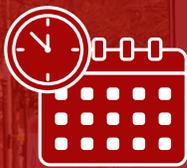


Big  Idea
CONNECTpreneur

NETWORKING & PITCH EXTRAVAGANZA



SEPTEMBER 11, 2025

8 AM - 12 NOON



WASHINGTON DC



GOLDEN TRIANGLE



Agenda

8:00 - 9:15 am - REGISTRATION / NETWORKING

9:15 - 9:45 am - WELCOME REMARKS

TIEN WONG, Founder and Host, CONNECTpreneur; CEO, Opus8, Inc.

NINA ALBERT, Deputy Mayor, Government of the District of Columbia

BRIAN COBLITZ, Executive Director, Technology Commercialization Office, GWU

TASHA CORNISH, Executive Director, Cybersecurity Association, Inc.

GUC OZENCI, Managing Director - DC, Founder Institute

GEORGE THOMAS, CEO, ConnectedDMV

DARIUS CLAIR, Director of Programs, DC Startup & Tech Week

9:45 - 10:30 am - COMPANY SHOWCASE / ROCKET PITCH

Promising Early Stage Companies will be introduced by:

SARA CLASPER, Associate Attorney, NEXT powered by Shulman Rogers

PRESENTING COMPANIES

ACTIVATED - Darren Andre

ARC Medical - Chris Springate

Ellexco - Xitong Liu

Ibex Biosciences, Inc. - Murat Croci

NeuroEM - Chuck Papageorgiou

SurgiBox - Mike Teodorescu

10:30 - 12:00 pm - NETWORKING

Speakers



TIEN WONG, CEO, Opus8, Inc.

Mr. Tien Wong is a tech investor, entrepreneur, and CEO. He is Chairman & CEO of Opus8, Inc., a private investment and advisory firm investing in exceptional life science and tech enabled services companies, as well as specializing in raising capital for promising tech companies and alternative investment fund managers. He is Founder of CONNECTpreneur, a global community of 25,000+ founders, investors, CEOs, and business leaders. CONNECTpreneur organizes the world's largest monthly virtual investor pitch events as well as in-person Forums with upwards of 500 attendees, featuring VIP guests, speakers, exciting presenting companies, and the best CXO to CXO networking on the East Coast. Since 2012, over 1200 companies have presented, half of whom have received funding from investors from the CONNECTpreneur investor network. Mr. Wong is also a Venture Partner in IronGate Capital Advisors, a VC and Fund of Funds manager investing in dual use technologies; Investment Advisory Board member of Virginia Venture Partners; and Chairman of Lumious, an ed tech company which provides learning & development services to Fortune 500 customers.



NINA ALBERT, Deputy Mayor, Government of the District of Columbia

Nina Albert is the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development for the District of Columbia under Mayor Muriel Bowser. In this role, she is responsible for seven District agencies and coordinates with seven independent agencies to grow DC's tax base, increase economic opportunity and mobility for DC residents, ensure an affordable quality of life for DC residents, and strengthen Washington, DC's vibrancy and role as the Nation's capital. Albert has more than 20 years of experience in public real estate, economic revitalization, and sustainable urban development. A leader with a proven track record, she prioritizes collaboration, fosters a diverse culture of high performers and encourages a growth mindset. Albert served as the Commissioner of the Public Buildings Service at the U.S. General Services Administration in the Biden Administration, was the Vice President of Real Estate at the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority, was responsible for Walmart's store openings in greater Washington region, and has worked as a real estate advisor and consultant. Albert is a U.S. Army veteran. She has an MBA and a Master of City and Regional Planning from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering from Tufts University.



BRIAN COBLITZ, Executive Director, Technology Commercialization Office, GWU

Brian leads the TCO team in providing best-in-class service to internal and external partners working toward the commercialization of new technologies invented at the George Washington University. Brian's broad scientific background and angel investing experience contribute to developing relationships between GW faculty and industry licensees. While at GW, he has negotiated multiple license agreements with startups and small businesses and continues to maintain productive partnerships with those developing GW technologies. Brian works to provide ongoing support for GW licensees as they seek funding and expertise on the commercialization pathway.



