

THE PEAK Power List 2017

Dinesh Bhatia, Co-Founder of TradeHero and SportsHero

His stock-market simulation app – TradeHero – is not just a social trading game that allows fledgling investors to buy and sell for fun; it also lets them view the actions of top traders and learn from their moves. A live trading function was introduced in July this year. SportsHero, based on the same model as TradeHero, lets players make predictions on sporting games with virtual currency bets.

Henry Chan, CEO and Co-Founder of ShopBack

ShopBack, an online portal and mobile app, directs shoppers to partner merchants and offers them a percentage of their purchase money back. Chan introduced new functionalities for merchants – such as aggregated fare estimates for ride-hailing apps or movie screenings – to help users make purchase decisions. ShopBack is now in six countries in the region. It currently has 3.5 million users, and directs some \$35 million in sales to over 1,300 partners every month.

Goh Yiping, President of Element Inc

In 2010, she co-founded deal aggregation site AllDealsAsia, which was acquired by Lippo Group in 2014. She subsequently took on the role of founding member and chief product officer at MatahariMall, Lippo Group's e-commerce marketplace, and grew it into one of the largest e-commerce portals in Indonesia. Today, she is the president of Element Inc, an artificial intelligence technology company which provides mobile software solutions for the health-care, banking and telecommunications sectors.

Lai Chang Wen, CEO and Co-Founder of Ninja Van

Ninja Van's next-day, door-to-door delivery service handles close to 100,000 deliveries a day for clients such as Zalora and Shopee. While the former derivatives trader had no prior experience in the logistics business, he managed to scale the company's operations to six countries across South-east Asia in just three years. Ninja Van's in-house algorithmic-driven system has often been cited as its competitive edge.

Alex Lau, CEO of Anacle Systems

A former spacecraft engineer, Lau has led Anacle – which specialises in energy management products for buildings – in the development of Tesseract, a new affordable smart metering device enabling users to manage their energy consumption efficiently. The device's capabilities can be expanded with the installation of additional apps.

Frank Phuan, Co-Founder and Director of Sunseap Group

Phuan, whose late father founded one of Singapore's earliest solar energy system manufacturers, pioneered the business model of selling solar energy as a service. Sunseap customers pay only for the power they consume, while the cost and maintenance of equipment is borne by the company. Today, Sunseap is one of Singapore's biggest renewable energy providers. Landmark projects include the 9.5-megawatt facility at Jurong Port – the world's largest port-based solar energy set-up.

Oliver Tan, CEO and Co-Founder of ViSenze

Tan's company develops artificial intelligence and image recognition technologies to power visual search and product recommendations on e-commerce sites such as Uniqlo and Asos. Under his watch, ViSenze was named by Interbrand as one of 40 global breakthrough brands in 2017. Next year, Tan is planning to roll out a video commerce experience that uses new AI visual recognition technology. He also intends to power chatbots with advanced image recognition capabilities, enabling them to function as digital shopping concierges.

Rosemary Tan, CEO and Founder of Veredus Laboratories

With a PhD in molecular immunology, Tan led her team of scientists at Veredus to produce medical diagnostic kits for tropical diseases, influenza subtypes, food-borne illnesses and biological agents. The VereFever kit, for example, contains a lab-on-a-chip that can identify seven tropical diseases, including Zika, malaria, dengue and chikungunya, with just a drop of blood. Veredus' breakthrough technologies are utilised globally by international airports and homeland security in various countries.

Jeffrey Tiong, CEO and Founder of PatSnap

Frustrated with having to employ legalese and technical terms to navigate Intellectual Property databases, Tiong set out to build his own. Today, PatSnap's Global Patent Analytics Database utilises AI technology to analyse information from multiple sources – such as patent and litigation data – to help companies decipher trends in new innovations across industries. It is now used by over 3,000 organisations – such as Xiaomi and NASA – in 28 countries.

Wong Joo Seng, CEO and Founder of Spark Systems

Wong, former head of GK Goh Financial Services, was so bothered by exorbitant fees charged by foreign exchange trading platforms that he developed his own. Spark Systems, which went live in July this year, is designed to be significantly cheaper and faster, primed to put Singapore on the world map where trading is concerned.