Video Interview: Ian Chen, Discotech

For today’s video interview, we spoke with Ian Chen, the co-founder and CEO of Discotech, a Los Angeles area startup which has developed a service for bottle service booking, discounted tickets and more to clubs and nightspots. Ian tells us about his journey from the world of private equity to the life of a startup entrepreneur. (More...)

Bird Expands In Paris, Plans To Hire 1,000 Employees At New Office
Santa Monica-based on-demand scooter company Bird is in an expansion in Europe, and has opened up an office in Paris, with plans to hire up to 1,000 people in the city, according to the company. Bird said that the new office will be its largest European hub, with employees there hadling operations, government partnerships, legal, marketing and communications. Bird said it hopes to hire those thousand employees in the next two years. (More...)

Virgin Orbit Sees Successful Rocket Release Test
Long Beach-based Virgin Orbit, the small satellite launch service startup backed by Sir Richard Branson, said it conducted its first successful "drop test" release of a rocket from its modified 747. According to Virgin Orbit, the "drop test", from 35,000 feet, is the next step along its development of its small satellite launch service, which it has been working on for four years. (More...)

Chrome River Wins Fertilizer Manufacturer
Los Angeles-based Chrome River Technologies, which develops expense and invoice management software, has scored a big win with Nutriend, Ltd., which the company says is the world's second-largest fertilizer manufacturer. Financial impact of the customer win were not announced. Chrome River said it was chosen to upgrade the expense submission and approval process for a workforce of 20,000. Chrome River says its product will initially roll out to employees across Canada. (More...)

Semtech Gets Design Win In China
Camarillo-based Semtech, which develops analog and mixed signal semiconductors, has scored another design win for its LoRa wireless technology. According to Semtech, Hangzhou Water Meter Co. (HWM), Ltd. has incorporated its LoRa technology into a "smart water metering" product. Shipment volumes and financial impacts of the win were not announced. (More...)
Tinder Aims At Emerging Markets With Tinder Lite

Los Angeles-based dating app developer Tinder says it is rolling out a lightweight version of its app—"Tinder Lite"—aimed at use in emerging markets, where data access is limited and more costly for its users. According to Tinder, it will first roll out the lightweight version of its app in Southeast Asia, later this summer, on Android. Tinder Lite will require 25x less space on devices, according to Tinder, and also reduce network usage by about 20 percent. (More...)

Facilitated Off-Site Planning for Growth Companies and Venture Firms

Peak is a facilitated team off-site that empowers growth companies and venture firms to build a Three Year Vision, One Year Plan, and Quarterly OKRs. With the vision and plan set, we provide additional tools to keep the team aligned, accountable and on track. Peak is a collection of best practices Jeff Martin founder of Collective Genius has derived from twenty plus years of experience in founding and operating technology growth companies and venture firms. We are partnered with local and national venture firms and provide portfolio partner discounts.

Schedule a Pre-Camp Meeting to Learn More: Jeff@Collective-Genius.com

Collective Genius - Off-Site Planning and Recruiting for Growth Companies and Venture Firms - collective-genius.com

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Pacific Western Bank, Venture Banking Group – Brian Weber

Pacific Western Bank is a commercial bank with over $26 billion in assets and 74 full-service branches located throughout California and one branch in Durham, North Carolina. Our Venture Banking Group offers a comprehensive suite of financial services focused on entrepreneurial businesses and their venture capital and private equity investors. We also offer Community Banking and National Lending services.

For more information, visit
**BDO - Southern California Technology Industry Team**

BDO USA, LLP is a professional services firm providing assurance, tax, and advisory services to publicly traded and privately held companies through more than 60 offices domestically and 160 countries globally. Our Southern California technology industry team professionals have deep experience helping online, software, hardware, and cleantech businesses in the local ecosystem to navigate the many issues affecting their businesses and to help them meet their larger strategic goals. Our team provides a wide range of guidance in the key issues effecting technology companies including, M&A advisory, initial public offerings, tax planning and consulting, intellectual property agreements, financial reporting and regulatory compliance matters. For more information, please contact our LA Technology leaders Anthony Ferguson, Tim Clackett, and Kris Kaufmann at LATech@bdo.com.

**Stradling**

Stradling Yocca Carlson & Rauth (“Stradling”) is a premier business law firm with over 125 attorneys and 10 offices in the western US. The offices are: Newport Beach, Santa Barbara, Santa Monica, San Diego, San Francisco - SOMA, San Francisco - Financial District, Sacramento, Reno, Denver, Seattle. The Firm’s corporate, litigation and public law practices are well known for their expertise and depth. Stradling’s clients include emerging and high growth public and private companies as well as private equity funds, venture capital groups and their respective portfolio companies. Widely recognized for its expertise, responsiveness and outstanding client service, the Firm’s size, structure, and culture allow it to provide the highest quality representation while maintaining the responsiveness and relationships commonly associated with smaller firms.

