

## TURN8 SEED ACCELERATOR ANNOUNCES INVESTOR DEMO DAY

Third round of startups graduate from DP World's entrepreneurship program

**Dubai, United Arab Emirates, 7 January 2015:** A new crop of startup entrepreneurs are preparing to graduate from DP World's TURN8 Seed Accelerator program. The Fall 2014 class of technology business founders will present to investors and the media at a private Investor Demo Day event on 17 January, 2015.

This is the third round of startups that TURN8 has provided seed funding to and has nurtured from idea to commercialization in its 120-day program hosted in Dubai. The startup founders in this round come from eight countries including United Arab Emirates, Morocco, Yemen, India, Indonesia, Georgia, Romania and Sri Lanka.

After four months of acceleration, workshops and mentoring, the graduating startups will present their business plans, which range from innovative online platforms and mobile apps to unique hardware applications.

**HE Sultan Ahmed bin Sulayem, Chairman of DP World and Dubai Ports and Free Zone Corporation,** said: "We are keen to support entrepreneurship through programmes such as Turn8 that nurture people with new ideas so they can turn them into commercial projects as part of our role to help build a knowledge based economy that is helping transform Dubai into a global smart city in line with the UAE and Dubai 2021 plan. This will increase the international competitiveness of the country over the long term with innovation and creativity being one of the key drivers of economic growth."

**Yousif Al Mutawa, Chief Information Officer, DP World,** said: "This latest round offers another opportunity for investors to engage with more entrepreneurs to help bring their ideas to market and underlines our commitment to support and encourage the development of a culture of innovation and enterprise with Dubai as the hub for such activities.

"DP World supports this initiative in the firm belief that this nation continues to be a place that nurtures and encourages fresh ideas building a smart society where we use technology, innovation and enterprise to drive our ambitions and achieve our goals."

Round 1 and 2 Demo Days were held in January and June of 2014. Each event attracted regional investors as well as international attention. The TURN8 Investor Demo Day will be held at the Grosvenor House Hotel (Tower 1) in Dubai. For more information, visit <http://www.turn8.co/demo-day/>.

-ENDS-

## Media inquiries:

### Mike Vertigans

Communications Manager

DP World

Tel: +97156 6769324

[michael.vertigans@dpworld.com](mailto:michael.vertigans@dpworld.com)

## About DP World

DP World has a portfolio of more than 65 marine terminals across six continents<sup>(1)</sup>, including new developments underway in India, Africa, Europe and the Middle East.

Container handling is the company's core business and generates more than three quarters of its revenue. In 2013, DP World handled 55 million TEU (twenty-foot equivalent container units). With its committed pipeline of developments and expansions, capacity is expected to rise to more than 100 million TEU by 2020, in line with market demand.

DP World has a dedicated, experienced and professional team of around 30,000 people serving its customers around the world, and the company constantly invests in terminal infrastructure, facilities and people to provide quality services today and tomorrow, when and where customers need them.

In taking this customer-centric approach, DP World is building on the established relationships and superior level of service demonstrated at its flagship Jebel Ali facility in Dubai, which has been voted "Best Seaport in the Middle East" for 20 consecutive years.

[www.dpworld.com](http://www.dpworld.com)

(1) As of July 2014.

## About TURN8

TURN8 is a seed accelerator program organized by [DP World](http://www.dpworld.com) and powered by Innovation 360. The program is designed to encourage innovative entrepreneurship worldwide, starting with Dubai. TURN8 seeks ingenious ideas that can be refined and brought to market through a 120-day seed accelerator. Visit <http://turn8.co>.