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Top 10 Russian Internet Companies in 2012

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Russia's online population has exceeded 60 million people, making it the largest Internet market in Europe. In 2012, the fastest-growing Internet companies in Russia come from online travel, cloud computing, social and advertising businesses.

Facing fierce competition from global brands, Russian Web companies were able to emerge as market leaders due to their focus on local user needs, the Western background of their management teams and the thorough technical education of their software engineers. Here are the top web companies in Russia in 2012.

Oktogo.ru

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Leading Russian online hotel reservations agency Oktogo.ru won the **National Geographic Traveler Awards 2012** as the best Internet service. Backed by $15 million in venture capital from **VTB Capital** and **Mangrove Capital Partners**, Oktogo.ru offers the largest selection of hotels online in Russia. Oktogo.ru is headed by founder and CEO **Marina Kolesnik**.

Jelastic

Platform-as-a-service provider **Jelastic** has attracted web-hosting customers around the world with its Java-based offering. Funded by Alexander Galitsky's **Almaz Capital** and Serguei Beloussov's **Runa Capital**, **Jelastic** is a perfect example of how to build a global software business out of Russia, Ukraine and the U.S.A.

Onetwotrip

With venture capital funding of $25 million from **Atomico** and Phenomen, **Onetwotrip** grew to sell more than 10,000 airline tickets per day 1 1/2 years from launch. Headed by founder and CEO Peter Kutis, **Onetwotrip** attracts online users to its Web service by an easy-to-use Web interface and flexible affiliate program.

Dnevnik.ru

Funded by **Prostor Capital** and **Runa Capital**, Dnevnik.ru has signed up more than 40 percent of secondary schools in Russia to its online school service. Launched in 2009, **Dnevnik** is based out of one of Russia's leading tech hubs, St. Petersburg. Headed by CEO Gabriel Levi, the service enters markets outside of Russia.

Tinkoff Digital



Founded in 2012, **Tinkoff Digital** aims to challenge advertising market leaders with the Real-Time Bidding (RTB) and Big Data technologies. Launched by serial Russian entrepreneur **Oleg Tinkoff** and marketing executive Anna Znamenskaya, **Tinkoff Digital** is backed by **Goldman Sachs**.

Hopes & Fears

Published by former journalists from the Russian edition of **Forbes** magazine, Hopesandfears.com is about entrepreneurs in Russia. Headed by editor-in-chief Nickolay Kononov, **Hopes & Fears** is a real storyteller for Russia's Internet generation looking to start

their own businesses. The online journal was launched in 2012 by **Look At Me**, one of the top Web magazines in Russia.

Grishin Robotics



Founded by **Dmitry Grishin**, CEO of Mail.ru Group, **Grishin Robotics** is focused on investing in technologies related to personal robotics. It also supports a robotics news and analytics aggregation service.

IMI.VC

The mobile-only business accelerator and venture investor IMI.VC is headed by **Igor Matsanyuk** who previously sold his online gaming business to Mail.ru **Group**. The portfolio of IMI.VC includes mobile game publisher Game Insight, interactive book platform NARR8, photo-sharing app WeHeartPics and startup incubator Farminers.

Xsolla

Founded by **Alexander Agapitov** in Perm, **Xsolla** has moved to Los Angeles to operate its global in-game payment optimization service. **Xsolla** develops monetization tools for massive multiplayer, casual, social and mobile games.

Topface

Based in St. Petersburg, **Topface** offers online and mobile social dating based on your popularity ratings. First launched in April 2011, **Topface** reached more than 45 million registered users, most of whom comes from outside of Russia. **Topface** is headed by founder and CEO **Dmitry Filatov**.

Yakov Sadchikov is the founder of Quintura, a visual search engine.

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