SPIKE-X
Bio & Health (Biotech - Medtech - e/m-Health - Pharma)

One line pitch:
Expanding Possibilities.

Market Analysis:
The Transparency Market Research report “Computer Aided Detection Market - Global Industry Analysis, Size, Share, Growth, Trends and Forecast, 2014 - 2020” estimated that breast cancer applications had the largest market share, more than 70% of the USD 0.72 billion valued CAD market in 2013. The breast cancer CAD segment is also predicted to maintain its leading position until the end of forecast period i.e. 2020, by when the total market is expected to grow at a Compounded Annual Growth Rate of 10.8% and reach a total value of USD 1.47 billion.

Business Proposition:
The overall goal of this innovation project is to facilitate the systematic use of CADx tool in breast cancer screening programmes across the world, by overcoming the price, as well as the integration and ease-of-use barriers that today still hamper the wide uptake of such software tools in clinical settings. The specific objective is the development up to complete market readiness of MED-X, an affordable, equipment independent and DICOM format fully compliant medical image exploration and exchange solution centered on the detection and characterization of Micro-calcifications – the very first signs of breast cancer. No specific hardware is needed nor will it be developed for the deployment of MED-X, which can run on any PC of reasonable processing power, using DICOM images.

Competitive Advantage:
Conversely to the existing systems (Image Checker® price ranges from USD155,000 to USD239,000, based on different configurations of monitors, display units, printers and other equipment; and MammoReader™ system costs nearly USD100,000), We do not propose a software tied to specific hardware but a stand-alone and environment-independent system, with a huge consequent price advantage. No specific hardware is needed nor will it be developed for the deployment of the solution, using any DICOM images and even other formats as GIF and JPEG. A medical images exchange platform will also be integrated with a view to enhance collaborative work between radiologists and other specialist doctors off-site. MED-X system will be priced in the range of USD 7.5 – 10 thousand.

Investment Attractiveness:
SPIKE-X, comes in response to face today’s rapidly changing needs and quickly moving technologies requiring intelligent softwares that provide decision support solutions that allow to better understand, predict and influence human decision making of large groups and populations. SPIKE-X, is believed to be the first intelligent software developer in Africa that provides intelligent solutions based on human brain-like reasoning and information processing capabilities. SPIKE-X LLC is based at El Ghazala ICT Technopark, Tunisia and it was also recognised and awarded Best Startup Product at the El Ghazala Innovation Days 2015, 17-20 May 2015 [Award chairs: Adrian Stoica (NASA, USA), John Hopcroft (Cornell university, USA)].

IP Situation:
Protecting our IP through patenting is not only extremely difficult given its software nature, but also possibly superfluous bearing in mind that continuous algorithm development and improvement are necessary to keep up the innovation lead. It is thus envisaged at this point that the most appropriate strategy for protection of knowledge and IP related to our solution is the conclusion of strict and enforceable non-disclosure and non-competition agreements with all the parties connected to and involved in its development. Nevertheless, further consideration and planning of the best way to manage the IP are to be undertaken, with any other regulatory issues that could emerge, e.g. related to privacy and data protection, necessary ethical approvals to conduct the clinical studies.