



Blueseed



The visa-free tech incubator for
startups, 12 miles from Silicon Valley



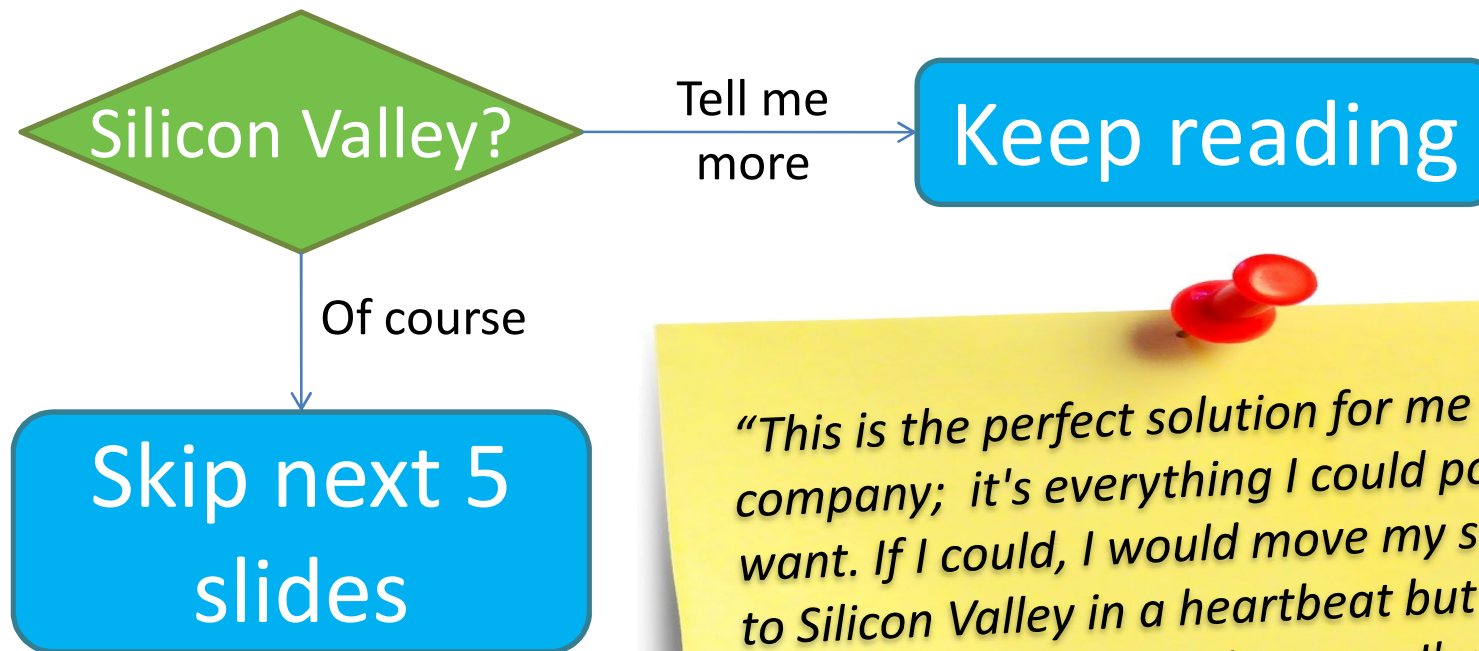
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"Mind = Blown"

*-- Cameron Priest,
OnTheRoadApp*

What's the best place on Earth for a startup entrepreneur?



"This is the perfect solution for me and my company; it's everything I could possibly want. If I could, I would move my startup to Silicon Valley in a heartbeat but there isn't a visa option for the stage I'm at and budget I'm working on."


-- Natalie MacNeil, Emmy Award winner

Silicon Valley is the best place for startups – a unique combination of:

