



## **SunBridge Startups LLP invests in Language Cloud, the first LMS developed for language teachers and students**

November 21, 2012, Tokyo, Japan - Global seed accelerator SunBridge Global Ventures Inc. (Head office: Shibuya-Ku, Tokyo, Japan, President & CEO: Ikuo Hiraishi, henceforth "SunBridge GV") has announced that it has completed investment in Language Cloud, Inc. (Head office: Delaware, USA, Co-CEO, Co-founder: Billy Kosuke Martyn, Co-CEO, Co-founder: John Hideyoshi Martyn, henceforth "Language Cloud") through the SunBridge Startups LLP (Head office: Shibuya-Ku, Tokyo, Japan, Partner: Ikuo Hiraishi, henceforth "SunBridge Startups LLP") which is operated by SunBridge GV and other partners.

In addition to teaching, language teachers spend many hours per week on tasks such as managing assignments, grading and manually keeping track of student progress. The time spent on these tasks could be better spent engaging with students, however innovation in the language education has been lagging up until now. Language Cloud is the first learning management system (LMS) developed for language education with these problems in mind. Its online platform and apps allow teachers and students to easily manage their classes, assignments, and notes in the cloud, freeing up valuable time and enhancing the learning experience through online and mobile access.

The Martyn brothers were born to American and Japanese parents. Their father is an American diplomat and their mother is a Japanese language teacher. They applied their own experiences of learning languages to develop a platform that meet the needs of both language teachers and students. Their goal is to leverage Internet technologies to improve the experience and productivity of both teachers and students.

Furthermore, utilizing their unique personal background and experiences, and their linguistic talents, they are planning to expand into global markets including the United States, China and Korea. SunBridge Startups LLP participated in Language Cloud's seed round which was raised using convertible notes.

SunBridge Startups LLP is a Limited Liability Partnership that was established in June 2011 by SunBridge-related persons. We discover and cultivate global ventures originating in Japan based on the three themes, "Go Global", "Global Cloud Platform" and "Innovation Weekend\* Winner".

\* Innovation Weekend

"Innovation Weekend" was started in May 2011 to serve as a platform to develop "global venture business originating from Japan". We discover promising entrepreneurs and support them by offering chances to raise seed money and receive various supports by linking investors and startups together.

### **[Language Cloud, Inc.]**

Company Name: Language Cloud, Inc. <https://languagecloud.co>

Location: The Soho #1201, 2-7-4 Aomi, Koto-ku, Tokyo, Japan

Established: 6/12/2012

Representative:

Co-founder/Co-CEO, Billy Kosuke Martyn

Co-founder/Co-CEO, John Hideyoshi Martyn

**[SunBridge Global Ventures Inc.]**

SunBridge Global Ventures supports young entrepreneurs following the three major trends of smartphones, social media and cloud computing by providing them know-how cultivated in the past 10 years under the name of SunBridge Global Venture Habitat. Startups invested in so far include salesforce.com, Macromill, OKWave, ITMedia and istyle.

Company Name: SunBridge Global Ventures Inc.

Location: 1-5-5, Ebisu-Minami, Tokyo, Japan

Established: January 5th 2012

Capital: 52,640,000 Yen(Paid-in capital 52,640,000 Yen)

Representative: President & CEO Ikuo Hiraishi

Field of Business:

- 1.Internet startup investment and foreign expansion support
- 2.Developing and planning for new businesses
- 3.Developing next generation innovative human resources

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