

From: "Mason Rathe" <mason@texasdealhighlights.com>
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To: masonrathe@gmail.com
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Austin Weekly Deal Highlights

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Well what a beautiful weekend in Austin, hope everyone got out to enjoy some of the sunshine! Or at least watch it on TV for the Dell Match Play... Just a few deals to note in Austin this week, as [Firefly](#) continues to cement central Texas' place in space technology, but take a moment to check out what **Island** is doing in Dallas, as they pulled in a [\\$115M Series B](#), just weeks after a \$100M round earlier this year.

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What do startups, investors, Mason Rathe and Baker Tilly have in common? We're all passionate about the startup and venture capital ecosystem in Texas. At **Baker Tilly**, we have the resources to support the ecosystem throughout each phase of the business lifecycle. From startup to IPO, from portfolio company to fund, we have a team dedicated to enhancing and protecting your value. [Connect with us](#) or [visit our website](#) to learn more

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Austin Financing Activity

- [Firefly Aerospace](#), an emerging leader in economical launch vehicles, [raised](#) a \$75M Series B led by **AE Industrial Partners**, valuing the company of more than \$1B. The company raised approx. \$172M to date from investors including **Noosphere Ventures**, **Dada Holdings**, and **Tribeca Early Stage Partners**
- [Apptronik](#), who produces products and services for robots designed to work with and around humans, [raised \\$8M](#) of venture funding from undisclosed investors
- [REX](#), a real estate technology company, secured \$10M in financing, with the option to increase the amount to \$45M, from [PIUS](#).

Austin M&A Activity

- [VSP Ventures](#) announced [another significant move into Texas](#), with the acquisition of two practices in Texas, including three-location Eye-Deal Vision in San Antonio, Texas, and 11-location Ideal Eye

Other Texas Deal Activity

- [Island](#), a cyber company that built a secure browser for the enterprise, raised a [\\$115M Series B](#), valuing the company at \$1.3B just weeks after emerging with \$100M in initial funding. The company has raised \$215M from investors including **Insight Partners** and **Sequoia Capital**.
- [Boss Fight Entertainment](#), a McKinney-based independent game development studio, [was acquired](#) by **Netflix (NAS: NFLX)** for an undisclosed amount
- [Drap](#), a Houston-based enterprise business decision-making platform, raised a [\\$20M Series A](#) led by **HKW**.
- [Rugged Robotics](#), a developer of autonomous robotics for the construction industry, raised [\\$9.4M Series A](#) from **Consigli Construction Company**, **Suffolk Construction Company** and **Riot Ventures**
- [SupportNinja](#), a Dallas-based BPO company backed by **BV Investment Partners**, bought [Bolton Remote](#), a Wilmington, Del.-based provider of customer success, tech support and product ops solutions.
- [Exigo](#), a Dallas-based provider of direct selling software, was recapped by Gauge Capital.
- [Avagen Pharma](#), a San Antonio-based nano-technology-based medical products designed to help premature ejaculation, [was acquired](#) by **NanoHarmonics** for an undisclosed amount
- [Post Acute Analytics](#), a Lewisville-based platform for real time tracking of patients across the Continuum of Care, [raised \\$3M](#) of venture funding from undisclosed investors
- [Zinnov](#), the Woodlands-based developer of talent acquisition and management consulting software, raised a \$20M Series A from **HKW**

Austin News

- **RigUp Inc.**, which created a marketplace for on-demand services and workers in the oil and gas and alternative energy sectors, [has laid off](#) a quarter of its employees, the layoffs impacted a total of 120 people, including account executives and employees in several other roles. **RigUp**, is coming off a \$300M funding round led by **Andreessen Horowitz** in October 2019 that gave it a reported \$1.9B valuation.
- **Trammell Venture Partners** [Launches](#) First Dedicated Bitcoin-Native Institutional Investment Fund
- While 73% of counties in America experienced a “natural decrease” in population in 2021, [Texas had an enormous year for growth](#). Austin saw the fourth-most growth in the country, trailing behind the Dallas-Fort Worth metro area at No. 1, the Phoenix area at No. 2 and the Houston metroplex at No. 3. The Austin metro grew by 53,301 people.
- [GoStudent](#), an online tutoring provider founded in Vienna in 2016, [has opened](#) its US headquarters in Austin, Texas. **GoStudent**, standing at a 3.5B valuation, is Europe’s highest valued EdTech company. GoStudent Raised to date \$687M from investors including Left Lane Capital and SoftBank Vision Fund.
- 98 Red River, future tallest building in Texas, [is officially permitted](#)
- [Invzbl LLC](#), which uses ultraviolet radiation to disinfect products, has [relocated its headquarters to Austin](#).
- **Nate Paul's Great Value Storage** portfolio [purchased out of bankruptcy for \\$588M](#)
- Austin **Habitat for Humanity** gets [\\$8.5M donation from MacKenzie Scott](#)

Thank you!
Mason Rathe

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