Ideas

Capital

Culture



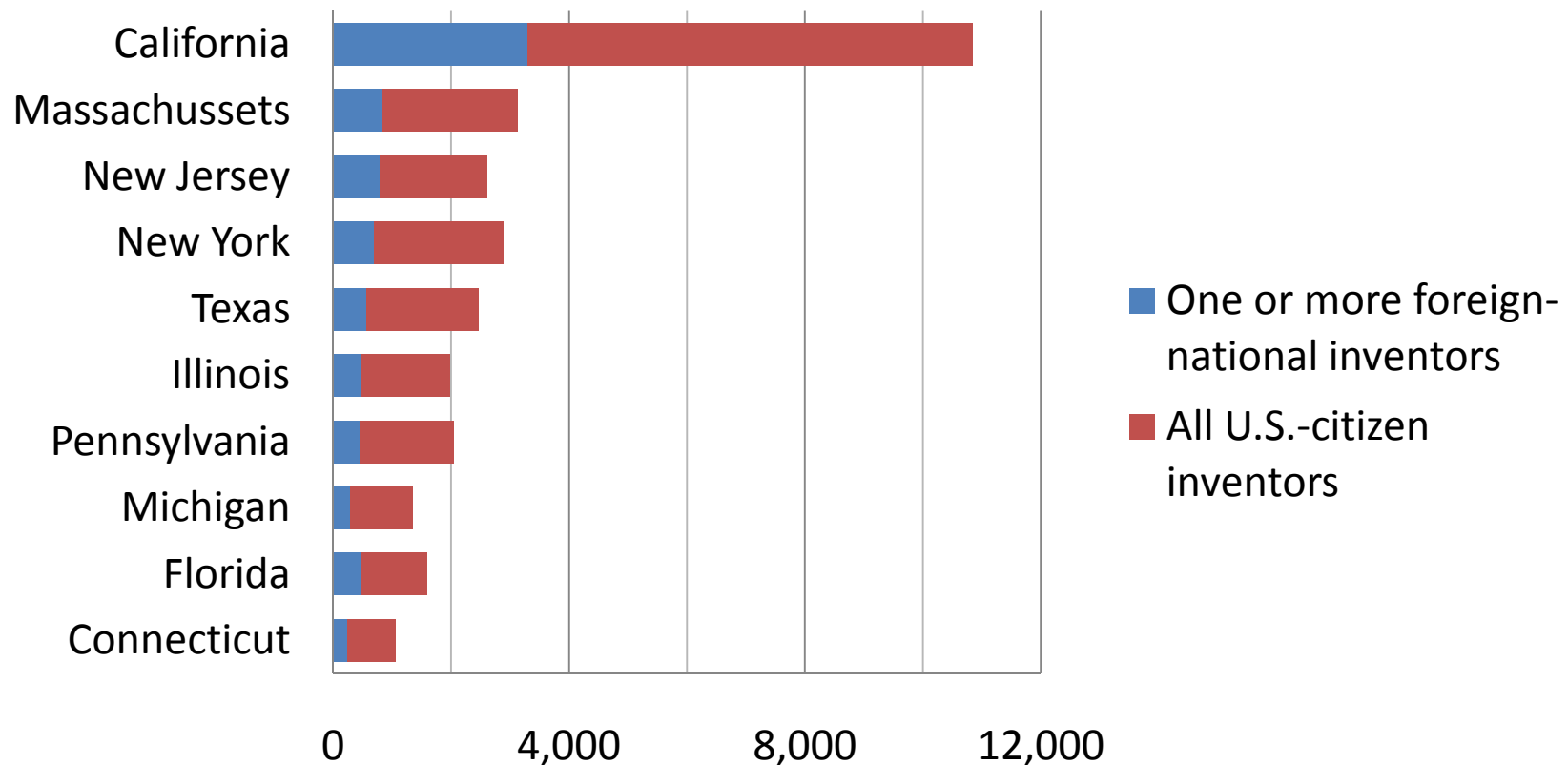
“Possibly the most important thing about the Valley is that startups are the cool thing to do. In most of the country if you launch a startup people treat you as if you were unemployed. There’s nothing more powerful than having people around you applauding and caring about what you’re doing. That’s the ingredient that makes the startup hub work.”

