

# Not Scaling – Part 2: Starting Small to Build Big



The big news to share this week on bounceit!™ is that the app went live in the app store, after a long period of creation, and we are starting the process of scaling by not scaling, as was discussed in [last week's blog](#). This week will be focused on getting a small group to use and try it out on all devices to make sure everything is flowing

well. Then, we will move to our local and social media friends to give it a try and to share with others, if they like it. And finally, on to the rest of the world.

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## Follow the Big Trends or the Small Ones?

I have talked to a lot of people about the big trend of mobile, the growth in this area, how it is changing the way we do business, and how if we don't want to be left behind, we need to adapt. Some of this has a longer time horizon and some of it needs to be thought about in the short-term.



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# Where Is The Internet Going?

An analyst I used to follow in my investment days, [Henry Blodget](#), is now an editor for [Business Insider](#), and his own company has been on top of the internet space since the beginning. I like hearing what he has to say because he has had so many years watching the ups and downs of the firms in this space, and he offers good insight into where these companies are going.

*Business Insider* recently held its annual IGNITION conference with great speakers from [LinkedIn](#), [Google](#), [Groupon](#), and [Time Warner](#).

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# Our Economy's Transition to Oversupply

Last week, I said we would discuss how to zero in and better handle the demand economy, and we will also look at how to make your offering target the demand that you want to create. We will actually do that nextweek, so we can first understand how we have transitioned into an economy of oversupply. Let's review why economic demand has changed. In the book "[How Companies Win](#)," [Kash and Calhoun](#) describe four phases of transitions moving from a supply based economy to a demand based one.

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# The Power of the Crowd

I wrote a blog in July 2011 called "[What Disruptive Technology is Sneaking Up on You?](#)" I also wrote another one more recently called "[Crowdfunding, the Savior for the Entrepreneur.](#)" Interestingly, they have both been pulled together by the disruptive technology guru [Clayton Christensen](#). Clayton spoke with [CNNMoney](#) for an [article](#) they featured on his involvement in crowdfunding.

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# Make the Trend Your Friend

[Mary Meeker](#) recently released her [annual overview of internet trends](#), and I found it to be very insightful. You may remember that I have discussed Mary's research and opinions on this topic in some of my previous blogs. She pushed forward as a leader in this space with different investment banking firms and is now a partner at one of the most prestigious venture capital firms, [Kleiner Perkins](#).

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# Is Your Sandbox Big Enough?

In business we refer to a sandbox as the area in which you play or conduct business. It consists of three things: your geographical boundaries, your products or services, and either

your client description if you sell direct or your distribution channel if you sell there.

When determining your sandbox, one area of thought is to make sure that the sandbox you are playing in is capable of getting you to the goals you have created for yourself. Problems could include not having enough customers or not having the right customers in your geographical boundaries. The product or service may have saturated the market you're in, and the client description could have changed or expanded.

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## **Riding the Wave or Being Knocked Over?**

Have you thought about how fast things change and how really different things have become with how you work and live? Think about the companies that you use every day that didn't even exist ten years ago. Think about how you use your [smartphone](#) today and access [Facebook](#). How different, both good and bad, was your life back then?

Consider all this from a business perspective. What new companies have appeared or disappeared because of a new innovative idea? Things move so rapidly! A company can go from zero to hero in a flash, but one can also go from kingpin to trash bin in the blink of an eye.

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# Discovering Your X-Factor

I have been working on putting together some content for a breakout session I'll be doing at the [E0 Nerve Conference](#) in Atlanta next week. This content was created for Insignia and Quantum leap E0 programs to help Forums engage in more stimulating discussions around your businesses with the other business owners. I really enjoy these events, catching up, and sharing with my existing E0 friends and meeting new ones.

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## Are You in the Path of the Software Monster?



I am on my way home from India and excited about what is going on at our office in Pondicherry, where we have our software development office. Each time I go, it is exciting to see what has manifested from a small 10' x 15' room with 2 people back in 2004 to a facility expanding 4000 square feet and about 40 people today! This team is filled with smart, highly

analytic minds with a desire to grow, progress, and improve their lives while making a positive impact on their families. I have watched as they have matured, gotten married, had children, and bettered their lives, increasing their standard of living. It is a great feeling to see this evolution and connection we have with the team!