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FIRST EVER PORTUGUESE ACCELERATION PROGRAM IN PAYMENTS

‘SIBS PAYFORWARD’: 25 STARTUPS READY FOR THE BOOTCAMP

Lisbon, March 8th, 2017 – Are already known the 25 startups, among more than 100 candidates to [‘SIBS PayForward’](#), who will participate in the Bootcamp phase, that will take place in Lisbon, from April 3rd to 7th are already known. These startups come from several countries and areas of activity, namely payments, cards, bank account and personal finance management, electronic money, security mechanisms, fraud and monitoring, processes and customer behavior.

After complex evaluation steps, these 25 startups will now have access to individual coaching, pitch practice sessions and will be submitted to several workshops & mentoring sessions, relevant to the development of the business model, and product market fit, following each weekly topic. In the end, the chosen startups will be in the two-month acceleration stage.

"The selection stages have been very demanding. We received more than a hundred candidates who, in two evaluation stages, went from 40 to the 25 who are now preparing for the bootcamp" explains **Maria Antónia Saldanha, Brand and Communication Director of SIBS Group**, adding that "we are very satisfied with the results of this first ever Portuguese acceleration program in payments area on the international markets. "

"It's very good to see that the program has been able to attract startups that suit with the profile that we had in mind: wit around 2 years of activity, with a functional prototype, and able to make a pilot with SIBS, as a first step towards a narrower and even strategic. We are very pleased with the overall quality of the 25 teams, and we have chosen and eager to working with them", says **Manuel Tangier, co-founder and Head of Innovation & Corporate Acceleration of Beta-i**.

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The 25 startups that will participate in the SIBS PAYFORWARD Bootcamp are:

| AREA | STARTUP |
|---|-----------------------------|
| PAYMENTS | CollectAI |
| | Gonpay |
| | IamOlly |
| | Orange Bird |
| | Papaya POS |
| | PayThunder |
| | SharePayers |
| | SnapSwap International S.A. |
| | Spindots, Lda |
| BANK ACCOUNT MANAGEMENT & PERSONAL FINANCE | Mulalo |
| | Nordigen.com |
| | Quotanda |
| | SalaryFits |
| SECURITY MECHANISMS | Crayonic |
| | Identitii |
| | Polygon Innovation |
| FRAUD AND MONITORING | 4Stop |
| | Fraud Dynamics |
| CARDS | Antelop |
| | Pagita S.r.l. |
| ELECTRONIC MONEY | Koibanx |
| | Sofitto |
| | Tramonex |
| PROCESSES | Securibox |
| CLIENT BEHAVIOR | DataSine |

SIBS PAYFORWARD program, a result of the partnership between SIBS and Beta-i, received a total of 106 applications from 31 different countries, a fact that speaks to its international appeal and prove the interest of startups in being part of the first acceleration program in the area of payments in Portugal.

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The program also includes access to SIBS consultants, that, together with the Beta-i network, means access to a platform of more than 200 mentors and more than 500 startups, as well as top industry events.

More information about the program at www.sibspayforward.com

About SIBS

SIBS is a large-scale payments specialist operating in Europe and Africa with more than 6 billion transactions processed yearly and with a broad scope of activity, covering all payment channels and instruments. The SIBS service portfolio is unparalleled, ranging from innovative Payment Services, through terminal services at ATM and POS network, mobile, virtual and internet solutions, management and full issuing & acquiring transaction processing, to ACH processing capabilities (clearing all payment instruments – cheques and cards, as well as SEPA credit transfers and SEPA direct debit solutions).

Customer needs in the payments arena are further serviced by SIBS through complementary Business Process Outsourcing (BPO) services, such as Payment Process Management and Card Personalisation Solutions and Security (fraud prevention) & IT Services.

More about SIBS at www.sibs.pt

About Beta-i:

Based in Lisbon, Beta-i is an innovation hub with the mission to improve entrepreneurship through 3 main acting principles: create and boost a network for entrepreneurship, accelerate startups with global ambition and facilitate their access to investment, space, services and products that support startup growth.

Beta-i was considered the biggest startup & entrepreneurship promoter in Europe by the European Enterprise Promotion Awards in June 2014 and highlighted as the key Lisbon accelerator by Wired Magazine in 2016. It's hub hosts an average of 40 startups at different developmental stages and is a meeting point for national and international ecosystem players from investors to corporates, entrepreneurs and startups themselves among many others. Beta-i presently runs a series of accelerators per year starting with Lisbon Challenge and including a number of corporate accelerators. Alongside with regular smaller events organized for the community, Beta-i is responsible for the Lisbon Investment Summit and The Tourism Day conference.

More info: <http://beta-i.pt/>