

### The Angel Investor point of view

May 2014 - www.italianangels.net









The Meeting between:

- Business Angels (BAs); individuals who contribute time, expertise, contacts and money to Startup in exchange for equity.
- An entrepreneur who needs funding to grow its Startup.



# What Do We Mean By "Startup"

- Not just a smaller Big Company
- Developing new (or quite different) Business Model
- Developing New or Improved Technology

Patent, IP, trademark etc are embedded in the meaning of startup



## Who we are

Italian Angels for Growth (IAG), the largest Angel Group in Italy, was founded in 2007 as a non-profit association, by nine Founding Members. Nowadays IAG consists of about **120 members.** 

Our organization is promoted and managed exclusively by individual investors and we operate in order to offer our members the best opportunities to invest in.

#### **OUR MISSION**:

IAG has the purpose to invest in high-growth startup companies characterized by disruptive technology and effective business model.

#### **OUR RESULTS:**

Amount invested: €10 millions

Total Investments: 36

21 startup financed, 20 first round, 6 second

rounds, 3 third rounds, 1 fourth round, 1 fifth

round, 5 single-person investment





### How we operate: our investment focus

#### **Target sectors**

we invest in any sector where we have at least one expert member

#### **Investment stage**

early stage financing, including seed but above all start-up financing

#### Level of Innovation

strong proprietary product or process innovation, both in new and traditional sectors

Investment amount

from €300,000 to €800,000

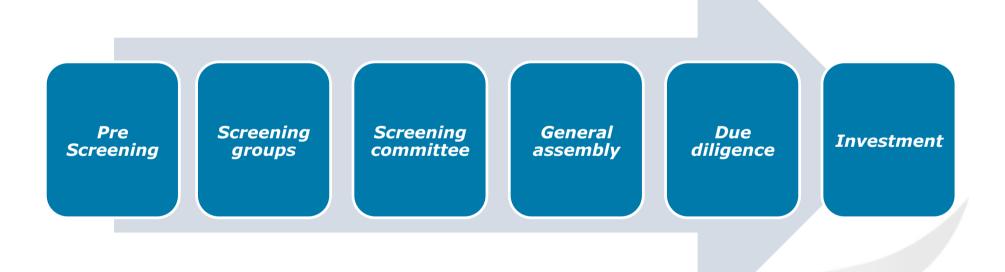
#### **Target companies**

start-ups and young companies (up to 2 mil € in revenues) with high growth potential We invest in Italy and abroad also in partnership with other Angels Group and VC



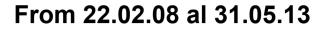
## How we operate: our investment process

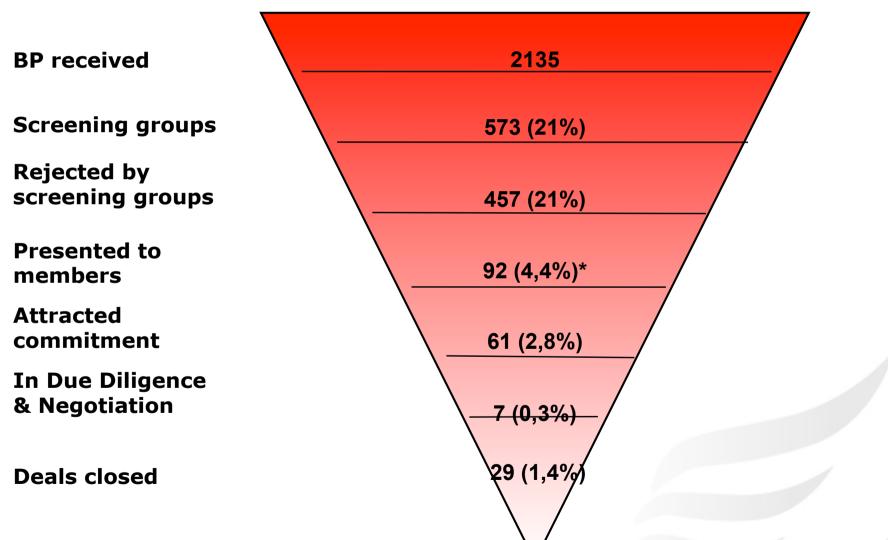
IAG developed a structured and thorough process to select the best opportunities to be presented to its members





