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**Sent:** Sunday, 25 September 2022 17:08  
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**Subject:** Austin Weekly Deal Highlights - September 25, 2022

## Austin Weekly Deal Highlights

*September 25th, 2022*

Hmmm, Nasdaq dropped more than 5% last week, marking the 5<sup>th</sup> negative week in 6, and a new low for the year... I recommend we all take the rest of the quarter off from checking our retirement accounts, but I'm no financial advisor... Let's see, good news... Well, our neighbors in North Texas had quite the week, including a couple of deals over \$160M. Be sure to check out all the highlights below!

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## Austin Financing Activity

- [MicroTransponder](#), a developer of nerve stimulation therapies focused on restoring dignity and enhancing daily living for people suffering from neurological conditions, raised a [\\$73M Series E](#) led by **US Venture Partners**, **GPG Ventures** and **Exceller Hunt Ventures** with participation from **Osage University Partners**, **Action Potential Venture Capital** and **The Vertical Group**.
- [Kizen](#), a sales, marketing and experience platform raised a \$12M seed round from investors including former C-level executives from **Dell**, **Whole Foods**, **AT&T**, **Accenture** and **Citibank**.
- [Padromics](#), a developer of data streaming capabilities between brains and computers, raised [\\$8.9M of venture funding](#) from undisclosed investors. The co. has raised approx. \$38M from investors including **Prime Movers Lab** and **Lateral Capital Management**.
- [Kwil](#), an SQL database system designed to build advanced decentralized apps and protocols, raised [\\$9.7M](#) of seed funding from **Digital Currency Group**.
- [Optelos](#), a data management and analytics software for visual data received through drones, raised an undisclosed amount of Series A venture funding from **Mitchell Capital Management**.

## Austin M&A Activity

- [The Mentor Method](#), an employee mentoring software, [was acquired](#) by women's training organization **The Cru**, for an undisclosed amount. The startup raised a total of \$1.6M from investors including **Draper Associates**, **Google**, and **Elsewhere Partners**.

## Other Texas Deal Activity

- [Payer Compass](#), a Plano-based healthcare reimbursement technology and price transparency services, was [acquired for approx. \\$180M](#) by **Zelis Healthcare**. Payer was previously acquired by **Spectrum Equity** and **Health Enterprise Partners** for an undisclosed amount in 2019. Zelis is backed by **Bain Capital**, **BPEA Private Equity**, **Parthenon Capital Partners**, **Twin Bridge Capital Partners**, **Edison Partners**.
- [Therabody](#), a Dallas and Los Angeles based developer of percussive therapy devices and technologies intended to reduce muscle tension, accelerate recovery, [received \\$165M](#) of development capital from **North Castle Partners**, **Rx3 Growth Partners**, and **Hartbeat Ventures**.
- **Dialexa**, a Dallas-based provider of digital product engineering services, [was acquired](#) by **IBM**, for an undisclosed amount. The company previously raised funding from **Alturus Strategic Capital Partners**, and **Cypress Growth Capital**.
- [Unifyi \(Third Corner\)](#), a Plano-based an enterprise management platform for the energy industry, [was acquired](#) by **K.E. Andrews** for an undisclosed amount. The company previously raised over \$1.25M from **Geekdom Fund**.
- [Geneial](#), a Houston-based private, web3 exchange for biomedical data, received \$2.3M of grant funding from **National Institutes of Health**.

## Austin News

- [15 VC-Backed Female Founded](#) Companies to Watch in Austin – congrats to our CEO **Katie Fang** for making the list, and the other amazing women!
- UT Austin [Enrolls Largest-Ever Student Body](#), Sets All-Time Highs for Graduation Rates. The university has 9,109 first-time, first-year undergraduates, surpassing the record high from the previous year of 9,060. Total university enrollment rose to 52,384, surpassing the all-time high of

52,261 set in 2002.

- Austin-based **Vista Equity** [makes \\$4.2B offer](#) for Florida cybersecurity software maker **KnowBe4**
  - [Paul Carbone](#), **Yeti Holdings Inc.'s** chief financial officer since 2018, will resign and return to Boston to pursue a business opportunity that allows him to stay closer to family. The cooler manufacturer went public in 2018 and has a market cap of approx. \$2.8B.
  - [Hyllion](#), an Austin company that provides electric powertrain systems for commercial semi-trucks, appointed **Jon Panzer** to **replace Sherri Baker** as CFO. Panzer worked for 26 years at Union Pacific Railroad Company, where he most recently served as senior vice president of intermodal operations. Hyllion went public in 2020 and has a market cap over \$500M.
  - Return of **SXSW** to downtown Austin [brought \\$280.7 million](#)— but 21% less than pre-pandemic
  - **Centene Corp.** [will pay \\$165.6 million](#) to Texas to resolve an investigation into whether the corporation's business practices violated the state's Medicaid fraud prevention law.
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