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Subject: Austin Weekly Deal Highlights - Feb 25th, 2024

Austin Weekly Deal Highlights

February 25th, 2024

Lovely weekend in Austin, and an even lovelier Sunday night, primarily because, here are your Austin Weekly Deal Highlights! After back-to-back massive weeks of venture funding activity here in Austin, this week was a tad light, although **Uhnder** still pulling in \$50M single-handedly. But don't you worry, you know I would never leave you empty handed, still plenty of tech highlights below, and major deals across the state, check it out!

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Austin Deal Activity

- Uhnder, the Austin-based technology company on a mission to create the
 most advanced radar sensors for safe and automated mobility of both
 people and goods, announced a \$50M Series D raise. The round was led
 by ACME Capital with participation from Magna, Qualcomm Ventures, El
 Camino Capital, Monta Vista Capital, Sagitta Ventures, and HT
 Capital.
- Anagram, an artificial intelligence-based tool centralizing product data,
 raised \$1.2M of pre-seed funding in a deal led by NextView Ventures and
 Kickstart Fund
- Profound Commerce, a brand platform with 15 e-commerce brands, was

acquired by **The Ambr Group**, a leading platform for acquiring and scaling e-commerce businesses. Together with Profound, the Ambr Group will now operate a portfolio of 45 brands, generating over \$125 million in annual revenue. The acquisition brings together two complementary teams with unrivaled industry experience in acquiring new businesses, growing Amazon-first brands, launching new products, and expanding to new channels.

Other Texas Deal Activity

- <u>Syzygy Plasmonics</u>, a Houston-based developer of a photocatalytic reactor designed for fuel cell vehicles, <u>raised an undisclosed amount of</u> <u>strategic venture funding</u> from **Zeon Ventures**. The company has raised \$106M to date.
- <u>Divcon</u> is a Dallas-based systems integrator delivering facility
 management automation and monitoring solutions primarily to the missioncritical data center market, <u>received a new investment</u> from Sustainable
 Investing at Goldman Sachs Alternatives
- <u>Coregen</u>, a Houston-based Al-powered drug discovery platform, <u>raised</u>
 \$14.5M of venture funding from undisclosed investors.
- Ema, a Houston-based artificial intelligence application for women's health, raised \$2M of seed funding from Hearst Labs, Wormhole Capital and Kubera Venture Capital. Techstars, Victorum Capital Club, and Acumen America also participated in the round.
- Dallas real estate investment firm Crow Holdings has closed its largest fund to date, <u>securing \$3.1 billion in fresh commitments</u> from both existing and new investors
- Fort Worth-based alternative investment manager <u>Crestline Investors</u> invests <u>nearly \$57 million U.S</u> in **Napier AI**, a London-based financial crime compliance RegTech.

The Citizenry, a Dallas-based direct-to-consumer home decor brand that
partners with artisans around the world, has been acquired by Havenly, a
Denver-based interior design service and home furnishings company.

Austin News

- These 5 Texas companies ranked highest on the <u>2024 Forbes Fortune</u>
 500
- Startups and Statistics: <u>Analyzing 2023's Story and Anticipating 2024</u> with Peter Walker, **Carta's Head of Insights** – Highlights
 - Despite talks about 2023 being the worst year in a decade for startup fundraising, the reality was more about the severe whiplash being felt from the highs of 2021/2022, as significant capital was still being deployed.
 - With the high number of bridge rounds and the leveling off of capital raised, questions remained about whether the market has hit bottom or if there are still less viable startups to churn through.
 - Amidst the flight to quality, startups are increasingly striving for runway and self-sufficiency, whether with new AI tools, creative hiring, or greater efficiency.
 - Austin was ranked as the number five market for total capital raised and performed well across a variety of industries, demonstrating a broad-based ecosystem that sets it apart from other growing ecosystems.
 - What's Next Austin? "Is the difference between Austin and, LA, New York, Boston, San Francisco, merely a question of scale? What percentage of people who have a lot of disposable income take some of that and put it into startups? Maybe that's the scale. That's like the next part up. And candidly, I think Austin could probably surpass places like LA in that without too much difficulty over the next three or five years."

- Samsung Austin Semiconductor announces 2023 economic impact of \$26.8B into Central Texas
- 16 Top Austin Fintech Companies and Startups You Should Know

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Mason Rathe

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