

# Innovation Accelerator 2008

On February 5, 2008, the top six software design teams from the Imagine Cup 2007 Worldwide Finals converged on the technology capitol of the world - the Silicon Valley - for the 2008 Innovation Accelerator. Over the course of the next two weeks, with guidance from experts at Microsoft and BT, and some of the most successful entrepreneurs in technology, the student teams learned what it takes to build a business from the ground up. The university students received comprehensive training in how to develop an idea from a concept into a start-up. After receiving in-depth guidance using Microsoft and BT platform and network assets, the teams worked to improve and refine the software applications they created for the Imagine Cup World Finals in Korea. In addition, experts coached the students on running a startup business, developing a solid business plan, gaining venture capital, and bringing their concepts to market.

- [Watch Channel 8's video about the 2009 Innovation Accelerator](#)
- [Meet the 2008 Teams](#)

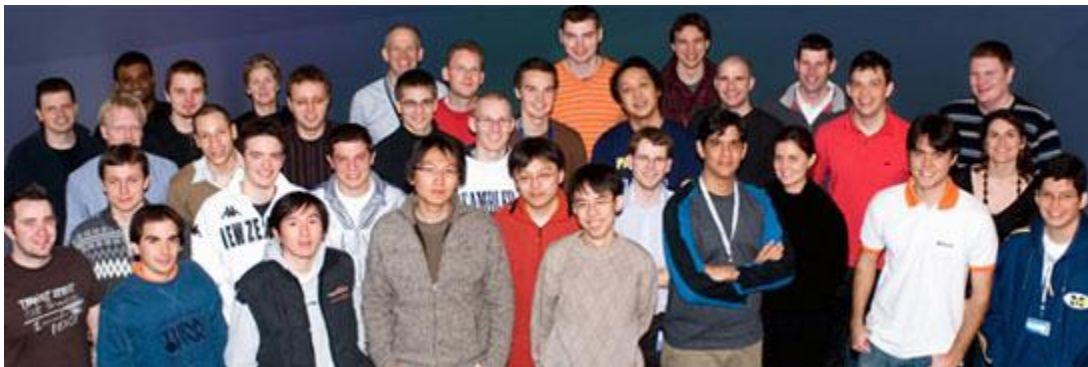
The following six teams participated in the 2008 Imagine Cup Innovation Accelerator program:

- Thailand - [Team 3KC Returns/Project LiveBook!](#)  
Team Members: Prachaya Phaisanwiphatpong, Vasan Chienmaneetaweessin, Jatupon Sukkasem, Pathompol Saeng-Uraiporn
- Korea - [Team En#605/Project Finger Code](#)  
Team Members: Lim Chan-kyu, Min Kyoung-hoon, Lim Byoung-su, Jeong Ji-hyeon
- Jamaica - [Team ICAD/Project CADI](#)  
Team Members: Imran Allie, Conroy Smith, Ayson Baxter, Damion Mitchell
- Ireland - [Team inGest/Project Signal-Sign Language Learning Environment](#)  
Team Members: Daniel Kelly, Cathal Coffey, Eric McClean, Mark Clerkin
- Mexico - [Team Wisdom Spice/Project Wisdom Spice](#)  
Team Members: Ramiro Berrelleza Perez, Dimitri Limberopulos Fernandez, Sergio Marcin Gorrino, Francisco Sandoval Zazueta
- Poland - [Team InPUT/Project Onespace](#)  
Team Members: Szymon Wybranski, Michal Zygmunt, Michal Tartanus, Marek Wronowski

## Innovation Accelerator 2007

In 2007, the Innovation Accelerator was held at the Microsoft Innovation Centre in Reading, U.K. from January 16-26. Six student teams composed of 21 university students from Brazil, China, Croatia, Germany, Italy and Norway worked closely with technical and business experts to refine their ideas in a hothouse-type environment. They participated in an intensive technical and business training workshop where they were coached in transforming of their software applications and ideas for solving a real-world problem into business reality. The teams — finalists in the 2006 Microsoft Imagine Cup Software Design Competition — were asked to “Imagine a world where technology enables us to live healthier lives.” The future entrepreneurs unveiled their concepts during a reception at the BT Tower in London on Jan. 26, 2007.

“The Innovation Accelerator is a tremendous showcase for the creativity, energy and potential of today’s young people to use technology in the service of human needs,” said Sinclair Stockman, chief science officer at BT. “The teams who participate in this event are setting an example not only for those who might be interested in becoming technology innovators, but anyone who might want to have a positive impact on their community and the world.”



Microsoft and BT executives pose with the students who participated in Innovation Accelerator 2007. Student teams were from Brazil, China, Croatia, Germany, Italy and Norway.