TASHA CORNISH, Executive Director, Cybersecurity Association, Inc.

Tasha Cornish is the Executive Director of the Cybersecurity Association of Maryland. Bringing together industry, academia, and the public sector, the organization is advancing cybersecurity through advocacy and collaboration. She also serves as the Co-Director of the Baltimore Elite Advisor Chapter of the Association for Enterprise Growth - an invitation-only, highly vetted community of successful professional service providers to the mid-market.

Speakers



GUC OZENCI, Managing Director - DC, Founder Institute

Guc Ozenci is a seasoned technology entrepreneur and investor with a proven track record of seamlessly integrating business strategy with technological innovation. Known for his exceptional interpersonal skills and strategic vision, he has played a pivotal role in scaling startups and fostering growth in the tech ecosystem. Currently, Guc is dedicated to nurturing early-stage startups as the Managing Director of Founder Institute Washington DC (fi.co), where he leads efforts to accelerate high-potential technology ventures. He is also the Managing Partner at ConnectOp Consulting (connectop.co), helping startups expand in the East Coast US by providing access to critical resources, strategic partnerships, and investor networks.



GEORGE THOMAS, CEO, ConnectedDMV

George co-founded Connected DMV, an initiatives-based non-profit based in Greater Washington, focused on building new industry clusters in the national interest. Key missions include Quantum, Energy and Space Commercialization. Previously, George served as Partner at IBM and held senior positions with global firms Hatch, Metamor, and Mott MacDonald. In these roles, he led multi-million-dollar engagements covering complex programs in smart cities, technology commercialization, critical infrastructure, enterprise systems, supply chain reengineering, and process improvement. George is a mentor, board member and coach to several innovative companies.



DARIUS CLAIR, Director of Programs, DC Startup & Tech Week

Darius Clair is a driving force in the DMV's startup and tech ecosystem, serving as the Director of Programs & Community at DC Startup and Tech Week and LaunchT. With a rich background that includes experience at Techstars and WeWork, he brings a proven history of success in business development, venture capital, and programming. Darius is an expert at the intersection of startups, technology, and angel investing, dedicating his work to fostering the growth and development of entrepreneurs across the region.



SARA CLASPER, Associate, NEXT Powered by Shulman Rogers

Through the NEXT platform, she typically represents early-stage seed and emerging growth companies and helps position them for success. Sara advises local and national companies on private equity, venture capital transactions, mergers and acquisitions, compliance issues, capital raises, equity compensation and other general corporate matters. Sara effectively balances efficiency with risk mitigation in her deal transactions. Prior to her work with NEXT, Sara spent 6 years as a persuasive litigator, honing her problem solving and negotiation skills and deepening her understanding of the type of contractual provisions that can eventually lead to disputes. This unique background for a transactional attorney enables her to anticipate the potential hurdles that a business transaction may encounter and foresee the importance and implications of each element of a deal during negotiations.



Value Proposition

MATILDA:1 is the first AI powered statistical learning CGM companion for Type 2 Diabetes. It transforms raw CGM data into personalized coaching and clinician ready insights.

Company Background

Activated Mobile Solutions LLC, based in Northern Virginia, is developing the MATILDA Universe, a modular AI home-healthcare platform. The first module, MATILDA:1, targets Type 2 Diabetes with a patent pending process model.

Leadership Team

Led by CEO/Founder Darren Andre with seasoned executives, engineers, and physicians including endocrinology and oncology specialists.

Products/Services

MATILDA:1 adapts instantly, is context aware, and produces doctor integrated reports. Future modules will expand into mental health, chronic care, and veterinary health.

Technologies/Special Know-How

Proprietary statistical learning model, process model (Patent Pending, U.S. Provisional No. 63/625,286). Integrates wearable data with HIPAA compliant handling.

