



IIT Gandhinagar

# impact

innovation and entrepreneurship news @IITGN

## The Beginning

IIT Gandhinagar's Innovation and Entrepreneurship program aims to create high growth technology companies that generate commercial and social impact. Towards this objective, the Institute has integrated existing programs and developed new programs that cater to different goals of raising awareness, building capacity and establishing infrastructure for commercialization and sustained industry interaction. The Institute received the TIDE grant from DietY (Department of Electronics and Information Technology) in 2012 to enable the creation of our incubator and support the entrepreneurial efforts of students from our pioneering batch.



### Training and Capacity Building

In order to build the capacity for incubating quality companies, IITGN organized a **Best Practices in Technology Incubation** workshop aimed at faculty and administration of the Institute. The workshop brought together heads of 7 best-in-class incubators and international experts in March 2014 to help us identify best practices in incubating companies and formulating policies related to it. The Institute organizes several hands-on design competitions and incorporates several innovations as part of the BTech curriculum to build the necessary skills among the students to create their own startups.

In summer 2014, 12 students from IITGN went to **Technion, Israel** for a two-week intensive program on entrepreneurship that exposed them to the Israeli entrepreneurial ecosystem. In addition, three of our students have been recipients of **Rajeev Motwani Young Entrepreneurship Fellowships** in 2013 and 2014 that enabled them to gain exposure to the entrepreneurial ecosystem in Silicon Valley.

### Awareness

Our awareness programs include seminars for faculty and students around entrepreneurship, intellectual property and technology commercialization. Several ongoing student initiatives on campus such as Amalthea (IITGN's techfest) and Blithchorn (IITGN's cultural festival) focus on building entrepreneurial and leadership skills among the student body.

The Institute offers a highly popular **Engineering Entrepreneurship** elective course to introduce entrepreneurship skills to IIT Gandhinagar students. The course is taught by Dr Arnab Sarkar and Mr Rajen Jaswa and has had a typical class strength of 20-30 students in each

offering. Arnab is an industry veteran from Los Angeles with over 40 years of experience. He is founder of multiple startups in the fiber optics space. Raj is an accomplished technology entrepreneur and investor from San Francisco. He is President Emeritus of TiE Silicon Valley. Arnab and Raj are also mentors for the Innovation and Entrepreneurship program at IITGN and are starting an additional course on entrepreneurship for the winter semester starting in January, 2015.

In October 2013, we organized a **Technology Incubation Workshop** and a business plan competition as part of Amalthea 2013 to raise awareness about entrepreneurship within the student community across the country.



Dr Arnab Sarkar  
IITGN



Dr Arvind Viswanathan  
Xellect IP Solutions



Mr Pulkit Gaur  
Gridbots



Dr M V Shankar  
Cummins Inc

### Deferred Placement Policy and Mentorship Program

In October 2014, Institute introduced deferred placement policy to encourage our students to seek alternate career paths such as entrepreneurial ventures, higher education, etc. **Nine** students among the graduating batch of a little over **hundred** students opted for this option to pursue their entrepreneurial ambitions. The Institute has setup a structured mentorship program to prepare these students such that they

have a comprehensive business plan and are ready for formal incubation by the time they graduate. One of the startups by these students – **4DEA** – started by Dhyey Shah, Eepsit Tiwari, Preet Shah and Ankit Pandole – got their first project to create a **4D tour of Savli Bioincubator** from Gujarat State Biotechnology Mission (GSBTM). Another company – **Cretif** – started by Akash Keshav Singh, Harsh Gupta and Sushilkumar Shisode – won the **TIE Business Plan Competition** in Ahmedabad.

## On learning pilgrimage to Mecca of start-ups

12 students of IIT-Gn attended two-week programme in Israel to explore and understand the mechanics behind a successful start-up





## IP Assets

Here we present IP assets that have been registered by IIT Gandhinagar so far. These IP assets may potentially be available for licensing and commercialization. Contact [ipassets@iitgn.ac.in](mailto:ipassets@iitgn.ac.in) for more details.

### Technology: Eye Tracker System

This technology enables post-stroke therapy based on eye-gaze diagnosis and operant conditioning with minimal expert intervention. The resulting system reduces the cost of delivering post-stroke care in the comfort of the patient's home.

**PI: Dr Uttama Lahiri**

### Technology: Multi-parameter Patient Monitoring System

This technology enables measuring multiple physiological parameters of a patient non-invasively using a pulse-plethysmogram sensor and a pressure sensor. It allows the monitoring and displaying physiological parameters of a patient rapidly with minimal discomfort.

**PI: Dr Uttama Lahiri**

### Design: Street Bin

This street bin design attempts to overcome most of the problems associated with dustbins by providing the following features (1) robust single component, (2) stable to prevent toppling (3) out of reach for cows and dogs (4) directional to enable ease-of-use and (5) translucent to enable segregation. **PI: Prof Dinesh Korjan**



## Infrastructure

Dr Hiran Vedam – an alumna of INSEAD (MBA), Purdue University (PhD), and IIT Madras (BTech) with over 15 years of experience in technology commercialization – joined the Institute in November 2013 to coordinate the activities of this program. In December 2014, the Board of Governors (BoG) approved the Institute's IP and incubation policies enabling us to provide more transparency in creating high value startups and expedite our interaction with industry. The Institute's facilities and labs are made available to entrepreneurs to enable them to quickly build products and test their ideas. In addition, support for pre-incubation and translation of lab-based technologies to commercially-ready products are provided.

### Our Incubatees

Here we present information about the young startups we are incubating. Contact [incubate@iitgn.ac.in](mailto:incubate@iitgn.ac.in) for more details.

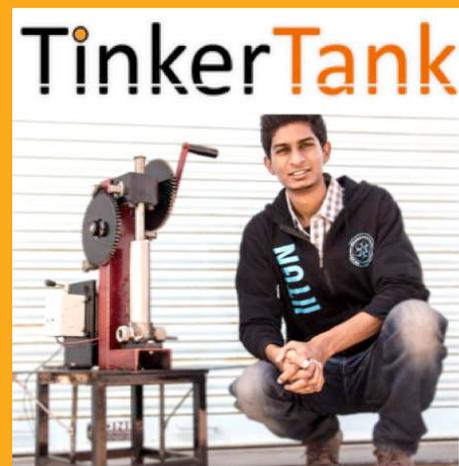
#### GridAnts

IITGN's first incubatee was started by 4 graduates from our first batch of BTech students in 2012 and integrates location and cloud based computing based solutions for a variety of applications. GridAnts is in the process of closing its first round of external investment.



#### Tinker Tank

IITGN's first social enterprise started by Mr Keshav G. – another of our pioneering graduates – enhances the productivity of women workers and improves their health by providing them with a machine – named Doopica- to produce incense sticks. The company received several awards including Gandhian Young Technological Innovation Award and ISB 5<sup>th</sup> iDiya National Social Venture Competition.



#### Introducing our newest startup – Lumos

Lumos is a startup with focus on building products that simplify home automation. It is founded by three BTech graduates of IIT Gandhinagar – Yash Kotak, Pritesh Sankhe and Tarkeshwar Singh. The company is currently building its first products- Smart Electrical Switches that can automate all electrical appliances in a home. These switches learn from user behavior and have inbuilt sensors that allow them to track ambient conditions & human presence to take accurate automation decisions.

