

wheego technologies

Wheego Technologies

Wheego was founded as a technology company to address the challenges of future transportation, mobility, and a connected lifestyle. Started 8 years ago by MindSpring co-founder Mike McQuary (McQ), Wheego was one of only two US independent automakers (Tesla was the other) to successfully launch a full speed electric car in the U.S. After shifting their focus exclusively to China and completing projects for their then largest investor Foxconn, Wheego turned its focus to building an Artificial Intelligence platform whose first product will use Machine Learning to advance autonomous driving systems. Wheego also has several EV drivetrain software development projects centered on battery technology. We believe Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning are going to improve lives. We think connected cars should be part of a connected IOT lifestyle. While many talk about developing products, we have a bias for action. From integrated software code, to selling fully homologated electric vehicles, we deliver finished products. From our original core values: we do what we say we are going to do!

Mike McQuary, CEO

Over 20 years ago, Mike McQuary realized the potential of the Internet to transform our lives and made an extremely successful business out of it. In 1993, McQ helped write the business plan for MindSpring, and then went to work as its President & COO because he believed that the Internet was going to transform people's lives. Now that prediction seems very prescient. The Internet pervades every part of our lives. McQ built MindSpring to be the second largest ISP in the world in revenues (ahead of AT&T, Microsoft, BellSouth, Comcast, Cox and IBM), and the first profitable ISP with a public market cap of over \$5 billion (NASDAQ:MSPG). MindSpring won the JD Power Award for Best ISP every year that it was given. MindSpring merged with EarthLink (NASDAQ:ELNK) and as President and COO, McQ continued the growth path to over 5 million subscribers and 5,000 employees.



Core Values and Beliefs

McQ brings with him from his previous company experiences a belief that the way that a company functions with respect to the way it treats its investors, employees, and customers is directly related to the success it has in meeting its mission.

- We respect the individual, and believe that individuals who are treated with respect and given responsibility respond by giving their best.
- We require complete honesty and integrity in everything we do.
- We make commitments with care, and then live up to them. In all things, we do what we say we are going to do.
- We are believers in the Golden Rule. In all our dealings we will strive to be friendly and courteous, as well as fair and compassionate.
- We feel a sense of urgency on any matters related to our customers. We own problems and we are always responsive. We are customer-driven.
- We guard and conserve resources, the planet's and our company's.
- We respect all cultures as we operate globally.

In 2003, McQ saw the trend in digital music emerging and founded a music services company called Brash Music that was a forerunner of digital music distribution. In the next 10 years, Brash sold over a million album equivalents, launched the career of two certified gold artists, and had multiple Grammy nominations.

In 2007, McQ set about to build an affordable electric car because he believed that Electric Cars were going to be a big part of the future of automotive transportation.

At a TED Talk in 2009, McQ predicted that “in 5 years everyone will know someone who owns an electric car;” that EV’s would play a major role in personal transportation; and that a great EV would be as much about Technology as Automotive. Bloomberg now estimates that 35% of all new cars sold in 2040 will be electric. <https://about.bnef.com/press-releases/electric-vehicles-to-be-35-of-global-new-car-sales-by-2040/>

The full speed all-electric Wheego LiFe began selling in the US in 2011 with a national US network of 22 car dealers. It was the first Chinese chassis car to ever pass all DOT safety requirements (crash testing) and be fully homologated for sale in the U.S. Wheego sold 400 cars in the U.S with an overall driver satisfaction rating of excellent for quality and service. After his first test drive, Foxconn CEO Terry Gou proclaimed the Wheego LiFe “the best electric car in the world outside of the Tesla and at 1/3 the price!”

Now McQ believes that Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning will transform people’s lives in the next 30 years as much as the Internet did in the past 30 years. Wheego is in a unique position to take advantage of this as the first difficult challenge that Machine Learning is being used to solve is Autonomous Vehicles. Self-driving cars represent one of the most significant advances in modern history. Their impact will go beyond technology, beyond transportation, beyond urban planning to change our daily lives in ways we have yet to imagine.

Wheego Timeline

2008

Wheego Electric Cars founded

2009



Wheego launched the Whip Low Speed Vehicle (LSV) in the U.S.

2011



Wheego launched the Full-Speed (FSV) LiFe car in the U.S.:

- Developed for less than \$8 million
- 100% plug-in electric vehicle
- Fully U.S. crash-tested and DOT approved
- National network of 22 dealers

2014

Foxconn invests & Wheego begins development of an Electric Delivery Van for Foxconn with high voltage drive train and launches IOT group to develop autonomous and connected car capabilities.

2015



Electric delivery van prototype completed for Foxconn-developed in 18 months and for less than \$6 million.

1Q2016

Foxconn asks to divest their investment in Wheego due to conflicts of interest with one of their other partners that is developing an EV, Wheego buys out Foxconn interest.

3Q2016

Wheego Electric Cars changes name to Wheego Technologies to better reflect expanded areas of expertise and development.

4Q2016

Wheego is approved for Autonomous Vehicle Testing in CA.

AUTONOMOUS DRIVING AND MACHINE LEARNING

Many automakers are working on driver assistance systems and self-driving cars. Conventional computer vision used for ADAS is reaching its threshold because it is impossible to write code for every scenario as a vehicle navigates. A branch of artificial intelligence known as deep learning is required in order to develop a truly autonomous car. With deep learning, the vehicle can be trained to have super human levels of perception, driving safer than any person on the road. An end-to-end artificial intelligence platform based on supercomputers in the cloud and in the vehicle enables cars to get smarter. Prompted by prior investor Foxconn, Wheego has been on the forefront of new vehicle technology and has been working on an AI platform for automobiles for over a year. We will have a product ready for deployment by the end of 2017. And this is just the beginning. Wheego's AI platform will be able to address many other aspects of society and make better use of information to improve people's lives.



ELECTRIC DRIVETRAIN DEVELOPMENT

On the electric powertrain side, the overall development of robust electric drivetrains using predominantly Chinese components continues to stumble over technological hurdles. World class competitiveness is still nowhere close to being achieved. The Wheego drivetrain, developed for the Chinese market, is among the best in the world, and we have several projects in development at our R&D center in Sonoma, California in battery management, thermal management, and two-way charging that will sustain this advantage.

According to a Roland Berger/Lazard Global Automotive Supplier Study (July 2016). "We expect the market for electrified vehicles to multiply by a factor of 7-10x over the next decade – leading to substantial growth potential for e-powertrain component suppliers while driving the traditional combustion engine segment more and more into a commodity corner.

At the same time, autonomous driving is becoming a reality – with OEMs as well as new players combining it with vehicle connectivity (and potentially e-mobility), we expect that completely new business models for automobile usage and ownership will emerge within the next ten years. Suppliers will face a market for assisted/automated driving components that is expected to grow by a factor of five until 2025 – at the same time, they will likely face fierce competition from new players formerly outside of the automotive supplier industry keen to capture that revenue and profit pool." Wheego aims to be one of these suppliers.

Wheego is raising \$25 million on a pre-money valuation of \$75 million to complete its machine learning autonomous driving platform and extend it to create other AI products.



For more information: www.wheego.net
Mike McQuary: mcq@wheego.net