Market

TAM: \$1.18T global diabetes. SAM: \$17.5B U.S. addressable. SOM: \$175M at 1% penetration. U.S. digital diabetes management CAGR: 14.8%.

Distribution Channels

Hybrid go to market approach: direct to consumer pilots plus B2B licensing with hospitals and insurers.

Competition

Dexcom, Libre, Medtronic: strong hardware but shallow insights. MATILDA uniquely combines usability with deep patient intelligence.

Quick Facts

Company Name: Activated Mobile Solutions, LLC

Contact: Darren Andre

Address:
14189 Lotus Ln
Centreville, VA 20120

Phone: 703.869.1891

Fax:

Email:
investors@matildawellness.com

Website:

<https://activatedmobilesolutions.com>

Industry: Software

Domain: AI-Healthcare

Bank: Wells Fargo

Law Firm: NoVA IP Law

Patent Estate: U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 63/625,286 (AI-Based Home Health System) – Filed

Number of Employees: 9

Leadership Team:

Darren Andre (CEO)
Kyle Kirkpatrick (COO)
Bradley Ragazinsky (Chief Engineering Officer)
Sim Sodhi (CPO)
Peter Grasso (CTO)

Financial Projections (Unaudited):

Subscriptions at \$99/month reach ~\$83M annually at 70k users. Licensing and data monetization add ~\$34M. Year 3 potential ~\$116.8M. CAC ~\$300 with <6 month payback. LTV ~\$7,500 per patient.

	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033
Revenue	11,676	50,040	116,760	233,520	467,040
EBIT (dollars in thousands)	6,676	35,040	86,760	183,520	367,040

Partnering for **Japan**:
IPCOAT® and JOCOAT™

Raising \$5M to increase number
of patients in clinical trials:
for EU, MENA, SEA, Oceania and Canada

ARC improves surgical patient recovery by preventing internal adhesions

What are surgical adhesions?

- #1 The most common surgical complication
- Form during first 5 days after surgery
- Adhesions are internal scars



≥ 31% of gynecological, obstetric and abdominal patients get adhesions



≥ 5% of knee and shoulder surgery patients get adhesions

Jane's knee adhesions stopped her from doing activities she loves



IPCOAT®

Prevents gynecological and abdominal surgical adhesions



Successful Phase 1 Trial (N=76)

✓ Clinical Safety

Open Laparotomy and Laparoscopy

Just 2 mL / kg body weight

< 2 minutes to apply

Now: Initiating efficacy + safety clinical trial (N=21)

▶ Watch
JOCOAT™
application

JOCOAT™

Prevents shoulder and knee surgical adhesions



Treated Surgical Patients (N=17)

✓ Clinical Efficacy + Safety

Open and Arthroscopy

Just 10 mL of JOCOAT™ per joint

< 1 minute to apply

Now: Initiating efficacy + safety clinical trial (N=~60)

7 Patent Families plus Trade Secrets
Provide exclusivity through 2039+



Japan: 5



US: 6



Patents granted and/or pending in
> 10 additional key territories

135 degrees range of motion
post surgery + JOCOAT™:
"I got my life back!"



Executive Summary

Company Information

Ellexco is pioneering the next generation of **sustainable, high-efficiency lithium extraction** through an **electro-driven direct lithium extraction (DLE) technology**. As global demand for lithium surges—driven by EVs, grid storage, and digital electrification—Ellexco offers a transformative solution to one of the industry's most urgent bottlenecks: scalable, clean, and cost-effective lithium supply.

