



Mentors - introducing a few

Phil McCaw

Managing Partner of MOVAC and a cornerstone investor in all the MOVAC Funds, Phil is a founding partner of MOVAC, and one of the first investors in Trade Me. He is a founding investor in Lightning Lab and a mentor. He is currently chair of Kaynemaile, Mesynthes, Crema Capital, ReelClever and Minimonos.

Dion Mortensen

Dion is a full time professional Director and Investor with a passion for iconic NZ entrepreneurs and ventures with international, high growth aspiration. He currently serves the Boards of 6 organisations; 2 Movac ventures (Ponoko and Givealittle), 3 SME's and a Not For Profit. Over the last 5 years, with Movac, he has led or participated in the investment and development of 13 early stage high growth ventures.

Ed Robinson

Ed is the founder of Aptimize, an initiative that revolutionized web performance with the world's first automated software products for Web Content Optimization. Aptimize's acceleration products include Aptimize SharePoint Accelerator and Aptimize Website Accelerator for Linux and Windows. Aptimize's software is used by hundreds of the world's leading organizations including Microsoft, Google, Disney, Dell, Raytheon, Fluor and the US Army. He has 20 years experience in the IT industry in the US and New Zealand and has a global vision for adding business value with better technology and communications.

John Holt

John is a successful global entrepreneur across a broad range of industry and business including computer hardware and software, financial services, property, construction, hospitality and security. He has a passion for driving growth (personal and commercial) through applying innovation and energy to commercial ventures with global market potential.

Ben Pujji

Ben Pujji has an enviable history in digital from its earliest days, from business analysis and interaction design through to marketing. He has run his own digital business, been Strategy Director for DNA Design and was most recently the Head of Digital Strategy at AIM Proximity/Clemenger BBDO.

Mike DelPrete



Mike is a startup junkie and fills his precious spare time with as much interaction with entrepreneurs and startup companies as he can. Head of Strategy at TradeMe, Mike is responsible for corporate strategy, leading external partnerships, investments, and acquisitions, and managing growth through new initiatives and ideas.

Previously he founded Agora Games in 2005, developing online video game technology and providing online community development services to developers and publishers around the world. The company includes such titles in their stable as Mortal Kombat, Call of Duty and Guitar Hero. He grew the business organically – without outside investment – from himself to 25 people at the time of acquisition in 2009, to over 40 people as of 2011. The company was acquired by Major League Gaming in 2009.

Jos Kunnen

Jos is the CEO of Critchlow, a leading provider of geographic information solutions. Jos has significant general management and consulting experience in technology and service industries. He brings a deep understanding of the kinds of business and technology issues clients are facing in the modern world, and of how location intelligence solutions can help address those challenges. Jos is a former CIO of Contact Energy and Australasian General Manager of consulting and systems integration for Hewlett Packard, where he worked for 15 years.

Emily Loughnan

Emily has spent her entire career in media; making, commissioning and guiding programmes, products and experiences that people love. For the last 18 years, she's been focussed solely on digital media at Click Suite, who have won almost 100 awards and finalist placings for a huge range of interactive work. It's been a natural progression from her previous background in television as she's moved mediums with the technology and the audiences.

Laura Humphreys

Laura's first business, Red Rocks Advertising, sold to multinational Ogilvy Group in 2005 as the third largest agency in London, and Agency of the Year. Laura then co-founded Pet Angels, a highly systemised award winning pet care business, with a fully automated online search and booking facility that minimised admin requirements to the point where the owners only had to work 10 hours a week. Laura has become passionate about the concept of 'leverage' in business – doing more with less to the point where businesses do not rely on their owner in order to generate income. Laura set up Liber8me to teach business owners how to build an exit strategy into their business .

Dave Moskovitz

Dave is a professional early-stage investor from Wellington New Zealand, and has invested in a number of Kiwi startups including MusicHype, ShowGizmo, Ponoko, 8interactive and others. His Wellington-based company, WebFund, invests in and nurtures companies from concept through to investment and execution. He's a member of Angel HQ, Wellington's angel investment club, organises the Lean Startup Wellington meetup, sits on the InternetNZ Council, and does a significant amount of work for non-profits. Dave is also one of Startup Weekend's Global Facilitators, and has been on the organising teams of Startup Weekends in Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch, Palmerston North, and Perth WA.

Stefan Korn

Stefan has a Ph.D in Artificial Intelligence, and extensive experience in building transactional web-based businesses. Stefan co-founded WebFund to help leverage his own experience to help take web-based Kiwi startups to the world.