-- Paul Graham, Y Combinator

Ideas – California is #1 U.S. state

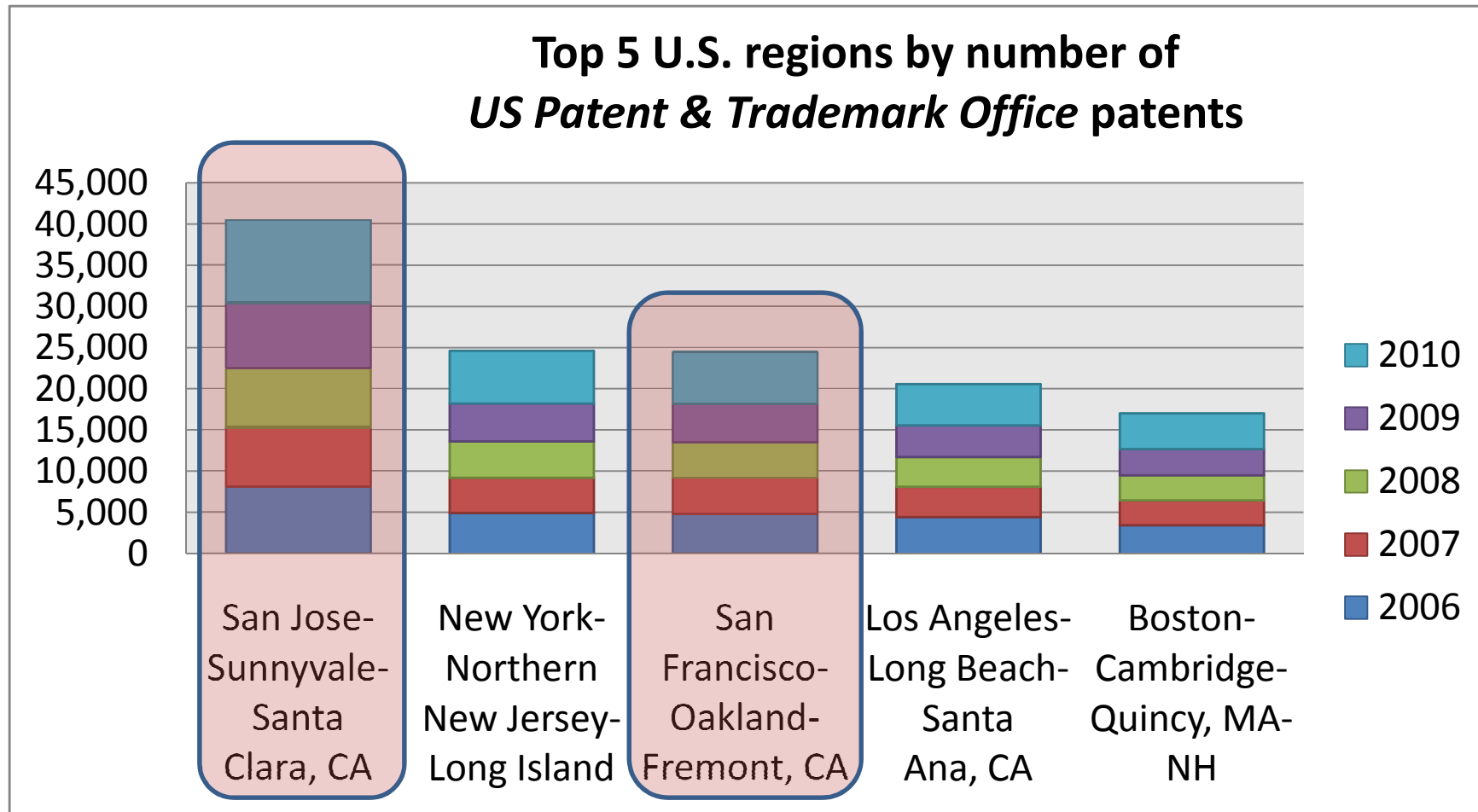
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U.S. International Patent applications by state in 2006



Ideas – Silicon Valley is #1 area

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Capital – Silicon Valley is #1 area

PricewaterhouseCoopers
National Venture Capital Association

MoneyTreeTM Report

Data provided by Thomson Reuters

Investments by Region Q4 2011

Regions Defined	Total \$ Invested	Average \$ Per Deal	Deals
All	\$6,565,830,700	\$7,779,420	844

	Amount	% of Total	Deals
Silicon Valley	\$3041M	46.32%	273
New England	\$777M	11.84%	107
NY Metro	\$545M	8.30%	82
LA/Orange County	\$469M	7.15%	44
Texas	\$306M	4.66%	31
San Diego	\$269M	4.10%	23
Midwest	\$201M	3.06%	48
DC/Metroplex	\$179M	2.72%	45
Southeast	\$177M	2.69%	40
Colorado	\$166M	2.53%	27
Northwest	\$137M	2.08%	34
Philadelphia Metro	\$133M	2.02%	30
SouthWest	\$63M	0.96%	19
North Central	\$42M	0.64%	15
South Central	\$38M	0.57%	22
Upstate NY	\$23M	0.36%	4

PricewaterhouseCoopers National Venture Capital Association MoneyTree Report, Q3 2011 -