The Problem

Conventional lithium extraction is indirect extraction: **Land-Intensive**: 30M+ sqft per pond, **Slow**: 1–1.5 years per evaporation pond, **Chemical-Heavy & Wasteful**: Toxic reagents and 800 tons of water per ton of lithium. Unconventional lithium extraction is **Pre-commercial**: **Costly**: Up to ~\$9/kg LCE, with high environmental and social costs

Ellexco's Breakthrough

Ellexco replaces the outdated process and expands unconventional lithium resources with a **chemical-free, membrane-free, electricity-powered solution** that **reduces salar extraction time from years to hours, enables lithium recovery from untapped unconventional sources, works with various lithium concentration brine sources, cuts production costs by up to 50% (~\$4.5/kg LCE), minimizes land and water usage, achieves net-zero carbon emission and environment pollution**

Backed by a pending **patent (PCT/US23/74577)** and a **Nature Communications (2025)** research paper, the technology is **validated across multiple brine types**, including salars, geothermal, and oilfield produced water.

Traction & Validation

Winner of DOE Geothermal Lithium Prize (\$820K), **Partnerships**: LOI with oil/gas brine owner (Arkansas) for pilot test, **Manufacturing path** via OEMs (MOU with a water treatment facility manufacturer), **Research partnerships** with Stanford and George Washington University

Team

Led by serial deep-tech innovators, **Dr. Lingchen Kong** (AACYF30U30, GSEA DC Winner) and **Dr. Xitong Liu** (AAEES40U40) and experienced executive **Mr. Brad Lee** backed by top advisors from Department of Energy, Stanford, UChicago, and Gotion Inc., the team has both the **technical depth** and **commercial drive** to scale.

Investment Opportunity

- **\$10M Seed Round** open now
- 24 month roadmap to full pilot deployment
- Initial prototype: **200 gallons/day**
- Pilot plant: **2,000 gallons/unit/day**, capable of producing **100 tons LCE per year**

Ellexco is not just building a better lithium process — we're building the foundation for North America's energy independence.



Ibex Biosciences

Value Proposition: Ibex Biosciences develops in-house therapies from inception for critical unmet medical needs, beginning with malaria and chemo-resistant colon cancer—two of the world’s deadliest and most underserved diseases. Its IBX13 antibody cured malaria in a humanized malaria animal model, and its CD147-targeted ADC achieved 100% solid tumor elimination in an animal model of chemo-resistant colon cancer. Both programs target multi-billion-dollar markets with proprietary science, novel mechanisms, and best-in-class preclinical results.

Company Background: Founded in 2015, **Ibex Biosciences** is a pre-clinical stage biotech company focused on high-mortality and high-need diseases with few effective treatments. Backed by nearly \$20 million in R&D investment, Ibex operates two labs in Maryland and has built a fully integrated, in-house development platform. Its pipeline spans oncology, infectious disease, neuroregeneration, and inflammatory conditions.

Leadership Team: Vidal F. de la Cruz, PhD – Chief Scientific Officer; 30+ years leading biotech R&D. He is the inventor of Peptide Phage Display Technology, a foundational innovation that contributed to the 2018 Nobel Prize in Chemistry awarded to Dr. George Smith.
 Michael J. Karlin, JD, MBA – Co-CEO; 20+ years in biotech law, finance, and business leadership; member of NCI SBIR CEO Roundtable
 A. Murat Croci – Co-CEO; two decades in early-stage biotech; U.S. Army veteran; co-inventor on multiple patents

Products/Services: Each year, malaria infects approximately 263 million people and colon cancer results in about 1.9 million new cases and 930,000 deaths globally, with 1.5 million deaths from developing metastatic or chemo-resistant disease, which is the main contributor to the

Technologies/Special Know-How: First filed VHH antibody patent against the target CD147. No direct prior art exists for CD147-specific VHH constructs ahead of this filing.

Market: For colon cancer, Ibex targets patients who have become chemo-resistant or commonly referred to as refractory colon cancer—a segment valued at approximately \$1 billion. Ibex’s single-dose therapy addresses both treatment and prophylaxis, within a global market of \$1 billion.

Distribution Channels: Not Applicable at this moment

Competition: There is no effective drug on the market for refractory colon cancer treatment, high patient expectancy, and no approved therapy currently exists that can cure malaria.

