

Alex Goryachev

Wall Street Journal Bestselling Author
Award-winning AI and Innovation Keynote Speaker

Engaging Audiences at



Meet Alex Goryachev

Alex Goryachev transforms AI hesitation into clarity and action with powerful keynotes and workshops, helping people and organizations navigate the future of education and work.

A Wall Street Journal bestselling author, LinkedIn Top AI Voice, and contributor to **Forbes**, **Entrepreneur**, and **Fast Company**, Alex brings real-world credibility from decades of hands-on global leadership.

- At Cisco, he spearheaded a \$1.1B Innovation Center, leading Innovation Programs for 71,000+ employees in 63 countries, earning **Cisco Forbes' "#1 Best Place to Work for Innovators."**
- At **Dell**, Alex scaled its first Generative AI consulting practice, and at **Amgen**, he launched high-profile GenAI initiatives. Alex shaped innovation at **IBM**, **Pfizer**, and **three Olympic games**.
- Additionally, Alex served as the US delegate for ISO's Global Innovation Standards and consulted with governments in the US, United Kingdom, UAE, Saudi Arabia, Italy, and others.

Engaging audiences at **AWS**, **Google**, **Zoho**, **Disney**, **Coca-Cola**, **ServiceNow**, **AMD**, **Bank of America**, and **top universities**, Alex's custom keynotes and workshops cut through hype, offering pragmatic solutions that empower people—not replace them.

Bring him to your next event for insights your audience will talk about for days.

Why People Choose Alex

- Credible:** Alex brings practical insights from Cisco, Dell, Amgen, IBM, Pfizer, and others.
- Engaging:** Always dynamic, Alex has brought humor and intrigue to audiences during 300+ keynotes.
- Clear:** Focused on people, not techspeak, Alex's messages resonate, regardless of AI experience or industry.
- Pragmatic:** No futurist hype here. Alex focuses on strategies informed by hands-on experience.
- Custom:** Engagements are always up-to-date and tailored to the audience and event.

Most Requested Topics

- The AI Opportunity for Your Organization and Your Industry
- AI 2.0: The Next Wave of Digital Transformation: What's ahead in AI?
- Everything is About to Change: Separating AI Facts from Fiction to Prepare for What's to Come.
- AI Risk and Rewards: Balancing Challenges & Opportunities in the Digital Age.
- Next Decade of Innovation: How AI Will Reshape the World.
- The Fearless Leader's Guide to AI: Are You Prepared for the Future of Work?

What Alex's Clients Say



"Alex's keynote was the highlight of the event."

AWS



"Our audience loved you — they left both inspired and informed."

Coca-Cola



"Alex has a rare ability to challenge how leaders think — and do it in a way that inspires alignment, not defensiveness."

ISO

Request Alex for your event



Get in touch for rates, availability, and customized suggestions for your engagement.



booking@alexgoryachev.com

+1 619-333-6743

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Notable 2025 Engagements

January

**Abu Dhabi
National Oil
Company**



Employee All Hands Speaker
AI for Leadership & Workforce
Transformation

February

**California State
University -
Chancellor's Office**



**Executive Planning Keynote
Speaker**
AI Strategy & Innovation Framework for
Higher Education

March

**Federal Reserve
Bank of Dallas**



Employee All Hands Speaker
AI and the Future of Financial Services

April

Scrum Alliance



Employee Offsite Speaker
AI, Agility, and the Future of Work

May

Google Think AI



Opening Keynote Speaker
The Next Decade of AI Innovation

June

**Ciena Partner
Forum**



Opening Keynote Speaker
AI and the Business Model of the Future

July

REHAU



Employee All Hands Speaker
AI and the Future of Leadership

August

ServiceNow



Engineering All Hands Speaker
Leading with AI: Empowering Innovation
Across the Enterprise

September

**AWS Partner
Forum**



Opening Keynote Speaker
AI, Partnership, and the Next Wave of
Digital Transformation

October

**First Nations
Tax
Commission**



**Employee All Hands & Innovation
Workshop**
Building a Culture of Innovation in the
Age of AI



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Meet Alex Goryachev

Alex Goryachev is a world-renowned AI and innovation expert, Wall Street Journal bestselling author, award-winning keynote speaker, and LinkedIn Top AI Voice.

A frequent contributor to *Inc.*, *Entrepreneur*, and *Fast Company*, Alex is described by *Forbes* as “One of the World’s Top Innovation Experts” and “One of the Top AI Keynote Speakers to Watch” with an outsized influence on the futures of work and education.

Known for turning AI hesitation into clarity and action, Alex has delivered 300+ pragmatic keynotes and hands-on workshops for **AWS, Google, AMD, Disney, Coca-Cola, Bank of America**, leading universities, TEDx communities, and public-sector agencies.

Helping organizations unleash employee innovation, Alex brings real-world insights from global leadership at the world’s most innovative companies. As **Cisco’s Managing Director of Innovation Strategy**, Alex led innovation across 4 continents, scaling and launching employee-led Co-Innovation Centers in 14 countries, helping Cisco earn Forbes’ “#1 Best Place to work for Innovators”.

