

Agency: Start Here

Agency is a venture firm that invests in frontier technology companies and runs their deployment: distribution, sales, and on-ground execution in the markets where execution decides the outcome.

We operate between San Francisco and the world's fastest-growing markets, with operations across India, the Gulf, Southeast Asia, China, and Africa. Most firms put in the money and leave. We invest where our channels, operators, and market access structurally raise a company's odds, and then we do the work: getting the technology deployed, sold, and scaled in the markets that need it.

How to read this room

Document	What it tells you
01_AGENCY_AT_A_GLANCE	The whole firm on one page
02_THESIS	Where this comes from, what we believe, and the bet
03_PORTFOLIO	The companies we have invested in
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06_FOUNDERS_AND_ADVISORS	The people behind the firm
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08_FAQ	Straight answers to the questions we get most

Ten minutes, front to back.

Contact: Arjun Vad, Founder

Agency at a Glance

We believe technology is the only thing that creates access at scale. Agency backs the companies closing the gap between invention and the people who need it, and closes it with them.

What we are

A venture firm with its own execution machine. We invest in frontier technology companies and then run their deployment, distribution, go-to-market, manufacturing partnerships, and institutional access, in the markets where execution, not invention, decides the outcome.

The problem we exist for

We have never been better at inventing technology, and never worse at deploying it. Frontier companies rarely fail at the science. They fail at distribution, manufacturing, regulation, and go-to-market in markets that do not work like Silicon Valley. That gap is the most expensive problem in tech, and it is the only thing we work on.

The three motions

1. **Invest.** Early positions in frontier companies where our machine gives them an unfair advantage.
2. **Operate for the portfolio.** Our operators run distribution, market entry, and growth for the companies we back.
3. **Deploy first.** We run real deployments on the ground, in factories, schools, and businesses, before we put money behind a market. The field decides, not a memo.

Where we operate

A global firm, built along the route technology actually travels.

- **San Francisco.** Where the frontier is built. Deal flow, founders, and capital relationships.
- **India.** The deepest operating base. Operators on the ground, factory and institutional channels, AI infrastructure running in real businesses through our partner network.
- **The Gulf.** Capital and deployment relationships across Abu Dhabi, Dubai, and Doha.
- **Southeast Asia, China, and Africa.** Operating presence through partners and programs, including a maritime venture entering Singapore and deal flow from China's frontier-tech ecosystem.

Across these markets, our channels span academia, manufacturing, sales and forward-deployed engineering, IT firms, business networks, and government.

The portfolio today

Four companies: **CLD-9** (robotics-driven personalized medicine), **Mussel Polymers** (materials science, closing a \$10M Series A), **Raisi.ai** (AI-powered fundraising), and **Nuron** (an in-stealth world model AI lab), plus operating partnerships with additional frontier companies.

Proof points

- Early investor in CLD-9, before Antler and Boost VC, and ran the company's \$2M fundraise end to end.
- Operating partner to portfolio companies across the US, India, and the Gulf, from factory-floor AI deployments to government and institutional access.
- A board and advisor circle that includes general partners from leading Silicon Valley firms.

The Agency Thesis

Where this comes from

In 9th grade, Arjun was sent to Khapa, a village outside Nagpur, to help install 770 solar panels. The village had fifteen power cuts a day. The technology to fix that had existed for decades, and it had simply never arrived.

Agency is that lesson, turned into a firm.

What we believe

We believe technology is the only thing that creates access at scale.

But technology does not create access sitting in a lab. Access is created when technology actually reaches people, and reaching people is the part the world has stopped doing well.

Agency backs the companies closing that gap, and closes it with them.

The gap

We have never been better at inventing technology, and never worse at deploying it. The science works, the demo is stunning, and then the company meets the real world: manufacturing, distribution, regulation, institutions, and markets that do not operate like Silicon Valley.

Innovation has gone vertical. Execution has not moved. Most frontier companies die in the space between the two, and the people who needed what they built never find out it existed.

The bet

Whoever owns execution owns the outcome. A venture firm that runs distribution, on-ground operations, and first-hand market knowledge across the route technology actually travels, from where it is invented to where it is needed, can do two things ordinary firms cannot: pick better, because its conviction comes from the field, and deliver more, because it runs the deployment itself instead of leaving it to the founder.