Quick Facts

Company Name:
Ibex Biosciences, Inc.

Contact: Murat Croci, Co-CEO

Address: 12358 Parklawn Dr.
Ste. 359 North Bethesda, MD

Phone: 301-761-1500

Email: invest@ibex.bio

Website: www.ibex.bio

Industry: Biotechnology

Bank: Citibank

Law Firm: Cooley Patents & Shulman Rodgers Corporate

Patents: Several Pending

Number of Employees: 12

Leadership Team: Vidal de la Cruz, CSO Murat Croci and Michael Karlin, Co-CEOs.

Amount of Financing Sought: \$10-\$25M as a Syndicate

Current Investors: Accredited Individuals and Founders

Financial Projections (Unaudited):

	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
Revenue	0	0	0	0	0
EBIT (dollars in thousands)	0	0	0	0	0



www.NeuroEM.com

NeuroEM's first-of-its-kind device offers a safe, effective, and non-invasive approach to treating neurodegenerative diseases, including Alzheimer's, and protecting brain health throughout the aging process.

Alzheimer's is among the costliest conditions to society

- Worldwide, **55M people** are living with Alzheimer's.
- More than **7.2M Americans** have Alzheimer's. **500,000+** are diagnosed each year.
- Medicare spends 3 times more** for beneficiaries with Alzheimer's.

NeuroEM will be a disruptive force in the Alzheimer's therapeutics market

There is no cure and treatment options are ineffective and difficult for patients and cost thousands of dollars per year.

- 5 of the 8 FDA-approved drugs do not affect the underlying brain changes that cause symptoms. **None are right for all patients.**
- Ongoing research exploring potential pharma options **remains uncertain.**

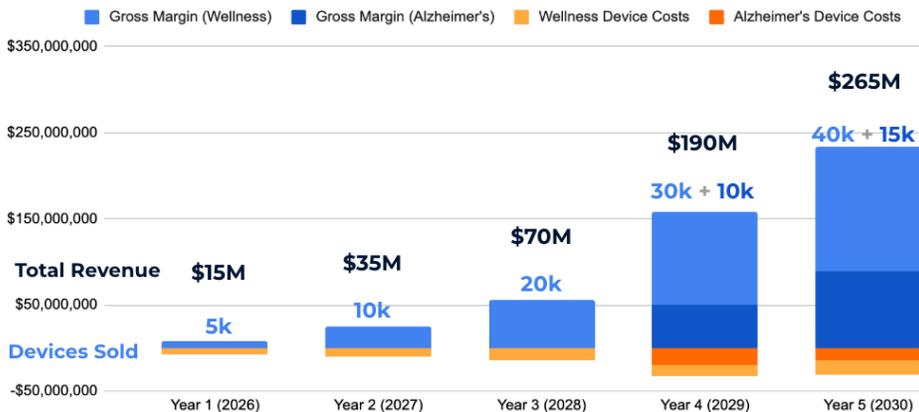
Human clinical studies showed cognitive stabilization or improvement in 7 of 8 AD sufferers within 2 months

Our Transcranial Electro-Magnetic Treatment using Radio Frequencies (TEMT-RF) alters three key factors at the root of cognitive decline:

- Detoxify the brain by disaggregating toxic Aβ and p-tau proteins
- Rebalance cytokines, indicating a reduction of inflammation in the brain and body
- Increase ATP—the source of energy for use and storage at the cellular level

Capital investment to date: \$7M+

Target Milestones



Investment Opportunity

NeuroEM is raising two rounds over the next two years:

- \$5M Seed Preferred today** to prepare the final product for launch at a lower strategic pre-money valuation.
 - The first \$3M has closed, led by BlueLake.VC and Lunch Pail Ventures
- \$5-10M Series A Preferred in 2026** to launch the wellness product.