Rising to Cisco’s Office of the CTO, he **influenced a \$1.1B innovation portfolio** and launched enterprise-wide programs for more than 71,000 employees in 63 countries, partnering with governments on Smart Cities, and establishing R&D centers worldwide.

Later, Alex helped build **Dell’s first Generative AI consulting practice** and, at **Amgen**, Alex launched AI pilots across IT, operations, and regulatory affairs. Alex has led innovation initiatives at **ISO, the World Economic Forum, and three Olympic games**, serving as a trusted expert to governments in the United States, United Kingdom, Germany, Australia, South Korea, Japan, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, and Italy.

Alex is a Fellow of the Royal Academy of Arts and Sciences, plus an Executive Director of the AI Literacy Alliance, a (501)(c)(3) focused on preparing workforces for the future. He also serves as an Innovator-in-Residence at **Tulane University**.

Today, Alex helps people and organizations navigate their unique AI opportunities, focusing on AI strategy and operating models, employee-led innovation systems, workforce upskilling and reskilling, and people-centric innovation.

Ultimately, Alex brings clarity and confidence at a time of turbulence and change through his extensive experience and real world expertise.

“One of the world’s top experts on innovation”

Forbes

What Alex’s Clients Say



“Alex has a rare ability to challenge how leaders think — and do it in a way that inspires alignment, not defensiveness.”

ISO



“Listening to Alex Goryachev on AI was an eye-opening experience.”

Coca-Cola



“Our executive team left with clarity, urgency, and a shared vision for how to lead in the age of AI.”

Disney



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Sample Topics

Fearless Innovation in the Age of AI — People, Culture & Outcomes

Change is happening, fast. With it, comes fear and hesitation—but it doesn't have to be this way. Alex shares the bold, unique innovation opportunities that exist at every organization, yet are being overlooked. Centered on people and culture, not technology, Alex's perspective on innovation is the missing link to realizing AI's real benefits.

AI's Next Chapter: 5 Strategic Shifts Every Leader Must Make in 2025

Separating AI fact from fiction, Alex shares five critical changes that leaders must make if they're going to succeed in the AI era. Dispelling myths and delivering actionable strategies, audiences gain a structured roadmap for clear, effective AI innovation.

AI and the Future of Everything - Reimagining How We Live, Work, Learn & Play

Progress is accelerating at a pace we've never seen before. Even the near-term future can be hard to imagine. Alex offers a pragmatic, realistic understanding of where we're headed next and how it'll change the way we live, work, learn, and play, including the ethics and policy decisions ahead.

The AI Opportunity for You, Your Industry & Your Organization

Get expert answers to your AI questions, fully customized to you, your industry, or organization. Following a detailed intake and conversation, Alex tailors a keynote specifically for your unique scenario, drawing in research, real-world experience, and expert perspective for a masterclass in AI innovation.

Leadership in the Age of AI: The Practical Playbook

As leaders are pressured to adopt AI and struggle with the rapidly changing AI terrain, Alex speaks to leaders in their own language. Through real-world leadership perspectives and Forbes-recognized strategies, Alex helps leaders understand how to lead, and thrive, alongside AI.

Reimagining Work and Education: A New Social Contract for the AI Era

As education and business are disrupted by AI, Alex offers a keynote that combines practical knowledge, ethics, policy insights, and a brave new vision for a future influenced by AI. Students, educators, employees, and leaders alike gain an understanding into how work and education will be changed forever—and how to respond.

Bring Alex to your next event



Available for live or virtual engagements, book Alex for keynotes, workshops, webinars, and more.



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Recent Media & Publications

Select Media and Press

Entrepreneur



How Generative AI Is Revolutionizing the Travel Industry

Read



How Generative AI Is Completely Reshaping Education - Here's Why Leaders Can't Afford to Ignore It

Read



How to Become an AI-Centric Business (and Why It's Crucial for Long-Term Success)

Read



AI Will Radically Transform the Workplace — Here's How HR Teams Can Prepare for It

Read



How Corporate 'Intrapreneurs' Can Harness the Power of AI to Transform Their Businesses and Supercharge Their Careers

Read



To Achieve Sustainable Success, You Need to Stop Focusing on Disruption. Here's Why — and What To Focus on Instead.

Read





The Next Education Breakthrough Won't Be A Tool—It Will Be How We Communicate Across Generations

READ



The AI Knowledge Gap: Why Interns Should Be Teaching CEOs

READ



The AI Leadership Crisis: Are We Picking The Right Leaders For The AI Era?

READ



From Streaming TV To AI: Why Aren't Leaders Keeping Up?

READ

“One of the world’s top experts on innovation”

Forbes



Why school boards—not Silicon Valley—hold the key to America's AI readiness

READ



I dropped out to keep up—Students today shouldn't have to make that choice

READ

Stanford SOCIAL INNOVATION Review
Informing and inspiring leaders of social change

Innovating for a Higher Purpose

Explore new potentials for innovation as a driving force in the social sector.

