startups, one of which was a very successful professional services company. When asked why he chose this special guest, Startup Grind Cyprus Chapter Director, Peter Lazou, said:

“HP is one of Europe’s leading hands-on FinTech entrepreneurs and banking systems experts with outstanding knowledge of the whole banking IT from hardware, data centre, organisation, software, foreign branches, crypto currencies, blockchain, smart contracts, etc. He was a natural choice to speak about FinTech and entrepreneurial success.”

During his fireside chat, HP shared how he learnt how to balance entrepreneurial spirit and risk management from completely different risk attitudes of parents. He talked about the lessons learnt from Nokia, transaction cost processing, smart contracts, as well as the validation of what digital innovation management meant. i.e., information technology management. HP said: “you don’t ask why do you need it rather what could we do with it”

When asked by Peter to share his view on where information technology will be in 20 years, HP replied, “Smart contracts. This is the next revolution in IT across all industries and they will dominate for the next 20 years, mainly because substantial cost benefits as smart contracts will reduce contract enforcement and settlement costs. It will provide cost savings for the banking industry worldwide at around \$250bn per year within the next 10 years. At the same time FinTechs will profit from this trend as financial instruments are the ideal contract type to start with”

About Startup Grind Cyprus

Startup Grind is a global startup community designed to educate, inspire, and connect entrepreneurs. We host monthly events in more than 125 cities and 55 countries featuring successful local founders, innovators, educators, and investors who share personal stories and lessons learned on the road to building great companies. Our monthly fireside chat interviews, startup mixers, and annual conferences provide ample opportunities to connect with amazing startups and the people behind them, tap into a strong support network, form meaningful

connections, and gain inspiration for the startup journey ahead. For more information, visit StartupGrind.com or follow us on twitter @StartupGrind.

About Hans-Peter Gier

After completing his MBA at the University of St. Gallen, Hans-Peter (aka hp) has been taking up leading positions as head of strategic IT planning and in the development of quantitative portfolio management systems at Swiss Bank Corporation. He was the founder and managing partner of banking concepts AG that delivered consulting solutions for the banking sector, including core banking and management information system. After a sabbatical in 2010, hp started using digitalconcepts.io as a consultancy, management and service company for various innovative banking projects and companies, with www.searchconcepts.io - a fully automated multi-lingual semantic financial news analysis service -being the latest start-up coming out of digitalconcepts.io's innovation lab. Recently, his focus expanded towards the use of block chain and smart contract technologies in the financial services industry.