GLOBAL MARKET

ALZHEIMER'S THERAPEUTICS

\$11.3B

IN 2024

\$29.4B

IN 2035

DIGITAL BRAIN HEALTH

\$243.7B

IN 2024

\$478.6B

IN 2033

NOOTROPICS / SUPPLEMENTS

\$10.1B

IN 2024

\$17.6B

IN 2030

FROM RESEARCH TO COMMERCIALIZATION:

NeuroEM is transforming groundbreaking research into a commercially viable reality.

15+ Years of Research, with a nationwide **1,000-subject study launched in Q3 2025.**

Patent portfolio includes **10 issued US patents** and **approximately 20 associated applications globally.**

First to receive **FDA Breakthrough Device** status for the treatment of Alzheimer's

Received **FDA's 513(g) Determination**, confirming our strategy to release a DTC wellness product.

A **proven leadership team** and **medical advisory board** – with scientific and technology backgrounds, startup experience, and commercial expertise.

Startup Health **Alzheimer's Moonshot Community** Member



Contact

Chuck Papageorgiou, CEO
 Chuck@NeuroEM.com
 +1-727-252-6120



SURGIBOX INC: SAFE SURGERY ANY TIME, ANY PLACE

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

An estimated 17 million people die annually from conditions that safe surgery could address. Safe, timely surgical intervention is the deciding factor between recovery, mortality, or long-term disability. Lack of safe surgery generates a Gross Domestic Product loss of \$12.3 trillion from lost annual productivity.

SurgiBox addresses a \$39B USD market by directly offering a solution to the above problem by dramatically reducing the upfront cost and geographic barriers to surgery while offering excellent safety standards. Our patented technology is an ultraportable sterile environment that improves the safety of surgeries any time, any place, by:

- a) reducing exposure of surgeons to patient bodily fluids
- b) protecting patients from the surrounding environment

In austere conditions, it makes safe surgeries possible where there are no existing facilities. Within hospitals, our solution increases operational throughput and decreases cost. Currently, surgical care relies upon consistent availability of three resources: 1) functional equipment and materials 2) appropriate facility space and 3) medical staff. Given the challenges of disseminating these resources consistently, surgical care is extremely limited in many austere settings. Even when in higher-resource settings, high costs and low throughput can present barriers to accessing safe surgery. Operating room facilities can cost up to \$60 USD per minute, and capacity limits of operating rooms can mean that surgeries take up to 365 days to schedule. Many countries globally are focused on solutions for reducing patient waiting times.

High equipment and facility costs are driven in part by maintaining the sterility of the entire operating room throughout the surgical procedure, regardless of the number of personnel and activity. This requires every surgical team member to wear extensive personal protective equipment, while sophisticated ventilation systems continuously run filtered air. When sterile environments are available in austere settings, semi-portable laminar airflow systems or operating suites mounted in vehicles and temporary buildings are the status quo. By contrast, the critical surgical site - the area of the body that is open and vulnerable to contamination - is never more than a few square feet.

Our product, the SurgiField system, addresses the limitations of these existing solutions by eliminating high upfront and maintenance costs, providing multi-layered protection, and offering greater freedom from external dependencies such as electricity. SurgiField also alleviates throughput bottlenecks by transforming any room into an operating room. This is done by introducing a revolutionary shift to the existing paradigm: safe surgery means protecting the surgical site, not protecting an entire room. This perspective leapfrogs big infrastructural limitations and opens up new opportunities for providing safe surgery.

With the EU's CE Mark (under MDR) regulatory approval secured, SurgiBox is now ready for global market expansion. SurgiBox Inc delivers a clean, safe solution, on the battlefield, after a disaster or crisis, at the point of injury, or anywhere you need increased surgical capacity!



