

Start-up Slams Guidelines

Pitch guidelines

OBJECTIVES

- Provide the guidance you need to effectively communicate your business idea.
- Encourage you to think through the aspects of your business the same way VCs will be assessing it.
- Help you to sell your idea to the audience composed of investors, industrials, potential partners... in 5
 minutes!

Remember that you will be evaluated on 3 major sets of criteria:

- The impact of the innovation
- The implementation capacity
- The quality of your pitch

"A start-up is, at the core, an idea. And an idea is only as good as its communication."

DO

- Mind the time
- Prove that your team is the best one
- Focus!
- Metrics matter
- Showing is better than telling
- Convey a clear differentiator
- Set realistic goals
- Be clear, precise, and keep it simple
- Remember the audience hears your proposal for the first time



DON'T

- Use acronyms
- Be too technical
- Add too much details
- Assume the audience immediately understands your innovation
- Oversell/Make promises you can't keep
- Hide risks
- Go over time



The presentation

- 6 8 slides is ideal. Remember: less is more!
- Only PowerPoint presentations will be accepted (.ppt, .pptx)
- Include pictures and graphs: Showing is better than telling
- Make sure you convey ONE key take-away per slide

Structure of the pitch

1. INTRODUCTION

Define the innovation in one sentence.

2. TEAM

• Identify the core group of talents of the company.

3. OPPORTUNITY

• Establish the problem statement and unmet need.

4. SOLUTION / COMPETITION

• Demonstrate your solution and validate your differentiation.

5. BUSINESS MODEL

• Explain how you are going to implement your innovation and to make return on the investment.

6. THE ASK

Outline what you need to make your business a success.

INTRODUCTION / TEAM

INTRODUCTION

Define the innovation in one sentence

- Concisely state your **core value proposition**, including targeted markets
- Tell which unique benefit you will provide to which customers
- What need will you address?

Key objective:

Everyone should know the basic idea and value proposition of your company.

TEAM

Present the team

Relevant experience / Key future hires / Panel of advisors (if applicable)

Key objective:

Show that there is a core group that believes in the company and can execute the next milestones.

OPPORTUNITY

Problem statement:

- Which unmet need does your innovation answer?
- Why does the **problem** persist?

Market

- Identify the market size
- How does the market change/grow over time?

Key objective:

Show the **issue** that your innovation solves.



SOLUTION / COMPETITION

Demonstrate your solution – What are you offering to whom?

- Explain your innovation / IP (protection and valuation strategy)
- Explain how you will keep your **promise** (clinical studies, lab scales...)
- Explain your target profile

Validate your differentiation (Unique Selling Proposition)

- What is your differentiator or unique competitive advantage?
- Quantify key benefits your solution provides
- How and why is your solution better?

Key objective:

Help the audience understand:

- how you will solve the problem
- who you are competing with
- why your solution is better than others

BUSINESS MODEL

Explain your business model:

- Include key financial metrics such as revenue projections, gross margins, and profitability
- Provide a realistic timeline for achieving financial milestones
- Describe how your product or service will **reach** your clients
- What exit will you provide your investors?
- Highlight any strategic partnerships or collaborations that support your business model.
- Explain how these partnerships contribute to your overall success.

Key objective:

Explain how you are going to implement your innovation and get a positive return on investment.

THE ASK

Tell us:

- Your **valuation** expectations
- The amount you are looking to raise
- The milestones you will hit with the new capital

Key objective:

Outline what you need to make your business a success.

Investors want to see that you're hitting milestones and that you're asking for the right amount of money: the amount should not be arbitrary, explain by using numbers.

CONTACT DETAILS

First name

Family name

Organisation name

Email address

Phone number