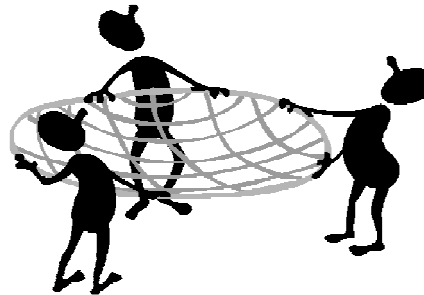
<https://www.pwcmoneytree.com/MTPublic/ns/nav.jsp?page=region>

Culture – Silicon Valley is unique

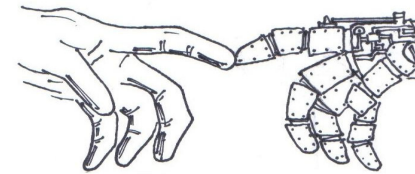
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Risk taking



It's OK to fail



Engineering
tradition



World class
universities



Cultural
diversity

So you want to come to Silicon Valley...

Existing visa system doesn't support entrepreneurs

No progress on legislation like the Startup Visa Act

Must find inadequate workarounds (e.g. work for others)

Or risk being sent back home (Amit Aharoni, BufferApp etc.)

Existing visas not entrepreneur-friendly

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Visa type	Can work?	Can self-employ?	Expires	Restrictions
B1/B2 Business, Tourist or Waiver	✗	✗	<6 mo/yr in U.S.	Can't earn income
E-2 Treaty Investor, Employee of Treaty Investor	✓	✓	2+2+2... yrs	Not for India, Brazil, Russia, China; "substantial" investment (~\$100K); <u>must own 50%+ of the business</u> ; can't convert to Green Card
EB-5 Investor	✓	✓	Never	<u>Must invest \$1M+ and create 10 jobs</u>
H1-B Skilled worker	✓	✗	3+3 yrs	If laid off, must find new sponsor ASAP – there is <u>no grace period</u>
L-1 Intracompany Transfer	✓	✗	3 yrs	Must have worked at foreign branch for 1+ years

Sources: USCIS, DHS, December 2011

S. 565: StartUp Visa Act of 2011

112th Congress: 2011-2012

A bill to establish an employment-based immigrant visa for alien entrepreneurs who have received significant capital from investors to establish a business in the United States.

Sponsor: Sen. John Kerry [D-MA]

Status: This bill is in the first step in the legislative process. **Explanation:** Introduced bills and resolutions first go to committees that deliberate, investigate, and revise them before they go to general debate. The majority of bills and resolutions never make it out of committee.

[Last Updated: Sep 7, 2011 6:14AM]

BILL OVERVIEW

Co-sponsors: [Show Cosponsors \(6\)](#)

Text: [Summary](#) | [Full Text](#)

Status:

- ☒ Introduced Mar 14, 2011
- ☒ Referred to Committee [View Committee Assignments](#)
- ☐ Reported by Committee ...
- ☐ Senate Vote ...
- ☐ House Vote ...
- ☐ Signed by President ...

Last Action: Mar 14, 2011: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

No progress in U.S. Congress on Startup Visa Act



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Immigrant Creates U.S. Jobs, Gets Boot Over Visa



Amit Aharoni, an Israeli national and a graduate of Stanford Business School, who secured \$1.65 million in venture capital funding with two cofounders to launch CruiseWise.com, an online cruise booking company, initially was denied a visa to continue operating his business in the United States. (ABCNEWS.com)