Our Partners



GOLDEN TRIANGLE

GOLDEN TRIANGLE BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT (BID)

Formed in 1998, the Golden Triangle BID enhances Washington, DC's central business district, the 44 square-block area stretching from the White House to Dupont Circle. Home to almost 6,000 businesses, the BID has been a center of economic activity for decades, providing a clean, safe, and vibrant environment for hundreds of thousands of workers, residents, and visitors. The BID encourages placemaking and economic development through capital projects, public art, sustainability initiatives, and events, often through bringing together public and private partners and leading long-term efforts like the Penn West Equity and Innovation District. The Golden Triangle is also the first BID in the world to be certified through the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED for Communities program, achieving LEED Platinum certification.



THE OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY MAYOR FOR PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (DMPED)

The Office of the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development (DMPED) assists the Mayor in the coordination, planning, supervision, and execution of economic development efforts in the District of Columbia with the goal of creating and preserving affordable housing, creating jobs, and increasing tax revenue. DMPED pursues policies and programs that create strong neighborhoods, expand and diversify the local economy, and provide residents with pathways to the middle class. The priorities for the Deputy Mayor derive from our broad goals of increasing affordable housing, increasing jobs and increasing District revenues. Together, they support the Mayor's vision of Inclusive Prosperity. Underlying all of our work is a commitment, driven by the Mayor, to good government and transparency.

**THE GEORGE
WASHINGTON
UNIVERSITY**
WASHINGTON, DC

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY OFFICE OF INNOVATION & ENTREPRENEURSHIP

The George Washington University (GW) Office of Innovation & Entrepreneurship provides programming around innovation, education, venture creation, and making connections to support GW entrepreneurs and the Mid-Atlantic startup community. Founded in 2010, the office has worked with thousands of students, faculty, and alumni, and serves as a focal point for entrepreneurship at GW. It leverages the unique strengths of our university's schools in the nation's capital to serve society at large through the knowledge and practice of entrepreneurship.



NEXT powered by SHULMAN ROGERS

NEXT disrupts the legacy legal industry by offering a broad range of fixed fee solutions (stand-alone products and annual legal plans) delivered by senior attorneys with valuable business expertise. NEXT solves the problem that startup and emerging growth companies face when launching their business as well as scaling: lack of access to predictable legal fees, seasoned attorneys, the latest technology and key business services. We use cutting edge technology platforms to deliver real efficiencies, transparency and a collaborative environment for clients, attorneys and investors. NEXT partners with its clients to de-risk their business and get to the NEXT level, together reaching each milestone of success. NEXT is powered by Shulman Rogers, a full-service law firm with nearly 100 attorneys offering superior services across a wide range of practice areas. The firm also offers robust personal services such as residential closings and trust and estate planning. Shulman Rogers has earned its reputation for providing quality representation, business insight and client value, serving as a highly attractive alternative to larger, higher-priced firms and smaller, less diverse firms. Learn more at ShulmanRogers.com.



ANTHONY MILLIN, NEXT CHAIR & PARTNER, SHULMAN, ROGERS

Anthony Millin is the Chair of NEXT and a trusted legal and business advisor to startup, early-stage, and emerging growth companies. As a corporate and securities attorney, a successful serial entrepreneur, and a venture capitalist, Anthony brings a unique legal and business perspective to advising his clients. Anthony understands firsthand what it takes to start, scale and manage a company, to successfully prepare for and run a fund-raising process, and to address the legal issues faced by a startup. Another specialized skill set Anthony brings to the table is his China-based experience, assisting early-stage and middle-market companies interested in conducting business in China or seeking direct foreign investment from China. Anthony also serves as a Venture Partner at Urban Us, a seed-stage VC firm. Contact Anthony at amillin@shulmanrogers.com.

Our Partners



NFP

NFP is a leading insurance broker and consultant that cares deeply about our employees' and clients' well-being. We're honest, hardworking, dedicated professionals who love what we do and strive to lead by example. But what truly defines us is that for us, business is personal. At the end of the day, our vision isn't a financial metric or a top 10 list. It's that when you hear "NFP," you think of a world-class company that's authentic, genuine and real. One whose expertise and scale are only matched by its passion for building lifelong personal relationships.



