



PRESS DECK • OCTOBER 2026

AI Lounge: the AI founder and builder community

Where experienced AI founders and builders meet, ship and help each other, plus the open data on the AI market they use every day: the Revenue Leaderboard, Model Benchmarks, the Agentic 50, and every 2026 AI funding round and acquisition.

2,640

members in 26 days

264

founders at \$1M+ ARR

\$3.18B

raised by members

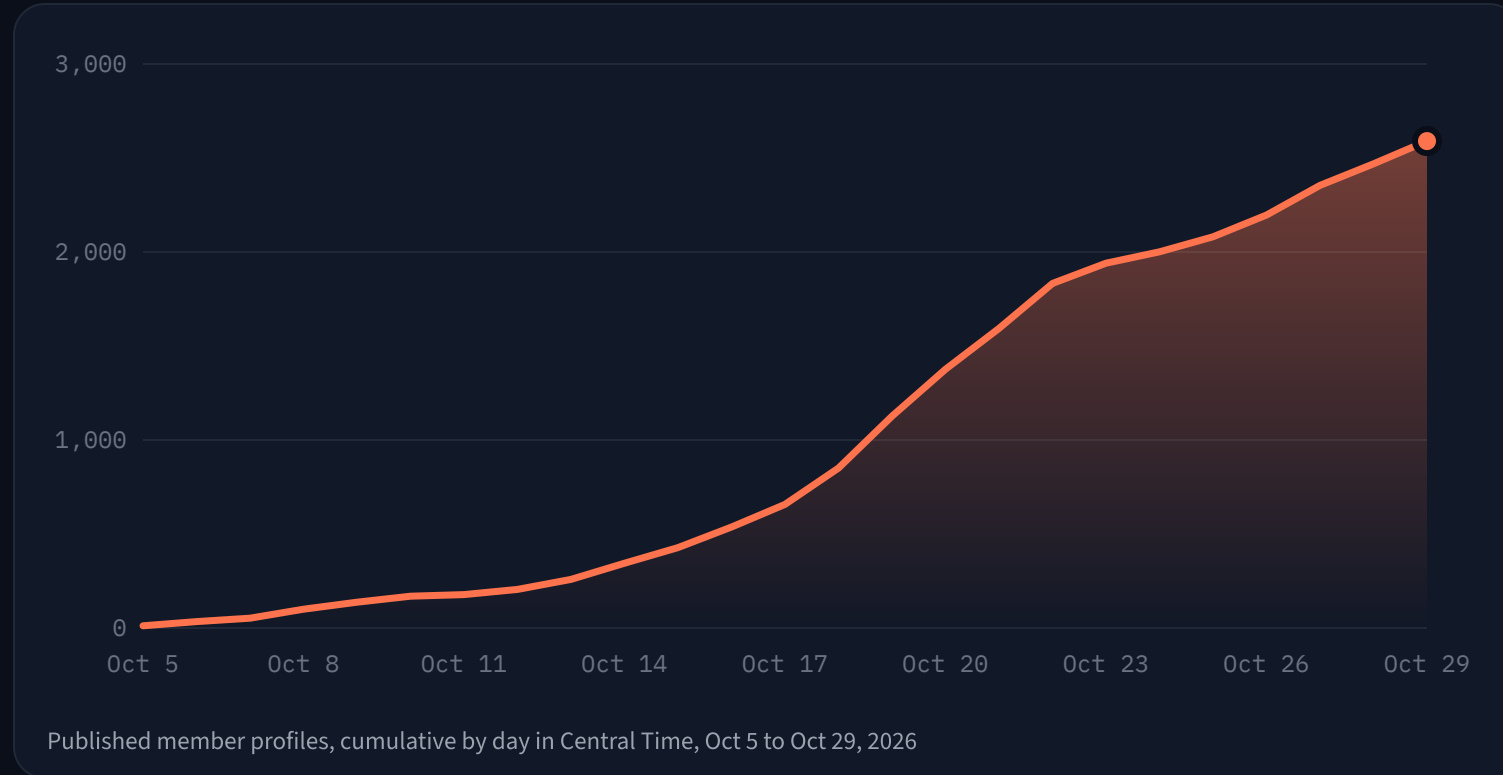
\$6.25B

in member exits

121

countries

From zero to 2,640 members in 26 days



276

new members on Oct 19, our best day yet

1.4×

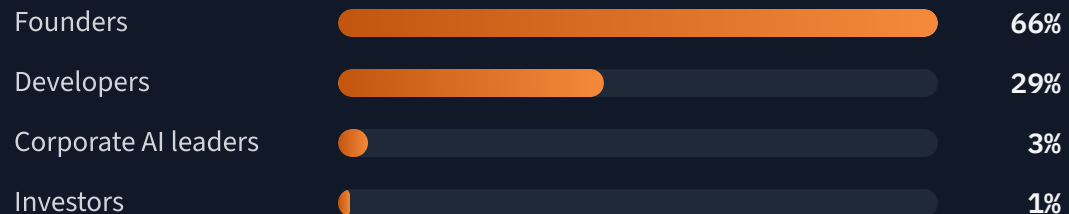
week-over-week growth (1,833 to 2,590 members, through Oct 29)

100%

real profiles: name, photo, role, company and city, no anonymous signups

Mostly founders, all of them building with AI

Members by persona



264 founders at \$1M+ ARR



Plus 1,487 founders building toward \$1M ARR.