AUTO START: ON OFF

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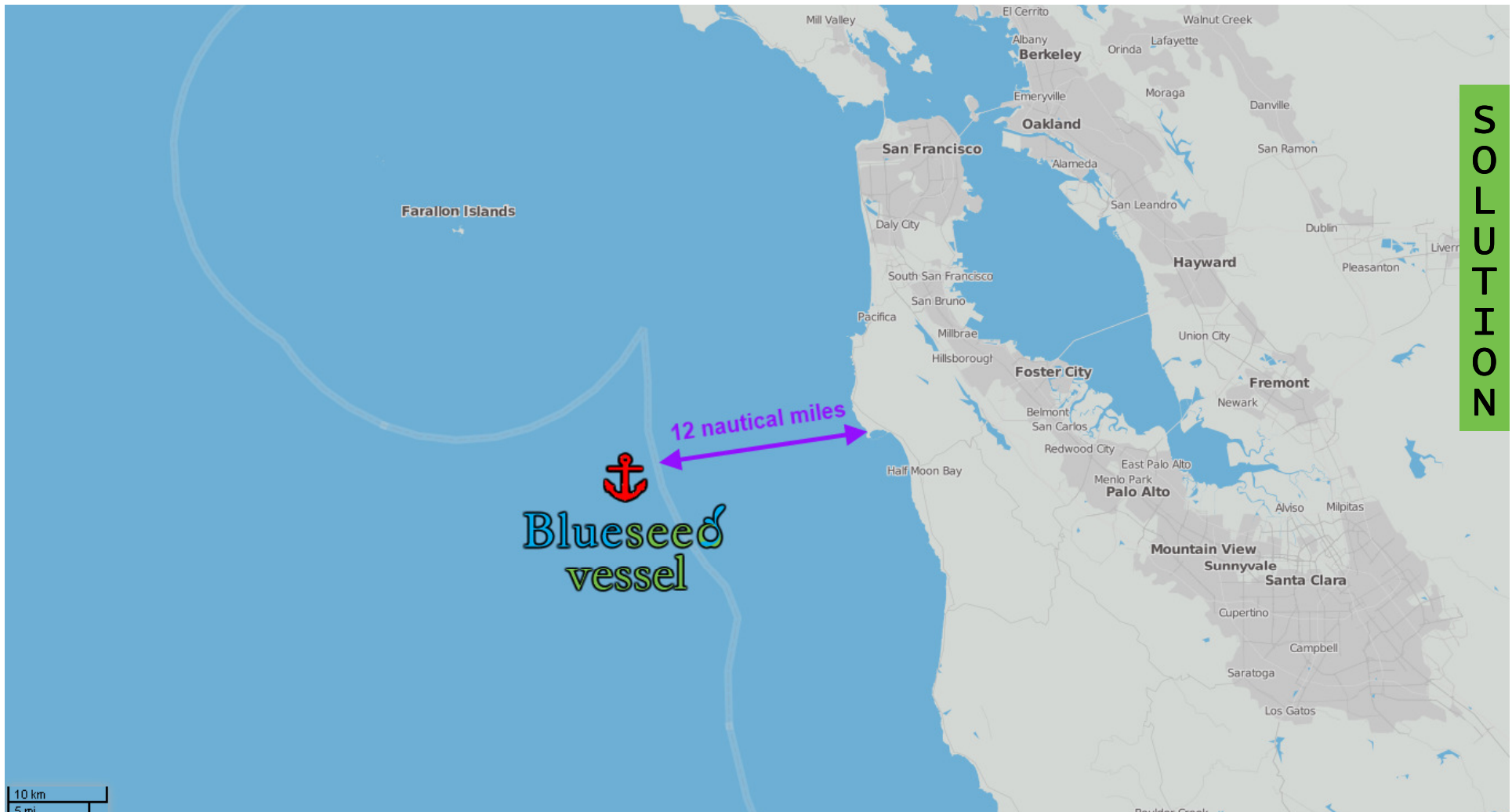
Startup
entrepre-
neur
kicked
out of US
over visa
issues



Visa restrictions
make it hard to
work as an
entrepreneur in
Silicon Valley.

What can we do?

Look to the left.
Think outside the
box.



**Our vessel will be 12 miles offshore,
in international waters,
outside U.S. jurisdiction**



We are
funded by
Peter Thiel

PayPal co-founder

Early investor in
Facebook, LinkedIn, Yelp

Main donor to
The Seasteading Institute,
a think tank researching
ocean communities



The Blueseed Team



Max
Marty,
CEO



Dario
Mutabdzija,
President



Dan
Dascalescu,
CIO

Met: at The Seasteading Institute, researching ocean communities
Now: making them a reality