READ

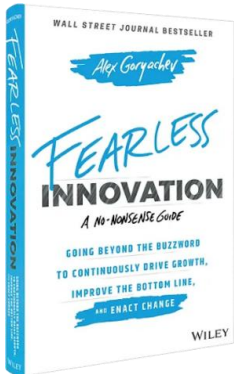
CEOWORLD Magazine

Why Disruptive Innovation is not the Answer

Pragmatic, rather than disruptive innovation, is what is driving companies forward.

READ

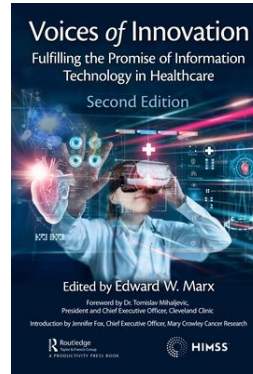
Books



Fearless Innovation

Is Innovation just an overused buzzword? A waste of time? A mere marketing ploy?

[READ](#)



Contributor

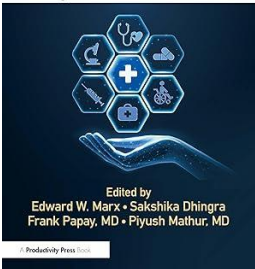
Voices of Innovation

Fulfilling the Promise of Information Technology in Healthcare

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Voices of Innovation in Healthcare Series 

Voices of Innovation – AI
Fulfilling the Promise of AI in Healthcare



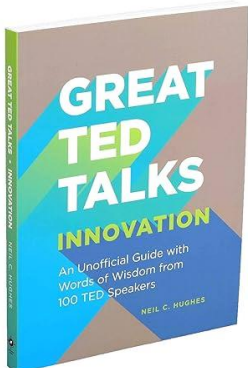
Contributor

Voices of Innovation - AI

Voices of Innovation in Healthcare

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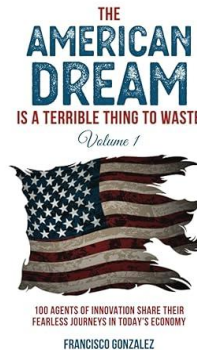
Notable Book Interviews and Mentions



Great TED Talks

Innovation: An Unofficial Guide with Words of Wisdom from 100 TED Speakers

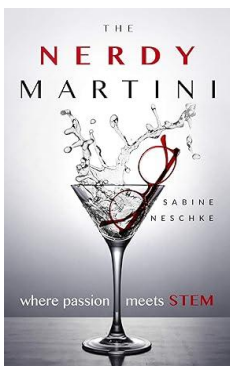
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The American Dream is a Terrible Thing to Waste

100 Agents Of Innovation Share Their Fearless Journeys In Today's Economy

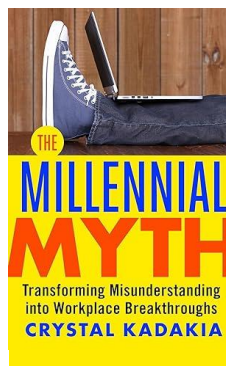
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The Nerdy Martini

Where Passion Meets STEM

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The Millennial Myth

Transforming Misunderstanding into Workplace Breakthroughs

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Stage Introduction

Joining us today [for keynote/session] is our special guest, Alex Goryachev who will be discussing [Name of the Topic].

Alex has been at the forefront of the digital revolution for years. Early in his career, he quickly saw AI's potential to transform businesses and industries. As such, he began to drive cutting edge innovation strategies, most notably during his time at Cisco, where he served as the Managing Director of Global Innovation Strategy and led many groundbreaking initiatives.

Beyond his corporate achievements, Alex is a connector of ideas, a mentor to startups, and the author of the critically acclaimed Fearless Innovation, a roadmap for navigating today's rapidly evolving innovation landscape

So, feel free to ask any questions that you might have after the session, and we will cover them in the Q&A. And now, let's welcome Alex Goryachev. Alex, the floor is yours.

Conference Brochure Introduction

Alex Goryachev is a globally recognized expert in AI-driven workplace transformation and a highly sought-after keynote speaker on innovation. A WSJ Bestselling author of Fearless Innovation: Going Beyond the Buzzword to Continuously Drive Growth, Improve the Bottom Line, and Enact Change, and a frequent contributor to Fast Company, Forbes, and Entrepreneur Magazine, Alex has held leadership roles at iconic brands like Cisco, IBM, Dell, and Pfizer.

As the former Managing Director and Global Head of Innovation Strategy at Cisco, he established innovation centers across five continents and led an award-winning employee innovation program that earned the company the title of Forbes' "#1 Best Place to Work for Innovators." He is also a key contributor to the global ISO Standards on Innovation, shaping the future of innovation. An Executive in Residence at Tulane University, Alex speaks to audiences worldwide and works with organizations to harness AI and innovation for strategic success.

“One of the world’s top experts on innovation”

Forbes

AV Requirements

- Wireless Style Lapel Microphone or Headset
- Projector and Screen
- Podium/Raiser for laptop (depending on engagements)
- Comfort monitor featuring both presentation and timing information
- Reliable Internet connection



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