

Styx Intelligence Secures \$2.7M to Expand Al-Powered Digital Risk Protection

Vancouver, BC – March 25, 2025 – Styx Intelligence (Styx) has closed a \$2.7M Seed round, marking a major step forward in its mission to help businesses protect their brand, reputation, and digital assets from cyber threats.

The round was led by <u>BDC's Seed Venture Fund</u>, with participation from <u>FRAMEWORK Venture Partners</u>, <u>Top Down Ventures</u>, and <u>Sprout Fund</u>. This investment fuels Styx's expansion and innovation as organizations worldwide face an increasing wave of digital risks—impersonation scams, fake domains, phishing attacks, and deepfake-driven fraud.

Pioneering the Future of Digital Risk Protection

Founded by Karim Ladha and Santosh Nair, seasoned entrepreneurs who've worked together for over a decade and successfully built and exited cybersecurity companies, Styx is designed to help businesses stay ahead of external threats in an era where generative AI is reshaping cyber risks.

After witnessing firsthand how enterprises struggled with a lack of visibility into external threats, Karim and Santosh saw an opportunity to change that. As organizations expanded into cloud, SaaS, and extended supply chains, their digital footprints grew—but so did their attack surface. Styx was built to close that gap, giving businesses the same level of visibility into cyber threats that attackers have, thereby enabling enterprises to mitigate impersonation-based attacks with ease.

"Our experience in building and scaling companies has equipped us with the insights and skills needed to tackle the challenges of digital risk protection at scale," said Karim Ladha, CEO and Co-Founder of Styx. "We are committed to helping enterprises across all industries protect this new attack surface that's only increasing in scope thanks to LLMs and other generative AI models."

Fueling the Next Phase of Growth

The new funding will be used to accelerate product development, expand the team, and strengthen market presence as demand for brand and digital risk protection continues to grow.

"We are thrilled to partner with Karim and Santosh as they take on the critical challenge of safeguarding the digital footprint of enterprises," said Dinar Ahmed, Partner of the BDC Seed Venture Fund. "Styx Intelligence is addressing an emerging market need with an AI-first approach that is both timely and essential, especially as AI and deepfakes reshape the threat landscape. BDC is proud to support their vision alongside committed partners who share our belief in the transformative potential of Canadian innovation, and together bring the expertise and resources needed to help them succeed."

"At FRAMEWORK, we believe that the difference between good and great is a seamless user experience," said Jim Texier, Partner at FRAMEWORK and former CTPO at Lightspeed. "By combining cutting-edge technology with an intuitive approach, Styx is clearly redefining digital risk protection for the modern enterprise."

Unlocking the Potential of Digital Risk Protection with the MSP Channel

The demand for Digital Risk Protection (DRP) is accelerating as organizations face increasingly sophisticated cyber threats. Styx is leading this shift, leveraging an Al-first approach to develop innovative solutions that help enterprises stay ahead of evolving risks and protect their brand, reputation, and digital assets.

"Digital Risk Protection is a burgeoning field with vast potential," said Santosh Nair, Co-Founder and CTO of Styx. "Our goal is to harness the power of AI to provide comprehensive protection against digital threats, ensuring our customers can operate securely without the need for bloated software that makes it hard to run their operations."

This is where Top Down Ventures' experience in the MSP space becomes a key advantage. Having helped scale some of the most successful SaaS businesses serving MSPs, including IT Glue, ScalePad, and Fully Managed, Top Down Ventures is uniquely positioned to help Styx navigate and expand into the MSP channel.

"MSPs are trusted advisors for thousands of SMBs, and cybersecurity is one of the most urgent challenges they face," said Joel Abramson, Managing Partner at Top Down Ventures. "Styx has an opportunity to bring Digital Risk Protection into the MSP ecosystem, offering a scalable solution that allows service providers to proactively

monitor and secure their clients' digital footprints. Our experience in helping companies penetrate and scale within the MSP channel will be instrumental in unlocking this new avenue of growth for Styx."

Driving Innovation and Growth

Styx plans to use the new funding to accelerate product development, expand its team, and enhance its market presence. The company is focused on attracting top talent and continues to foster a culture of innovation within the emerging space of digital risk protection.

"We're on a mission to build a platform that not only addresses current cybersecurity challenges but also anticipates and remedies future risks as they arise," added Karim Ladha, CEO and Co-Founder of Styx. "This funding will enable us to scale our operations and deliver on our promise of enterprise-grade digital risk protection that is comprehensive, yet easy to use."

Looking Ahead

As Styx continues to grow, the company remains dedicated to its core values of innovation, excellence, and customer-centricity. With a strong foundation and a clear vision, Styx is well-positioned to lead the charge in the DRP market through their deep domain expertise and track record in building and scaling cybersecurity tools that can be accessed by both technical and non-technical users.

For more information about Styx and its platform, visit styxintel.com.

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About Styx Intelligence

Styx Intelligence is a unified digital risk platform that helps organizations manage external cyber threats, brand protection, and third-party risk. The platform automates the detection of brand impersonation, phishing scams, and attack surface vulnerabilities while providing fast remediation through takedowns and risk-based prioritization.

Styx's platform continuously monitors public-facing IT assets, high-value human targets (executives and VIPs), and third-party exposures to detect security gaps before they can be exploited. Styx helps businesses reduce cyber incidents, prevent breaches, and maintain brand trust by enabling automated response and proactive risk management.

About BDC: 80 years as Canada's bank for entrepreneurs

BDC is a partner of choice for all entrepreneurs looking to access the financing and advice they need to build their businesses and tackle the big challenges of our time. Our investment arm, BDC Capital, offers a wide range of risk capital solutions to help grow the most innovative firms. BDC's development role means we are in a state of perpetual evolution – wherever entrepreneurs go and whatever the Canadian economy needs – we will be there to help them defy the odds. 80 years later, that commitment remains very much alive. BDC's services in 2024 alone will add an estimated \$25.5 billion in GDP to Canada's economy over the next five years. We are one of Canada's Top 100 Employers and Canada's Best Diversity Employers, and the first financial institution in Canada to receive the B Corp certification in 2013. For more information on our products and services and to consult free tools, templates and articles, visit bdc.ca or join BDC on social media.