

# Venture Capital Funding Quarterly

# **Telecom • Wireless Mobile • Communications**

4<sup>th</sup> Quarter, 2012 – United States

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### **Summary**

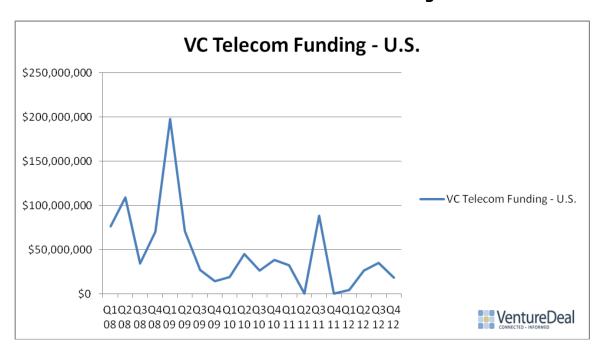
Telecommunications, Wireless, Mobile and Communications technology startups raised \$442 million during 4Q 2012, a decrease of 17% vs. the previous quarter. 92 companies received funding, the same number as in the previous quarter.

Only the Wireless sector posted increased quarterly funding results, increasing by 8%. Telecom, Mobile and Communications sectors showed funding decreases during the quarter – by 49%, 9% and 79% respectively for each sector in aggregate funding amounts.

## **Funding Activity**

#### Telecom

The Telecom sector reversed its previous quarterly uptick of funding, with 4 companies receiving \$18 million, representing continued low-level funding in 2012.



**Chart 1 - Telecom Funding** 



Cambridge, Massachusetts-based <u>Thinking Phone Networks</u> raised the largest funding during the quarter, receiving \$16.5 million from venture capital investment firms. The company said it would use the funding proceeds to expand its sales and marketing efforts internationally and enhance its ThinkingSuite communications ecosystem.

#### Wireless

13 Wireless technology companies raised \$162 million during the quarter, an increase of 8% in dollar volume and a 19% reduction in the number of companies receiving funding versus the previous quarter.

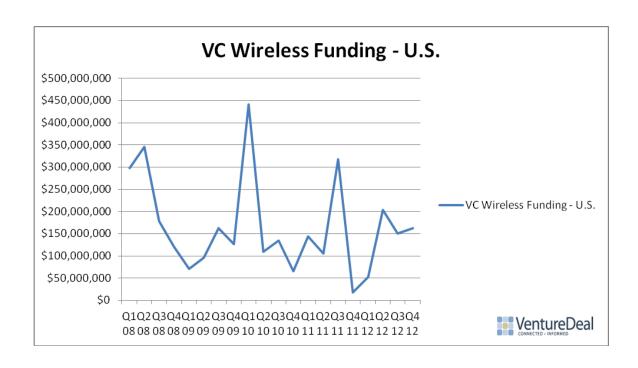
One of the largest funding rounds during the quarter was \$40 million for <u>Jasper Wireless</u>, according to an SEC regulatory filing. Jasper has developed a "one-stop shop for enterprises, OEMs and solution providers for connected device technologies." The company is backed by a large syndicate of venture capital and private equity firms.

<u>Airspan Networks</u> of Boca Raton, Florida, raised \$10 million in venture capital debt financing. Airspan provides a variety of wireless broadband solutions for Internet service providers as well as vertical market segments such as smart grid, public safety, transportation and oil & gas.

<u>Velocent Systems</u> secured \$726,000 in its Series A funding round. Velocent has developed deep packet inspection technology that helps mobile operators identify and resolve the problems that reduce mobile network performance. Investors in the round were not disclosed.

**Chart 2 - Wireless Funding - See Next Page** 





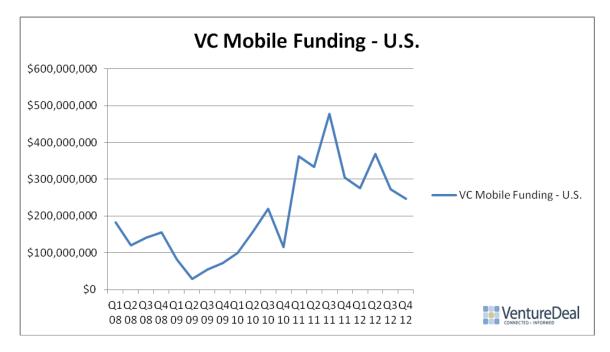
#### Mobile

The Mobile sector continued its previous quarterly funding decrease, with 71 companies securing \$247 million in new funding, representing a 9% decrease in funding amounts versus the previous quarter. The number of companies funded increased by 9%.

<u>Everything.me</u> landed the largest round of the quarter, receiving \$25 million in Series C financing for its technology that enables mobile phone users to search the Internet with their voice. Investors included venture capital and strategic investors. The company said it would use the financing to expand its team and continue service development.

New York-based <u>Stray Boots</u> received \$2 million in its Series A financing. The company has developed a mobile application that helps users explore a city by using game elements to incentivize usage and behavior, in turn driving increased engagement. The funding round included data analytics-focused venture capital firm <u>Correlation</u> Ventures.





**Chart 3 - Mobile Funding** 

#### Communications

The Communications sector raised \$15 million between 4 companies during the quarter, representing a dramatic decrease in amounts funded among the same number of companies funded versus the previous quarter.

The largest amount funded in the sector was a \$10 million Series E financing for WSO2. The company develops a variety of Web service middleware based on open source standards. Investors were not disclosed in the SEC regulatory filing, nor was how the company intends to use the proceeds purposes.



# **Chart 4 - Communications Funding**

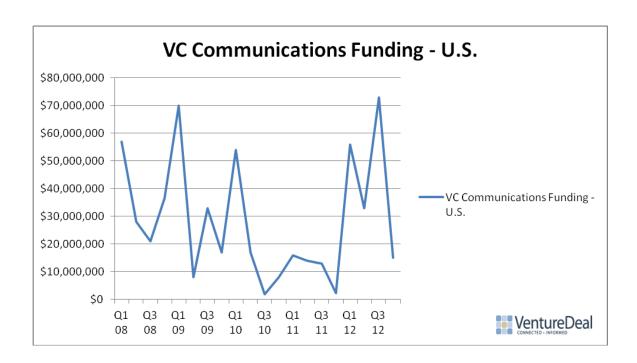


Table 1

Venture Funding Activity – 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2012

Industry	Total Disclosed Funding	% Change Vs. Prior Quarter	Number of Companies Funded	% Change vs. Prior Quarter
Telecom	\$18 million	- 49%	4	- 43%
Wireless	\$162 million	+ 8%	13	- 19%
Mobile	\$247 million	- 9%	71	+ 9%
Communications	\$15 million	- 79%	4	
Total	\$442 million	- 17%	92	



#### **Notes**

This report was prepared by the staff of VentureDeal, LLC.

The information source used was the <u>VentureDeal.com</u> database. VentureDeal is a venture capital database that provides the latest information about venture-backed technology companies, venture capital firms and transactions in the United States.

The database obtains transaction and company information from a wide variety of reputable public and private sources. While this report is free of charge, users may view the individual transactions supporting the totals herein by subscribing to VentureDeal.

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