Our route runs from where technology is built, San Francisco above all, to the markets where it must land: India, the Gulf, Southeast Asia, China, and Africa. Across that route we hold channels in academia, manufacturing, sales and forward-deployed engineering, IT firms, business networks, and government, the surfaces technology actually lands on.

How we built the edge

Two operating bases. San Francisco, where the frontier is built, and Bangalore, where deployment is proven. The firm is run by founders who live in both worlds and see a wider picture than either side's natives.

Field knowledge before conviction. We run real deployments, AI infrastructure into businesses, technology into institutions, market entries through strategic partners, before we invest behind them. Our market knowledge is earned on the ground, not assembled from reports, and we iterate fast enough that the learning compounds.

Distribution as the product. For a portfolio company, working with us means the part of the journey that kills most frontier companies, getting into the market, is run by people who have done it in that market before. Money alone does not do that.

What we invest in

Frontier technology where execution decides the outcome: applied AI and AI infrastructure, robotics, healthcare technology, advanced materials, and deeptech broadly. Early, concentrated, and only where our machine gives the company a structural advantage.

The filter never changes: **does Agency structurally raise this company's odds?** If we cannot state our edge for a deal in one sentence, we pass.

Why now

- The gap between where technology is invented and where it must land has never been wider, and the firms funding invention do not do deployment.
- The world's growth markets, India, the Gulf, Southeast Asia, China, and Africa, are the fastest-rising destinations for frontier technology, and every one of them rewards exactly what we run: on-ground execution, regulatory navigation, and trusted local channels.
- The AI cycle is minting technology faster than any distribution system can absorb it. The bottleneck, and therefore the margin, is the landing, not the launch.

The beliefs we run on

1. The hard part is not invention; it is execution. We own the execution.
2. Technology is the only thing that creates access at scale, and access is the outcome we are actually building toward.
3. Capital matters, but capital alone is not the product. Ours comes with a machine.
4. Proof over language. The portfolio's outcomes are the pitch.
5. The long game is the edge. We are young, we are patient, and we do not need to play anyone else's clock.

Portfolio

The companies we have invested in, and what we do for each beyond the check.

CLD-9: robotics-driven personalized medicine

CLD-9 uses robotics to make personalized medicine scalable, precision formulation built to serve tens of thousands of people a month as it scales.

Agencity's role: early investor, in before Antler and Boost VC, and ran the company's \$2M fundraise end to end. We serve as the company's operating partner for go-to-market across India, the US, and the Gulf, including representing the company to investors and partners in Abu Dhabi.

Mussel Polymers: advanced materials

Biomimetic, mussel-inspired polymer chemistry that bonds and coats on wet and submerged surfaces, where conventional adhesives fail. Applications span defense (US Navy contracts), dental, biomedical, and industrial repair. The company is closing a \$10M Series A.

Agencity's role: investor in the Series A, and operating partner for the company's India expansion, structuring the channel that brings its underwater repair technology to Indian infrastructure through a major real-estate and construction partner.

Raisi.ai: AI-powered fundraising

Raisi is the fundraising platform for founders. It identifies the investors most likely to fund a round using live behavioral signals, automates outreach personalized to each investor's thesis and behavior, and manages the raise through to close. The platform reports 150K+ behaviorally enriched investor records, \$500M+ in active raise campaigns, and 50K+ investor responses, and is used by portfolio companies of leading VCs and accelerators.

Agencity's role: investor (July 2026).

Nuron: in-stealth world model AI lab

Nuron builds world models: AI systems that learn a compact internal representation of the world from video and predict how it evolves. The lab is in stealth, and that is deliberate. Agencity is a founding partner.

Beyond the portfolio, Agencity runs operating engagements and market deployments across education robotics, industrial AI, and small-business AI infrastructure, the work that builds the channels our portfolio inherits. See [04_THE_WORK](#).

The Work

The portfolio shows what we back. This shows what we can do. Each engagement below is real, current, and representative of the machine our portfolio companies run on. Format: the situation, what we ran, where it stands.

Portfolio operations

CLD-9: go-to-market across three regions. Beyond investing early and running the company's \$2M fundraise, we serve as CLD-9's operating partner for go-to-market across India, the US, and the Gulf, including representing the company to investors and partners in Abu Dhabi.

Mussel Polymers: the India channel. Alongside our Series A investment, we are structuring the channel that brings the company's underwater repair technology into Indian infrastructure through a major Indian real-estate and construction group, with Agencity at the center of the partnership.