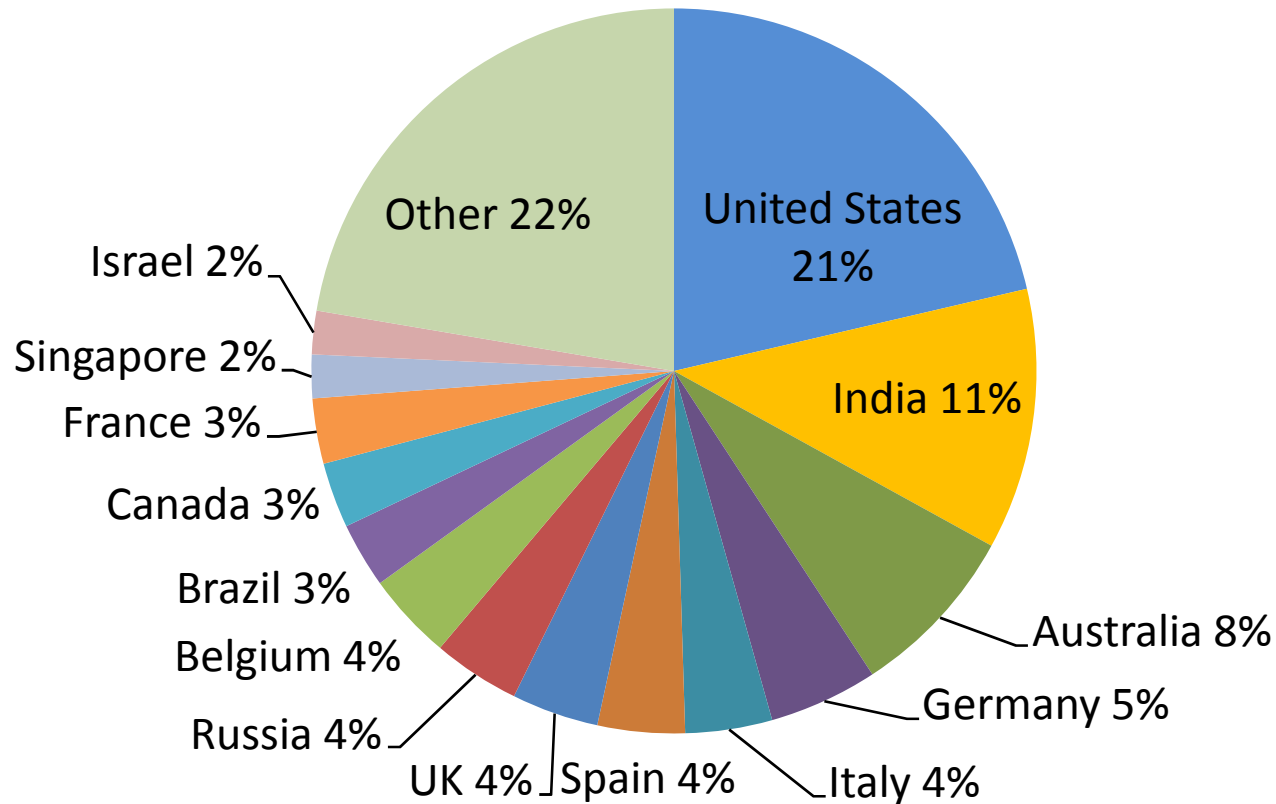
Signed up – as of 2012-Jan

403
entrepreneurs

103 startups

37 countries

SOLUTION



The Blueseed incubator: 1000-passenger vessel. We'll use **one** of these ships:



Converted cruise ship



Accommodation barge



Custom-built barge

Live/work/play environment onboard: “Googleplex of the Sea”

OFFER



Cabins for different budgets

Customizable office space

Recreational facilities

High-speed Internet access

24-hour food/medical/security

Awesome environment, supporting creativity and innovation

High-speed Internet access

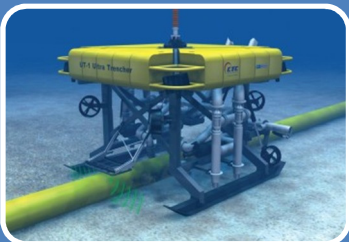
OFFER



Wireless 1Gbps+ link to shore



Satellite backup



Fiber optic submarine cable
(potentially)

Daily transportation to the mainland

OFFER

Ferry

- Large-capacity roundtrip ferries, morning and evening
- ~30 minutes from ship to shore



Speedboats throughout the day

- Small capacity, on demand
- ~20 minutes from ship to shore



Helicopter

- Medical or other emergencies
- VIP visits



Amenities onboard

<p>Gyms Pool Sports fields</p>	<p>Game rooms</p>	<p>Entertainment venues</p>
<p>Convenience stores</p>	<p>Post office</p>	<p>ATMs</p>
<p>Cafes</p>	<p>Food service</p>	<p>Concierge</p>

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Startup incubator services

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Connection with
Silicon Valley
startup events

Access to angel
investors or
venture capital

Networking
activities

Training
programs

Legal help:
immigration,
IP/patents etc.

Events onboard +
more...