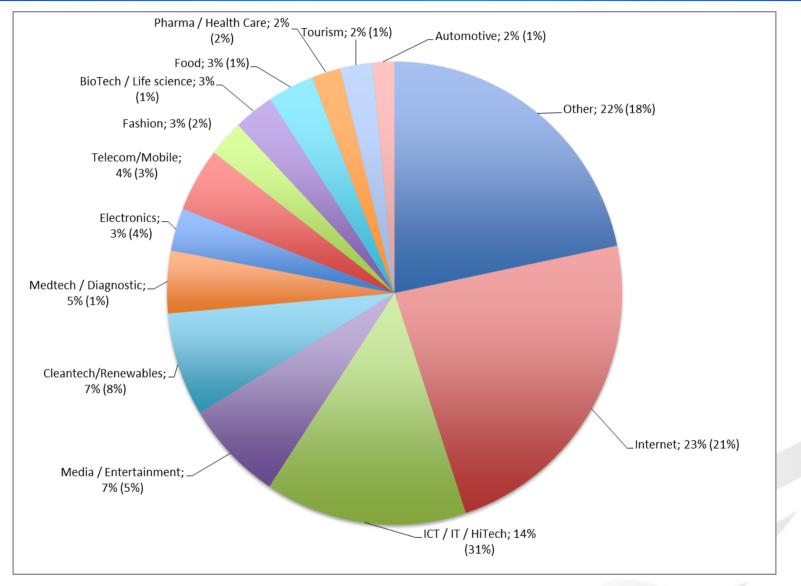
### How we operate: our Deal Funnel







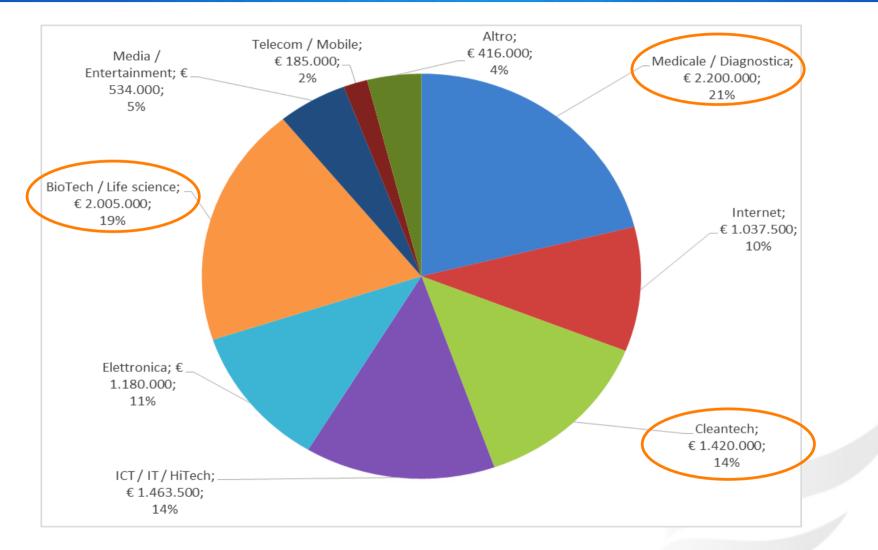
## **Deal Flow by sector**



From 22.02.08 to 31.05.12 (last 6 months in brackets)



## IAG invests in different industries wherein IP is a strategic asset



#### 14 out of 21 startups financed have IP protection (2/3 of the total)

Reference period 05/08 - 04/14

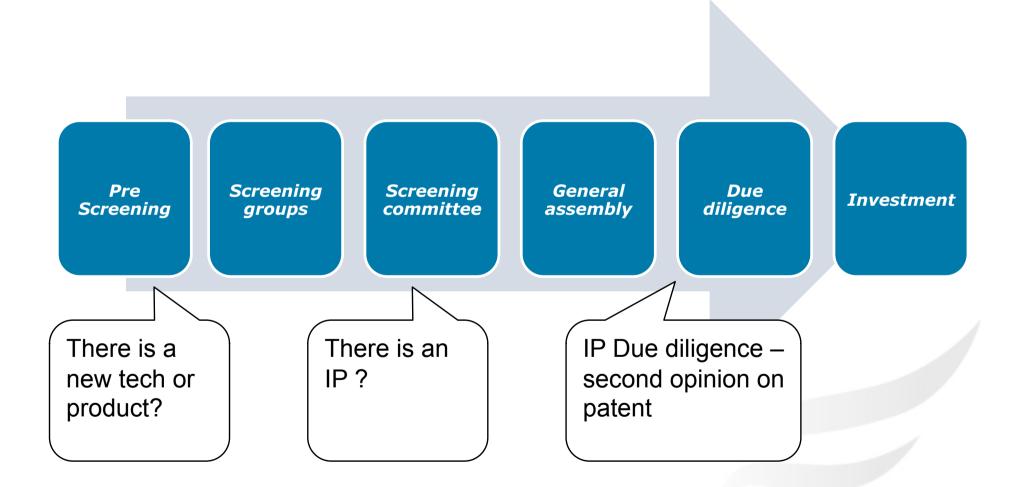


### **Our Portfolio**





## IP is checked over all the process





# Guiding Principle for Startup

- Patents are Un-Avoidable for Startups
- These Are Not Your Patents
- They Belong to Your Future Acquirer
- You Probably Won't Enforce Them
- You Probably Won't License Them
- But They Can Create Value



# How Do Patents Create Value For Startups?

- Make Technical Developments Tangible
- Increase Leverage With Partners
- Stimulate Investment
- Stimulate Acquisition



# Have a Solid Strategy

- File the right patents ٠
- File early enough ٠
- Assess freedom to operate ٠
- Don't Stop Until You Exit •





There is often a misunderstanding in the relationship between:

- The **patentability** of an invention and,
- The **infringement** of another patent

What do investor want to hear:

- You have determined what is **patentable** (and have taken steps to protect your rights)
- You have determined whether you infringe any patent rights of your main competitor

# These issues are independent



© Italian Angels for Growth – www.italianangels.net