Operating engagements

OpenSwarm: education robotics into India at scale. We run India growth for OpenSwarm, a US education-robotics company: school pilots on the ground and a hackathon program reaching roughly 2,000 students. The engagement is the template for how a US company's product reaches Indian institutions without building an India team of its own.

Zapdos Labs: factory computer vision into Indian manufacturing. A funded US industrial computer-vision company came to us for what it could not do alone: deployment into Indian factories. We are structuring its India entry through our manufacturing partner network in Gujarat's industrial clusters, with a path from pilot deployment to a lasting India presence.

Market experiments and infrastructure

The field work that keeps our conviction earned rather than assumed. We deploy first, invest behind what we learn.

The manufacturing partner network. Through our partnership with Zeroone AI Ventures, we hold working access to factory clusters across Gujarat's MSME manufacturing belt, the deployment surface for industrial-AI companies entering India, and the channel behind our factory engagements.

AI infrastructure for small business and retail. Through an IT-services partner, we deploy AI infrastructure into small and medium businesses and retail operations in India, ground-level learning on how AI actually gets adopted outside the enterprise, in confidence.

Building our own: maritime. Agencity also builds companies where distribution is the whole game. The first is a maritime venture entering Singapore through a national port-innovation programme, the firm's highest-ownership expression of its own thesis.

Every engagement above runs on written, defined economics, and each one deepens the channels, relationships, and market knowledge that the next portfolio company inherits.

How We Work

The three motions

- 1. We invest.** Early positions in frontier technology companies, made where our operating machine gives the company a structural advantage. Our conviction comes from running deployments in the target market first-hand, not from market reports.
- 2. We operate for the portfolio.** After the check, our team goes to work: distribution and go-to-market in India and the Gulf, manufacturing and channel partnerships, government and institutional access, hiring on the ground, and support on follow-on fundraising. The engagement is defined, written, and measured, a specific bottleneck, owned by us, with clear economics.
- 3. We deploy first.** We run real market deployments, AI infrastructure into factories and businesses, technology into institutions, channels through strategic partners, before we put money behind a market. The field decides, not a memo, and the deployments surface where to invest next.

What an engagement looks like

- 1. Fit first.** We take on a company only when we can state our edge for it in one sentence.
- 2. One bottleneck, owned.** We take responsibility for a defined execution problem, market entry, distribution, manufacturing access, institutional doors, rather than offering general help.
- 3. Written economics.** Every engagement has clear, documented terms: equity, revenue share, or investment, agreed before work begins.
- 4. Measured outcomes.** Deployments, revenue, signed partnerships, completed raises. If our involvement does not visibly change the company's trajectory, we have failed by our own standard.

What we ask of founders

Frontier-grade technology, honesty about what is broken, and the willingness to let an operating partner actually operate. In return, the part of the journey that kills most frontier companies is run by people who have done it in that market before.

What we do not do

- We are not a generic VC that writes a check, makes an intro, and stops.
- We do not guarantee government contracts or any specific institutional outcome.

- We are not a vendor that bills hours and walks away. However we are paid, the economics are tied to outcomes we own.
- We do not claim every company we talk to is a portfolio company. We say which relationships are signed, which are live engagements, and which are early conversations.

For partners and institutions

If you run channels, factories, hospital or institutional networks, or capital in our markets, we build written, long-term partnerships where vetted frontier technology flows through your infrastructure, with economics that reward you for it.

Founders & Advisors

The people behind the firm. The rest of this room is about Agency; this page is the exception.

Arjun Vad, Founder

Operator and investor working between San Francisco, India, and the Gulf.

- Early investor in CLD-9 (robotics-driven personalized medicine), in before Antler and Boost VC, and ran the company's \$2M fundraise end to end.
- Co-founded a healthcare AI company, raised \$650K, scaled to 20,000 users in India, and secured a state-government pilot on healthcare distribution involving 400 doctors.
- Built the first version of Agency, a platform helping students get into YC-backed companies, to 4M impressions and 7,000 users on zero marketing spend; before that, built Crowdflo, bringing bootcamps and extracurriculars to 5,000+ students across rural India.
- Founding team at Axal (a16z-backed AI company); machine learning research at UC San Diego; helped build a full-sized humanoid robot with UCSD's Triton Droids team.
- Runs a content engine reaching a 500K+ monthly audience of founders, operators, and investors. Studies at UCLA.