Benefits of being aboard Blueseed

No visas or immigration restrictions

Much lower regulatory costs – you choose where to incorporate

Simplified business and regulatory environment

Bring into your team talent from anywhere in the world

No stressful commuting, no traffic

“Perpetual hackathon” atmosphere

You’ll be in the middle of cutting-edge innovation

What if things go wrong?

When moving to Blueseed, you'll deposit an amount to cover transportation to your country of choice

Q: Did your startup fail?

A: The startup in the next cabin is probably hiring.

"[in Silicon Valley] every company I work with is absolutely starved for talent: qualified software engineers, managers, marketers and salespeople"

- Marc Andreessen, August 2011, Wall Street Journal

We'll be there to help.

Cost of living aboard Blueseed

(preliminary estimates)

OFFER

Combination of rent
+ startup equity

- More cash + less equity, *or*
- Less cash + more equity

Cash rent: from \$1200/person/month (shared room for 4)

Up to \$3000/person/month (private room with ocean view)

Cost includes office
space!

- Comparable San Francisco rent: \$1750
- Plus desk at startup incubator: \$500+/mo.

Blueseed's interests are aligned with yours

OFFER

Blueseed
taking
equity in
startups



We
succeed if
you
succeed

How we'll work to reduce your rent cost: extra revenue streams

Talent scouting

- Offices aboard for big companies looking to hire brilliant entrepreneurs like you

Early acquisition of startups

- Since 2009, Google has been acquiring a new company per week. We'll own equity in startups onboard, and cash in on exits.

We'll be a unique environment

- Rent out space for events, conferences etc.
- Hotel rooms for visitors
- Other partnerships enhancing the ecosystem

Visas you'll need

To live and work aboard Blueseed: no visa

To travel to the U.S. mainland:

- business visa (B-1), *or*
- tourist visa (B-2; often combined with B-1), *or*
- Visa Waiver (some countries, valid only 3 months), *or*
- transit visa (least recommended)

B1/B2 visas generally valid for 10 years

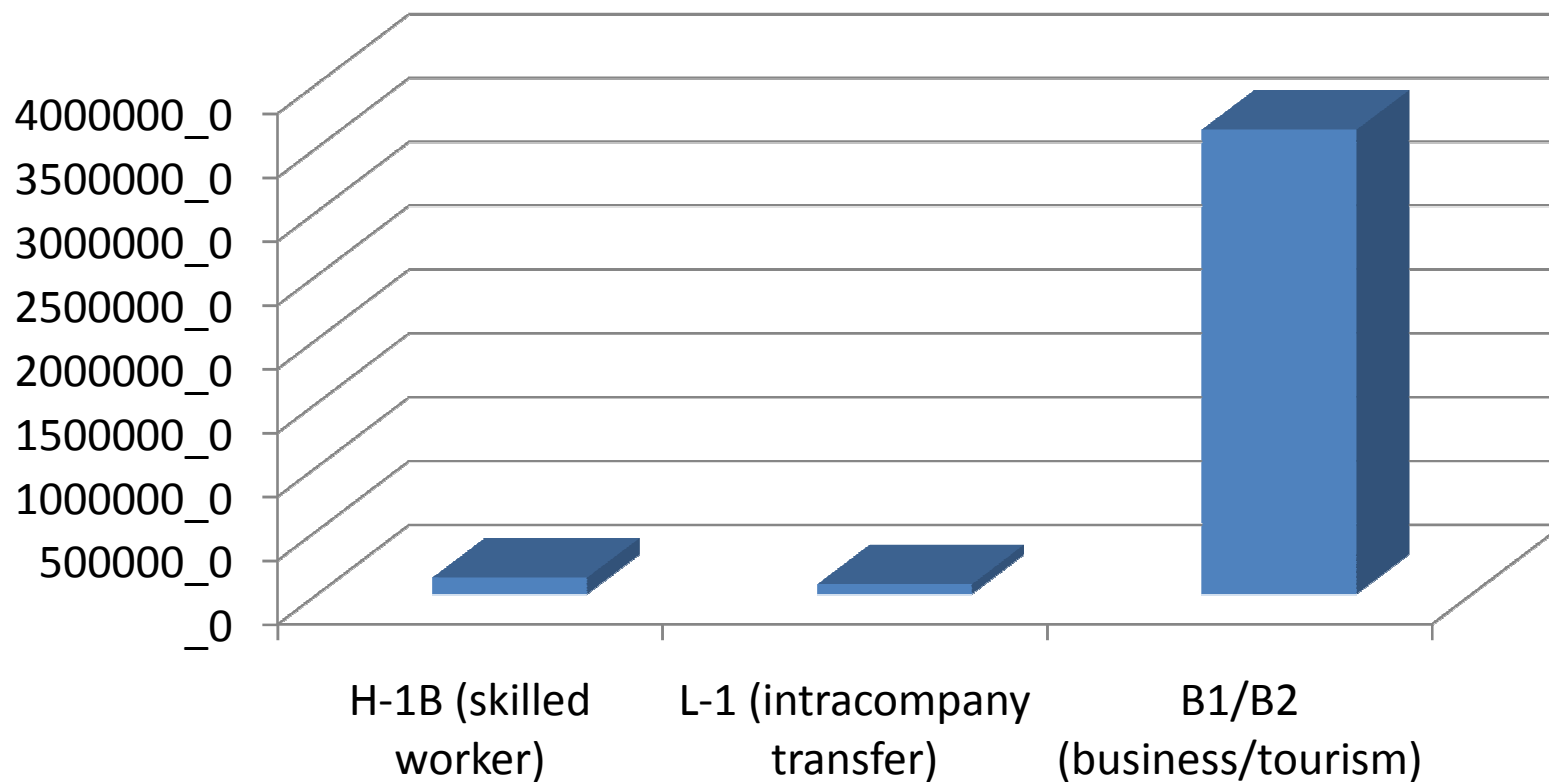
Must spend at most 180 days/year in the U.S.

