ANNEX A – QUOTES FROM THE INDUSTRY

"We have provided free advisory to over 450 Singapore startups and the main issue entrepreneurs face is a lack of quality engineering talent. As Singapore grows its technology ecosystem, the pace of quality engineering talent has not kept up, and we see entrepreneurs seeking overseas talents and foreign software houses to build their products. It is thus very important to groom more local engineering talent to maintain Singapore's lead regional position as a technology hub. Having General Assembly is an important step to supporting Singaporeans to pursue the exciting opportunities in the tech sector. I am grateful for IDA's initiatives in strengthening the tech community's local talent core which is also in line of our Vision in building a Smart Nation," - Christopher Quek, Angels Gate Advisory Director

"Over the past 2 years, we've seen an exponential demand for technical and design talent in Singapore. Not only are startups aggressively hiring for talent, we also see that fast-growing enterprises and multi-national corporations are joining in this war for talent with the right skills -- and General Assembly is one of these places to acquire industry-relevant skills in a short period of time." - Qin En, Co-Founder, Glints

"As the country and the organizations within it continue to tackle some of today's stickiest problems, technology practitioners will increasingly be called upon to prototype the future. Singapore needs more entrepreneurially minded people who deeply understand the tech and business ecosystems, and can design for the overlaps with people's needs." - Pete Overy, Managing Director, IDEO Singapore

"There is a unquestionable skills gap in the startup scene. The search for world-class tech and UX design talents has been a focus for many startup leaders. We are excited to see General Assembly launch such an immersive programme in fostering and accelerating tech talents. This will put Singapore in a much more competitive arena." - Anna Gong, CEO, Perx

"Technology and UX are functions which sit at the heart of our global business, so the demand for talent in these areas is always front of mind and we place great importance on hiring the best talent at all levels of seniority. Therefore, institutions like General Assembly who deliver current, practical and relevant training programmes are valuable to both our business and the wider industry. We've partnered with GA in several other countries including the UK and Australia and we're looking forward to partnering with them again here in Singapore" - Silva Robertson, APAC Hiring Lead, SapientNitro

"As a startup co-founder with a non-tech background, it's absolutely critical to find the right tech talent in Singapore. More and more startups are realizing the benefits of the startup ecosystem in Singapore, and the demand for tech talent seems only to continue to grow. Local talent is absolutely vital to my business, and I'm sure I'm not the only one." - Max Loosen, Co-Founder and Country Manager, Sendhelper

"In such a time when the tech talents are highly sought after, the launch of the Tech Bootcamp is a timely and significant initiative where the government and the industry work together in solidarity to provide a conducive environment for the nurturing of our local tech talents. SCS represents more than 32,000 infocomm and digital media professionals and students, shares the mission of developing our local talents. We will soon launch a Technopreneurship Interest Group, which is similarly aligned with grooming tech talents and supporting their passion in innovation and technopreneurship. We look forward to working even closer with our members, the government, industry and students to help shape our future tech talents community," - Howie Lau President, Singapore Computer Society, President.

"Singapore is in a unique position to incubate talent in the digital industry — something that serves the wider region. This is a fast growing industry and there's competition for talent at all levels. The sooner we do this, the taller we'll stand in the industry." - Alan Soon, Founder & CEO, Splice the Newsroom

"StarHub is pleased to see the collaborative effort between IDA and GA in offering people the opportunity to expand their tech skills, especially in the areas of software development, user experience development and data science. This initiative is a strong demonstration of how the government and social enterprises can come together to develop fresh, ready talents for Singapore's growing tech industry. We believe this will benefit tech companies like StarHub In such a time when the tech talents are highly sought after, the launch of the Tech Bootcamp is a timely and significant initiative where the government and the industry work together in solidarity to provide a conducive environment for the nurturing of our local tech talents," - Mock Pak Lum, StarHub Chief Technology Officer

"ZALORA has always championed growing the e-commerce industry in this part of the world. Our support for IDA and General Assembly's tech bootcamp development programme, is in line with our commitment to expand the technology community through capacity-building and fostering new talents for the industry. This initiative will help make Singapore the centre of the region's emerging technology ecosystem," - Tito Costa, Regional Managing Director, ZALORA Group

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