# Launchpad Raises $11m to Scale AI Robotics from Scottish Base



AI-first robotics company Launchpad has secured $11 million (£8.2 million) in Series A funding to accelerate the development of its advanced automation platform. The round was co-led by Lavrock Ventures and Squadra Ventures, with backing from the Scottish National Investment Bank, Ericsson Ventures, Lockheed Martin Ventures and Cox Exponential. It follows a $2.5 million grant from Scottish Enterprise, reflecting strong public and private sector confidence.

Launchpad’s core product, Digitool, integrates AI and robotics to streamline manufacturing by simplifying automation, reducing costs and cutting time to market. The company aims to help manufacturers build products faster and more efficiently, with scalable applications across sectors in the UK, US and Europe. The firm recently opened a research and development centre in Edinburgh, chosen for its skilled workforce and proximity to leading university AI research. Adrian Gillespie, chief executive of Scottish Enterprise, said Launchpad’s arrival adds to Scotland’s “long-standing academic, technical and entrepreneurial strengths” and strengthens its innovation community.

Anthony Kelly, investment director at the Scottish National Investment Bank, praised the company’s rise as a robotics leader and said its scalable solutions offer “strong potential across multiple industries.” He emphasised the importance of such investments in cementing the UK’s role in responsible AI innovation. CFO Jon Quick said Scotland serves as a “gateway to the UK, Europe, and Middle East/Northern Africa,” underlining the company’s global ambitions and commitment to scaling its technology from a strong local base.

Launchpad’s growth signals a broader boost to the UK’s advanced manufacturing and AI robotics sectors, showcasing Scotland’s growing role in fostering innovation. While challenges remain in scaling complex technologies, the investment reflects global confidence in the UK’s digital infrastructure and ambition to lead in responsible industrial automation.

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## Bibliography

1. <https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/25546459.launchpad-secures-11m-including-scottish-investment-funding/?ref=rss> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.thebank.scot/launchpad-investment-to-power-its-ai-reimagining-of-the-manufacturing-sector> - Launchpad, an AI robotics company, has secured USD $11 million in Series A funding to accelerate its technology development. The funding round was co-led by Lavrock Ventures and Squadra Ventures, with participation from the Scottish National Investment Bank, Ericsson Ventures, Lockheed Martin Ventures, and Cox Exponential. This investment follows a USD $2.5 million grant from Scottish Enterprise. The funds will support Launchpad's mission to transform manufacturing by integrating AI and advanced robotics, enabling companies to build products faster, smarter, and more affordably. The company recently established an R&D centre in Edinburgh to leverage Scotland's skilled workforce and academic expertise in AI research. Adrian Gillespie, CEO of Scottish Enterprise, highlighted Launchpad's role in the Scottish innovation community and expressed support for its growth phase.
3. <https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/launchpad-closes-series-a-to-power-its-ai-reimagining-of-the-manufacturing-sector-302584867.html> - Launchpad, an AI-first robotics company, has completed a Series A funding round, raising USD $11 million. The round was co-led by Lavrock Ventures and Squadra Ventures, with participation from the Scottish National Investment Bank, Ericsson Ventures, Lockheed Martin Ventures, and Cox Exponential. This funding is in addition to a USD $2.5 million grant from Scottish Enterprise. The funds will be used to accelerate the development of Launchpad's innovative technology while meeting demand from existing and new customers in the US, UK, and Europe. Launchpad aims to transform manufacturing by combining AI and advanced robotics to support critical automation strategies, helping companies build products faster, smarter, and more affordably. The company recently opened a new R&D centre in Edinburgh, choosing the city for its access to a skilled workforce and connections to university AI research and expertise.
4. <https://www.independent.co.uk/tech/edinburgh-bank-b2846071.html> - Launchpad, an AI robotics company, has raised over £8 million, including funding from the Scottish National Investment Bank, to develop innovative technology. The company aims to help businesses build products faster, smarter, and more affordably by combining AI and advanced robotics. The funding round was co-led by Lavrock Ventures and Squadra Ventures, with participation from the Scottish National Investment Bank, Ericsson Ventures, Lockheed Martin Ventures, and Cox Exponential. This is in addition to a $2.5 million grant previously awarded to Launchpad by Scottish Enterprise. Last year, Launchpad opened a new research and development centre in Edinburgh, choosing the city for its access to a skilled workforce and connections to university AI research and expertise. Adrian Gillespie, chief executive of Scottish Enterprise, highlighted Launchpad's role in the Scottish innovation community and expressed support for its next growth phase.
5. <https://www.insidermedia.com/news/scotland/ai-and-robotics-company-raises-11m-opened-edinburgh-rd-centre-last-year> - Launchpad, an AI and robotics company, has completed a Series A funding round, raising $11 million (£8.2 million). The round was co-led by Lavrock Ventures and Squadra Ventures, with participation from the Scottish National Investment Bank, Ericsson Ventures, Lockheed Martin Ventures, and Cox Exponential. This funding is in addition to the $2.5 million (£1.9 million) in grant funding previously awarded to Launchpad by Scottish Enterprise. The funds will be used to accelerate the development of Launchpad's technology while meeting demand from existing and new customers in the US, UK, and Europe. Launchpad aims to transform manufacturing by combining AI and advanced robotics to support critical automation strategies, helping companies build products faster, smarter, and more affordably. The company recently opened a new R&D centre in Edinburgh, choosing the city for its access to a skilled workforce and connections to university AI research and expertise.
6. <https://scottishfinancialreview.com/2025/10/15/scots-inv-bank-invests-in-launchpad-ai-robotics-firm/> - Launchpad, an AI robotics company, has successfully concluded a Series A funding round, raising a total of $11 million, including $2 million from the Scottish National Investment Bank. Last year, Los Angeles-based Launchpad opened a new R&D centre in Edinburgh, choosing the city for its access to a skilled workforce and connections to university AI research and expertise. The investment round was co-led by Lavrock Ventures and Squadra Ventures, with participation from strategic and financial investors including the Scottish National Investment Bank, Ericsson Ventures, Lockheed Martin Ventures, and Cox Exponential. This is in addition to the $2.5 million in grant funding previously awarded to Launchpad by Scottish Enterprise. The funds will be used to accelerate the development of Launchpad’s technology while meeting demand from existing and new customers in the US, UK, and Europe. Launchpad is transforming manufacturing by combining AI and advanced robotics to support critical automation strategies.
7. <https://www.scottish-enterprise-mediacentre.com/news/us-robotics-and-ai-pioneer-launches-edinburgh-rd-hub> - Scottish Enterprise has supported Los Angeles-based Launchpad Build Inc. to open a global Research and Development (R&D) hub in Edinburgh’s New Town. Employing a team of 24, the new R&D hub will drive the development of Launchpad’s proprietary advanced robotics technology, Digitool, which aims to transform global manufacturing by reducing production costs and time to market, whilst simplifying automation solutions to boost productivity. Launchpad’s leadership chose Scotland ahead of five international alternatives following engagement with Scottish Enterprise’s Silicon Valley-based team. The company has also been awarded a £2 million Scottish Enterprise R&D grant towards the project. Launchpad CFO, Jon Quick, highlighted Scotland as a gateway to the UK, Europe, and Middle East/Northern Africa, expressing plans to increase the scope and size of Scottish operations and accelerate plans to bring Digitool overseas.