Zack Li

Qualcomm exit

Co-founder & CTO, Nexa AI

Nexa AI was acquired by Qualcomm.
Ex-Google and Amazon Lab126.



Guy Gur-Ari

Augment Code

Google DeepMind

Co-founded Augment Code; now
working on AGI at Google DeepMind.



Girish Jashnani

\$25M+ ARR

Founder & CEO, Flosum

Salesforce DevOps and security for
federal agencies. Ex-Salesforce.



Heidi Raines

Acquired 2025

Founder, Performance Health Partners

Patient safety software acquired by
Sentact; multiple healthcare exits.



Sanjay Varnwal

\$23M Series A

Co-founder & CEO, Spyne

An agentic AI operating system for car
dealers. Ex-OYO.



Olivier Lambert

\$10M+ ARR

Founder & CEO, Vates

Created Xen Orchestra and XCP-ng,
open-source virtualization.



Joseph Crabtree

50+ patents

Founder & CEO, AMT

Built AMT in industrial 3D printing;
raised a \$25M Series B.



Chris Brisson

5x Inc. 5000

Co-founder & CEO, Salesmsg

AI texting and calling inside the CRM,
built without outside funding.

Exited, high-ARR and VC-backed founders



Advait Shinde \$1B exit

Founder, GoGuardian

Built GoGuardian into a \$1B edtech company; ex-Google Android engineer.



John Ryan IPO

Founder & CEO, ORM Technologies

Took Entrust Technologies public on Nasdaq at a \$762M valuation.



David Hassell \$50M+ ARR

Co-founder, 15Five

Grew 15Five past \$50M ARR as CEO; now building a stealth AI venture.



Guy Yalif Acquired

Chief Evangelist, Webflow

Founded Intellimize, acquired by Webflow in 2024.



Pavan Sondur \$111M exit

Co-founder & CEO, Legend

Co-founded Unbxd, acquired by Netcore Cloud for \$111M.



Massimo Arrigoni \$10M+ ARR

CEO & Co-founder, Beefree

Beefree's email builder runs inside 1,100+ SaaS apps.



Emeric Ernout \$10M+ ARR

Founder & CEO, Archie

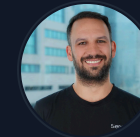
Co-founded Agorapulse; now building AI that writes on-brand social posts.



Greg Fitzgerald Cylance

CEO, Artificial By Design

Founding CMO at Cylance and co-founder of Sevco Security.



Nevo Elmalem \$98M raise

Founder & CTO, Sensi AI

Raised a \$98M Series C for AI agents in home care.

The developers with the most GitHub stars

#	MEMBER	CITY	TOP_REPO	STARS
1	 Ashish Patel	Ahmedabad	500-AI-Agents-Projects	96,392
2	 Ásgeir Thor Johnson	Hafnarfjordur	system_prompts_leaks	70,441
3	 Ebony Vinyl	Dongguan	dsh-our-free-model	54,398
4	 Niccolò Lucioli	Rome	agentic-awesome-skills	48,850
5	 Luong Nguyen	Paris	claude-howto	47,974
6	 Mahipal Jangra	Berlin	Anthropic-Cybersecurity-Skills	37,695
7	 JN MetaCode	Beijing	agency-agents-zh	34,101
8	 Saurabh Rai	New Delhi	Resume-Matcher	29,115
9	 Adam Tauber	Budapest	wuzz	24,425
10	 Ionică Bizău (Johnny B.)	Oradea	git-stats	23,568

466K+

GitHub stars across the top 10 developer members alone

778

developers, many shipping open-source AI tools, agents and MCP servers

Stars are live from members' connected GitHub accounts, summed across their own repos.

\$3.18B raised and \$6.25B in exits by our members

Largest member raises

FOUNDER	COMPANY	RAISED	ROUND
 Igor Ostrovsky	Augment	\$252M	Series B
 Advait Shinde	GoGuardian	\$200M	Growth
 Somsubhra Ganchoudhary	Entrepreneurs Fi...	\$200M	Series D
 Paul de Fombelle	Positive	\$120M	Growth
 Nevo Elmalem	Sensi AI	\$98M	Series C
 Dennis Won	Newton Labs	\$83M	Strategic
 Eric Litman	Aescape	\$83M	Strategic
 Ying Cong Seah	Glints	\$82M	Series D
 Vivek Soder	Superhuman	\$75M	Series C
 David Hassell	15Five	\$52M	Series C

123 founders on AI Lounge have raised outside capital, \$1.6B in total.

