



IT Majors Spawn New Breed of Entrepreneurs

From the blue-chip lineage of India's top technology firms, a new generation of entrepreneurs are emerging, find **Peerzada Abrar** and **Archana Rai**

When the angel investor mentoring a raw start-up is the former chief technology officer of IT bellwether Infosys Technologies, the probability of success for the fledgling company rises exponentially, as technology product start-up Customer XPs Software is discovering.

The Bangalore-based start-up, founded by a team that was earlier part of the products division at Infosys, has built a software product based on artificial intelligence. It is now live on the portals of ICICI Bank and is expected to rake in a slew of new customers across telecom, retail, insurance, healthcare and airline industries.

"The long experience with Infosys apart from general techniques, marketing and my contacts with other banks helped me to bring value to the company," says Sharad Hegde, who led the development of Finacle, Infosys' core banking solution, during his two decade stint with the IT service major. He was the first non-founder employee of the firm.



Hi-Tech Employee to Entrepreneur

As entrepreneurship gains pace across the country, supported by greater risk capital and a new class of angel investors, more employees of technology majors are leaving their cushy jobs to launch their own ventures



COMPANY

FOUNDERS

Customer XPs

Rivi Varghese, Aditya Lal, Balaji Suryanarayana, Sandhya V

Prakat Solutions

Anuradha Biswas

Frontal Rain Technologies

Jayaram Srinivasan, Sreeram P and Ravi Mandayam

Vimagino

Umakant Soni (Founder-CEO), Gaurav Vaish, Sandeep Dey, Sandeep Singh

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