**Early Stage Commercial Insurance - Pacific Unified Insurance Agency**

We are a commercial insurance broker working with startup and early stage technology and E-Commerce companies to implement cost effective strategies for their insurance and risk management programs. We provide guidance and strategic planning during various phases and also advise regarding employee benefit structures to assist in employee recruiting and retention. Coverage placements include D&O, Property, Liability, Workers Comp, E&O, Cyber/Network Security and Employee Benefit Programs.

Contact:
Recent Funding

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Upcoming Events
Submit your events at least two weeks in advance to: [http://www.socaltech.com/submitevent.html](http://www.socaltech.com/submitevent.html)

July 17, El Segundo -- **El Segundo Tech & Aerospace Networking**
El Segundo Tech & Aerospace Networking @ Smoky Hollow Tasting & Taproom. Join us for South Bay Tech & Aerospace Happy Hour in Hermosa Beach! We are building Aerospace and Tech community in the South Bay. See [http://www.socaltech.com/calendar/eventid/26490](http://www.socaltech.com/calendar/eventid/26490)

July 18, Los Angeles -- **So what’s this app called TikTok?**
All about TikTok. Startup Coil. Do you know that the team behind its success works in your own backyard? Learn more about the TikTok team, our app, and how short-form vertical videos are changing the content ecosystem through a cross-functional panel of members of the TikTok team. See [http://www.socaltech.com/calendar/eventid/26492](http://www.socaltech.com/calendar/eventid/26492)

July 20, Venice -- **Tech in the Sun: Summer Networking Party**
Tech in the Sun: Summer Networking Party. StartOut LA and
Podshare present "Tech in the Sun: Summer Networking Party" a intergenerational networking event for new and seasoned entrepreneurs. Join us for our summer networking party as we help both new and seasoned entrepreneurs build business relationships in the Los Angeles Technology Ecosystem. You won't want to miss. See http://www.socaltech.com/calendar/eventid/26489

July 26, Santa Monica -- **Startup Weekend Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles** Startup Weekend Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles. Are you a Senior or Ambassador Girl Scout who likes to come up with big ideas, invent things, work with others, and learn skills that will help you with school, college, and a future job? Then Startup Weekend is for you! During this exciting event, you will take an idea from nothing to something, pitch to product. Girls will pitch ideas, form teams around the top ideas, research their customers, and work intensely as teams to build a prototype that demonstrates the potential of their business. The event culminates in a “SHARK TANK” style pitch competition where teams present their business and demonstrate their prototype to a panel of judges. Experience the highs, lows, fun, and pressure that make up life at a startup. As you learn how to create a real company, you'll meet and network with the very best mentors, investors, co-founders, and sponsors who are ready to help you get started. See http://www.socaltech.com/calendar/eventid/26486

July 27, Santa Monica -- **Startup Weekend Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles** Startup Weekend Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles. Are you a Senior or Ambassador Girl Scout who likes to come up with big ideas, invent things, work with others, and learn skills that will help you with school, college, and a future job? Then Startup Weekend is for you! During this exciting event, you will take an idea from nothing to something, pitch to product. Girls will pitch ideas, form teams around the top ideas, research their customers, and work intensely as teams to build a prototype that demonstrates the potential of their business. The event culminates in a “SHARK TANK” style pitch competition where teams present their business and demonstrate their prototype to a panel of judges. Experience the highs, lows, fun, and pressure that make up life at a startup. As you learn how to create a real company, you'll meet and network with the very best mentors, investors, co-founders, and sponsors who are ready to help you get started. See http://www.socaltech.com/calendar/eventid/26487

July 28, Santa Monica -- **Startup Weekend Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles** Startup Weekend Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles. Are you a Senior or Ambassador Girl Scout who likes to come up with big ideas, invent things, work with others, and learn skills that will help you with school, college, and a future job? Then Startup Weekend is for you! During this exciting event, you will take an idea from nothing to something, pitch to product. Girls will pitch ideas, form teams around the top ideas,
research their customers, and work intensely as teams to build a prototype that demonstrates the potential of their business. The event culminates in a “SHARK TANK” style pitch competition where teams present their business and demonstrate their prototype to a panel of judges. Experience the highs, lows, fun, and pressure that make up life at a startup. As you learn how to create a real company, you'll meet and network with the very best mentors, investors, co-founders, and sponsors who are ready to help you get started. See [http://www.socaltech.com/calendar/eventid/26488](http://www.socaltech.com/calendar/eventid/26488)

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