Largest member exits

FOUNDER	COMPANY	EXIT	BUYER
 Eddie Machaalani	BigCommerce	\$1.8B	Nasdaq IPO
 Advait Shinde	GoGuardian	\$1B	Sumeru Equity Par...
 Vivek Soder	Superhuman	\$825M	Grammarly
 John Ryan	Entrust	\$762M	Nasdaq IPO
 George Athanasopoulos	Novibet	\$225M	Allwyn
 Ryan Allis	iContact	\$169M	Vocus
 Suresh Madan	MyHealth Cen...	\$167M	WELL Health Techn...
 Roger Sholanki	Book4Time	\$150M	Agilysys
 Igor Schlumberger	LeGuide.com	\$126M	Lagardère Active (L...
 Pavan Sondur	Unbxd	\$111M	Netcore Cloud

Verified from public sources, every exit linked on the member's profile.

A global community with real density in the AI hubs

Top 15 cities (metro)

#	CITY	COUNTRY	MEMBERS
1	San Francisco Bay Area	United States	195
2	London	United Kingdom	93
3	New York	United States	88
4	Bangalore	India	61
5	Delhi NCR	India	43
6	Paris	France	42
7	Austin	United States	38
8	Berlin	Germany	37
9	Mumbai	India	36
10	Amsterdam	Netherlands	34
11	Washington	United States	33
12	Los Angeles	United States	32
13	Dubai	United Arab Emirates	31
14	Sydney	Australia	26
15	Singapore	Singapore	25

Top 15 countries

#	COUNTRY	MEMBERS	SHARE
1	United States	823	31%
2	India	240	9%
3	United Kingdom	135	5%
4	Germany	79	3%
5	Canada	76	3%
6	Nigeria	75	3%
7	Australia	65	2%
8	France	60	2%
9	Brazil	60	2%
10	Netherlands	52	2%
11	Türkiye	51	2%
12	Spain	49	2%
13	Pakistan	44	2%
14	United Arab Emirates	35	1%
15	Indonesia	31	1%

Members by region

REGION	MEMBERS	SHARE
North America	899	34%
Europe	723	27%
South Asia	329	12%
East & Southeast Asia	189	7%
Sub-Saharan Africa	163	6%
Latin America	162	6%
Middle East & North Africa	99	4%
Oceania	69	3%

2,636 members with a known location across 121 countries and 800+ cities.

Highlights

- United States: 823 members, with density in the Bay Area, New York, Austin and Washington.
- India and South Asia: 300+ builders, led by Bangalore and Delhi NCR.
- Europe: 700+ members across London, Paris, Berlin and Amsterdam.
- Members in 800+ cities, from Lagos and Nairobi to Tokyo and São Paulo.

Members meet every week, online and in person



Founders at the Weekly AI Founder Mastermind, October 2026

In-person meetups

City Ambassador meetups in the AI hubs, plus 900+ AI meetups across 110+ cities listed for members every morning.

Weekly AI Founder Mastermind

Every Thursday on Zoom: 60 minutes with founders grouped by ARR band, bringing real problems.

Workshops and demos

Hands-on sessions on building with the newest models and tools, recorded for members.

The daily digest

Today in AI, deals, research and meetups near you, in every member's inbox each morning.

The numbers journalists and founders cite

Revenue Leaderboard

2,105

private AI and SaaS companies ranked by revenue, with sources

Two boards, AI-native and SaaS, filterable by category and country. Anthropic leads. Free and public.

lounge.ai/arr

AI Model Benchmarks

109

model versions from 13 labs on 10 benchmarks

SWE-bench, Terminal-Bench, GPQA, HLE, ARC-AGI-2 and Arena, next to price per million tokens. Every chart free to republish.

lounge.ai/benchmarks

The Agentic 50

50

AI agent platforms that matter in 2026

Consumer and business agents, ranked by scale: capital raised, valuation, ARR and users, as reported.

lounge.ai/agents

M&A Deals Data

172

AI acquisitions in 2026, \$468B in disclosed value

Every AI acquisition with acquirer, price, date and source, updated daily.

lounge.ai/deals?kind=ma

VC Investments Data

2,905

AI venture rounds in 2026, \$699B raised

Seed to growth, with lead investors, round size, valuation and the partners behind each round.

lounge.ai/deals

All five are free to read and cite with credit and a link to AI Lounge. Charts on Model Benchmarks have embed code and PNG downloads for press.

Press resources and contact

Resources at lounge.ai/press

- This press deck as a PDF
- Logos for light and dark backgrounds, SVG and PNG
- Product screenshots, desktop and phone
- Model Benchmarks charts with embed code and credit lines
- Fact sheet: members, growth, founders and data, updated live

Press contact

Ryan Allis, CEO and co-founder of AI Lounge. Previously founded iContact (acquired by Vocus for \$169M).

ryan@lounge.ai

Interviews, data requests and member introductions

2,640

members since Oct 5, 2026

2,105

companies on the Revenue Leaderboard

109

AI models benchmarked

3,000+

AI deals tracked in 2026



Write about AI founders? We'd love to help.

Data, charts, member stories and introductions to founders in any city or ARR band.

lounge.ai/press

Ryan Allis, CEO and co-founder, AI Lounge