Americans (e.g. investors) visit Blueseed freely

Ease of getting business/tourist visa vs. work visa

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Average # of U.S. visas granted per year, 2006-2010



Source: http://www.travel.state.gov/xls/FYs97-10_NIVDetailTable.xls

What laws apply on board?

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The laws of the flag state (to be decided)

- Bahamas (English common law)
- Marshall Islands (based on American law)

International commercial arbitration

- Fair, efficient, speedy, predictable
- You choose what country to incorporate in

Taxes

- To country of residence/incorporation
- **No taxes paid to Blueseed**

Patents – as usual

- International patents (WIPO)
- United States patents (USPTO)

FAQ – blueseed.co/faq.html

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Seasickness

- Not a problem: large vessel (200m x 50m)
- *Meclizine* - inexpensive preventative medication

Tsunamis, Hurricanes

- Tsunamis/earthquakes doesn't affect ships at sea
- Hurricanes don't exist near California

Storms

- Happen rarely; affect large vessels less
- In case of "force majeure", we can come to shore

Pirates :)

- Don't exist in the region

When will Blueseed launch?

Estimated: Q3 2013

R&D we're conducting – your help is welcome:

- Select the best vessel and maritime specialists
- Strengthen relationship with immigration authorities
- Partnerships with startup incubators, legislators, media
- Cleantech & greentech companies, environment studies
- Investors

If you can help – contact us: blueseed.co

Want to come onboard? Apply online:



The image shows a screenshot of the Blueseed website. At the top, the Blueseed logo is displayed in blue and green. Below the logo is a black banner with the text "STOP CENSORSHIP >". To the right of the banner are social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, and a "Join us on Facebook" button. The main content area features a large blue banner with the text "Visa-free offshore technology incubator near Silicon Valley". Below this banner is a dark blue navigation bar with links: Home, About us, Advisors, News, Concept vessels, Survey for startups, FAQ, and Contact Us. The "Survey for startups" link is highlighted with an orange box, and a large orange arrow points from the top right towards it. Below the navigation bar, there is a text block on the left and an image of a large offshore vessel on the right.

Because of the United States' current immigration and regulatory regime, bold and creative entrepreneurs from around the world aren't given the chance to come to Silicon Valley and develop the technologies that could be creating jobs and propelling the economy forward.

Blueseed aims to solve this problem so that Silicon Valley remains the world's center for innovation. Our team, backed by PayPal founder Peter Thiel, is creating a high-tech visa-free entrepreneurship and technology incubator on an ocean vessel in international waters. Our facilities will be a short ferry ride away from Silicon Valley so that great ideas and talent from around the world can live, work, and play while having convenient access to the San Francisco Bay Area. We will provide a customized environment centered around smart, proven, cost-effective legal best practices, and modern living and work accommodations.



Blueseed

“The people who are crazy enough to think they can change the world, are the ones who do.”

-- Steve Jobs, 1955-2011

<http://blueseed.co>

info@blueseed.co