

From the Managing Director

Welcome Justin Mayer as ID's new Strategic Technology Advisor!

We're excited to share that Justin Mayer has joined the Innovation DuPage team as our new part-time Strategic Technology Advisor!

In this new advisement role, Justin will assist members in navigating complex technology decisions, optimizing tech solutions for their operations, and identifying strategies to boost efficiency and scalability.

As a long-time Innovation DuPage member and mentor, Justin brings over 20 years of expertise in product management and development, spanning both startups and Fortune 100 companies. His impressive background also includes serving as a business instructor at the College of DuPage and contributing as an active tech builder since 2019. We are thrilled to have Justin on board and look forward to the incredible value he will bring to our members and the Innovation DuPage community.

Much Appreciated:

Thank you to Ed Buckley of NIU and Anushka Verma, Innovation DuPage's IT Project Manager, for their presentations at last Wednesday's Member Meetup. Ed presented an exciting opportunity through NIU's Executive MBA Program, where companies can have teams of 4-6 MBA students develop a comprehensive business plan as part of their capstone course. Anushka showcased our new Member Portal, which will enhance your access to ID's resources, including all presentation materials from our meetups.

**If you missed the portal walkthrough and are having trouble logging in, please contact <u>Anushka Verma</u> to get started.

If you're interested in having an Executive MBA team create a business plan for your company, please reach out to Ed Buckley by **February 15th at ed.buckley@allqualityinc.com or (847) 778-6960.

Coming up:

- WGN Broadcast, 1.15: Don't miss this month's "Your Money Matters" on WGN 720 AM this Wednesday, January 15th at 6:30 PM. Host Jon Hansen will welcome Innovation DuPage member company founder Lance Rock, developer of Audit Master Pro (AMP), alongside ID Managing Director Dan Facchini. Discover how AMP's innovative HVAC testing and optimization software is helping building owners achieve 20-60% energy savings while creating healthier indoor environments.
- Member Meetup, 1.22: Our upcoming Member Meetup will feature Lilliana Aguilar of Solutions Cleaning Services, a construction and commercial cleaning company serving the Chicagoland area, as our Member Spotlight, and Blair Hoover, Senior Webflow Designer & Developer of Madak, as our Member Resource. Lilliana will share her entrepreneurial journey through the Construction Owner-2-CEO program, while Blair will showcase Madak's web design services and highlight the company's partnership with Innovation DuPage, including their work on our website and member portal.
- NaperLaunch Academy: Starting a Business, 1.26: During this four-week series, attendees will learn to develop their business concept, develop a unique value proposition and determine funding strategies and sources, pricing models and breakeven analysis. Participants are expected to attend all four sessions and complete homework assignments outside of class. Spots are limited, register here. This program is offered via Zoom.

Sign up to present at an upcoming Member Meetup

Showcase your business at a Member Meetup! We're looking for members to present as our Member Spotlight, ID Member Resource, or host a Problem Solving session. This is your chance to present your work, share your achievements, and connect with fellow entrepreneurs. Sign up here.

Let us help you share your success with the ID community!

Share a win from this week – big or small. It could be featured in our next letter! Email your accomplishment to: IDmaceyh@innovationdupage.org

Reminder: Innovation DuPage is open for members as a coworking space 24 hours a day, 7 days a week!

Many thanks, and have a great week,

Dan Facchini

Dan Facchini, Managing Director, Innovation DuPage