Amitesh Das, Co-Founder

Operator running Agency's India engine from Bangalore.

- Engineered embedded video-watermarking protocols that reached Y Combinator's final rounds, building reverse-diffusion video watermarking years before OpenAI adopted similar technology.
- Selected at a 2.2% acceptance rate to consult for venture capital firms at 180 Degrees Consulting.
- Has run teams of 100+, and built sponsored sports ecosystems from scratch across five leagues, co-founding OFFSIDE, a football league with 200+ active participants backed by Red Bull that drew the attention of multiple FIFA agents.

- Carries a personal network of 15,000+ operators and builders across India's startup ecosystem, exactly the distribution this firm runs on.
- 20+ Mathematics Olympiad medals, clearing NMTC, IOQM, and the IMO, with international ranks of 6 and 8.

Advisors

Agency is advised by a selected circle of founders, investors, operators, and researchers, including general partners from leading Silicon Valley firms, YC founders, and operators across the US, India, and the Gulf.

Named advisor profiles are added to this page as they are made public. Individual introductions available in conversation.

Milestones

The short version of how we got here.

2024: The proof that execution is the gap. Before Agency, the founding team's work made the thesis obvious: technology consistently exists years before it reaches the people who need it, and the missing piece is always execution. Early ventures included a healthtech company (\$650K raised, 20,000 users in India, state-government health engagement) and consumer products reaching millions of impressions organically.

September 2025: Agency incorporated. The firm is founded around one idea: invest in frontier technology and run its deployment in the markets where execution decides the outcome.

Late 2025: First investment and first operating engagements. Early position in CLD-9 (robotics-driven personalized medicine), ahead of Antler and Boost VC. Operating engagements begin across AI, robotics, and education technology.

First half of 2026: The machine goes live. Agency runs CLD-9's \$2M fundraise end to end. Investment into Mussel Polymers' Series A, with an India-expansion partnership attached. AI infrastructure deployments begin in Indian factories and businesses through the firm's partner network. Gulf relationships open across Abu Dhabi and Doha.

Mid-2026: The portfolio takes shape. Four portfolio companies: CLD-9, Mussel Polymers, Raisi.ai, and Nuron (an in-stealth world model AI lab, with Agency as founding partner). Mussel Polymers moves to close a \$10M Series A. The advisor circle grows to include general partners from leading Silicon Valley firms.

Next. Deepening the portfolio's deployments, expanding across the Gulf, Southeast Asia, and the firm's other operating markets, and scaling the capital base deliberately, proof first, always.

FAQ

Straight answers to the questions we get most.

What is Agency, in one line? A venture firm that invests in frontier technology and then runs its deployment, distribution, on-ground execution, and growth, in the markets where execution decides the outcome.

Are you a fund? We invest deal by deal today, through proper vehicles, and we are building toward a fund deliberately, proof first. The operating machine is what makes the investing work, not the other way around.

What do you actually do after you invest? We take responsibility for a defined execution bottleneck, market entry, distribution, manufacturing access, institutional doors, and run it with our own operators and channels. The engagement is written, measured, and tied to outcomes.

Which markets? We are a global firm. India is the anchor, where our channels are deepest. The Gulf, Southeast Asia, China, and Africa are live operating markets, with channels spanning academia, manufacturing, sales and forward-deployed engineering, IT firms, business networks, and government. The thread is always the same: markets where deployment, not invention, decides the outcome.

Which sectors? The thesis is not a sector; it is the execution gap. The portfolio and engagements span applied AI and AI infrastructure, robotics, healthcare technology, advanced materials, and education robotics. We go where the problem is execution and we have a real edge.

How do you make money? Investment returns, and engagement economics tied to the value we create: equity, KPI-based terms, or revenue share, always written before work begins.

Do you guarantee government access or contracts? No. We have real government and institutional relationships and say exactly what each one is. We never promise a specific contract or outcome, and we are explicit about which relationships are signed, which are live engagements, and which are early conversations. We would rather under-claim than oversell.

Is this just one person? No. Two founders running two operating bases (San Francisco and Bangalore), operators on the ground in-market, strategic partners who carry deployments, and a selected circle of advisors around the firm.

How does a relationship start? An intro call to check fit and edge, an NDA where needed, then a scoped first engagement with one clear metric that proves it worked.

How do I reach you? Through the contact on the first page, or through anyone in the circle around the firm.