

Venkat Raju

Mr. Venkat Raju is an active Angel Investor and serves as a mentor & advisor to several startups (and as a Director in some). Of relevance, he is a Strategic Advisor to KnuEdge, a Deep Learning/Neural Computing company based in San Diego; on the Board of KrypC Corp, a global blockchain technology company; and an Advisor to Crypto Assets Design Group, a leading token launch & ICO Marketing company based in Europe.

Most recently he served as the CEO of Kyron Global, India's largest Corporate (Open) Innovation Platform Services provider; the platform enables a variety of startup-enabled Digital Transformation programs ranging from Corporate Accelerators to Incubation Labs for multinational corporations. Kyron was part of a recent transaction towards the establishment of TechStars India.

Mr. Raju's current portfolio (investments plus advisory roles) span a wide spectrum – Blockchain, AI, AR/VR, SaaS, Big Data & Analytics, Mobility & FinTech, Cyber & Data Security, IoT, Social Media & related Consumer Internet. Mr. Raju is an accomplished entrepreneur & seasoned executive with strong business, technology and general management credentials. Prior to Kyron, he served as the India Country Head & Managing Director for ACI Worldwide Inc., a leading global payments solutions provider.

He has held several roles including as – an Entrepreneur (CEO & Founder of startups backed by Kleiner Perkins, Benchmark Capital etc. in Silicon Valley); an IT Executive (Managing Director & VP positions at Merrill Lynch, Morgan Stanley and Deutsche Bank) in Wall St; a Product Executive (GM & SVP Products at VerticalNet in San Francisco), Chief Technologist (Chief Architect for British Telecom in London); a Management/Strategy Consultant (Principal of a boutique firm focused on Cloud Computing & SaaS in New York); and a Product & Services Delivery Head for APAC.

Mr. Raju has deep domain expertise in several verticals including Financial Services, Retail, Technology, and Telecom. He has lived and worked in three continents and has run global teams. He is an alum of Boston University (Management & Business) and Indian Institute of Science (Electrical & Electronics Engineering).