RICHARD DIPIPPA, PARTNER, NFP

Rich DiPippo works with business owners, key executives, and families to help clarify their objectives and take action. Rich believes in a holistic approach to planning and works with many local attorneys, CPAs, and wealth management advisors to guide clients through the planning process. Rich is a 1979 graduate of The George Washington University. Following graduation, he served as the Academic Coordinator for GWU athletics and as an assistant baseball and wrestling coach. Rich joined New York Life in 1985 as an agent and became a member of the NYL Chairman's Council, representing the top 1% of all agents his last 11 years with the company.



BUZZY ROCKET

Buzzy Rocket was founded 12 years ago with the mission to help startups grow and scale their businesses. Debbie and Victoria do this with their decades of marketing experience combined with their first hand experience founding, growing and scaling successful startups. They only work with 6 startups at any given time so they can provide 1:1 attention to you and your team. The Buzzy Rocket team is also made up of web developers, graphic designers and copywriters so they can help you easily execute the marketing strategy they create. Learn more about their services at BuzzyRocket.com.



DEBBIE CLINE, Founder & Chief of Customer Success, Buzzy Rocket

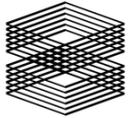
Debbie is co-founder, chief of customer success at Buzzy Rocket and yellow lab lover. From LA to London, she is well known as an expert in creating that certain elusive magic that drives explosive growth at the intersection of companies and customers. She has proven strategic vision, and isn't afraid to get in the trenches. In fact, she's been doing this at companies big and small for 25+ years. Her background includes executive level positions at both public companies and startups where she has proven over and over again that her passion, drive and results oriented perspective get it done. She is tenacious, loves the game changer and loves to win.



INES LEBOW, Founder and Principal, Enterprise Transformation Solutions

Ines LeBow is the Founder and Principal Startup Consultant at Enterprise Transformation Solutions (ETS), which advises entrepreneurs on how to position themselves for funding. Over the course of her 30+ years in the industry, Ines has helped companies secure more than \$800M in funding, led start-ups and turnarounds for companies with up to \$500M in revenue, managed 11 M&A transactions, and guided 9 companies to a successful exit. With expertise spanning Operations, Executive Leadership, and Mentoring, Turnarounds, Revenue implementation, Engineering, as well as Communications, Ines has helped many companies prepare for VC and angel investment.

Thank you to our Partners



Thank You to our Host Committee



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WSP/MD Hispanic Chamber
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Cybersecurity
Association Inc.



**Deborah
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Chamber of Commerce



Matthew Lee

FASTech, Inc.



Mike Malloy

Malloy Industries



Guc Ozenci

Founders Institute

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Optimum Dynamics LLC



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Big Idea
CONNECTpreneur

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ROCKET PITCH EVENT!**

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September 25



**UPCOMING IN-
PERSON EVENT!**

REGISTER NOW FOR

November 18 in Baltimore



**MEDTECH INVESTOR
BRUNCH**

October 5 in San Diego





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THE IN-PERSON
BROCHURE:



SCAN HERE FOR
THE VIRTUAL
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One of the nations largest investor communities of 4,500+ HNW/UHNW private investors, angels, family offices, investment groups, and small institutional investors.

**Exclusive,
cost effective,
& reliable**

**Vetted, qualified,
accredited
Investors**

**We
guarantee
our results**



**View the full
brochure**

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● SUPERCHARGE YOUR
RAISE WITH OUR

CROWDFUNDING SERVICES

We combine high-impact messaging, investor psychology, and access to our unique community of over 315,000 accredited and retail investors, business leaders, and influencers.

WHAT WE OFFER

- ✓ Dedicated Email Blasts
- ✓ Multi-Email Drip Campaigns
- ✓ Campaign Strategy Support
- ✓ Video and Page Feedback
- ✓ Live Investor Engagement Opportunities



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CONNECT with us!

