

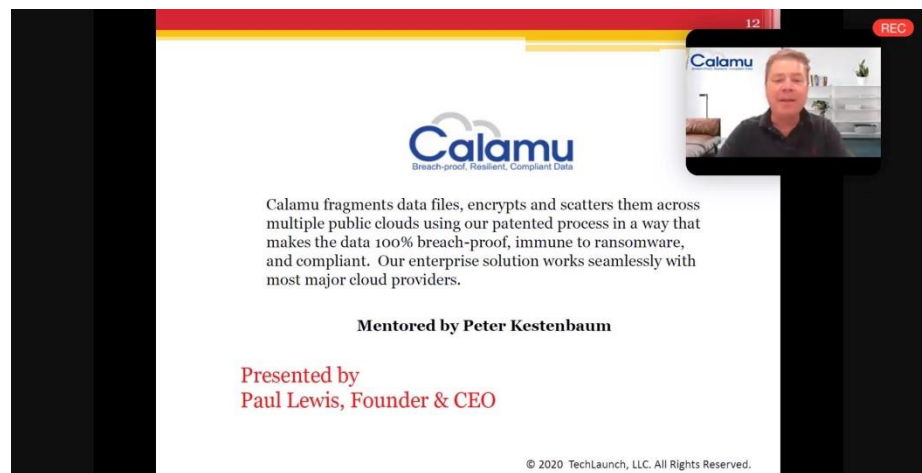


FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TechLaunch's Virtual BullPen #18 Confers Valuable Investor Panel Award to Data Protection Company, Calamu

Kinnelon, NJ, September 23, 2020: Last evening's TechLaunch BullPen #18 once again featured three distinctly engaging Presenting Companies vying for the prized Investor Award, which provides over \$15K of professional services donated by TechLaunch's generous sponsors (listed below). The Investor Award also comes with a guaranteed opportunity to pitch at an upcoming meeting of [Jumpstart NJ Angel Network](#) (the State's preeminent early-stage investor group) as well as a sought-after pitching slot at NJ's [Tech Council Ventures](#).

The Investor Award winner was the data protection company, [Calamu](#) with an impressive presentation by Founder & CEO, Paul Lewis. Calamu fragments data files, encrypts and scatters them across multiple public clouds using a patented process in a way that makes the data 100% breach-proof, immune to ransomware, and compliant. Their enterprise solution works seamlessly with most major cloud providers.



Commenting on his major win moments after, Paul Lewis stated, "As an entrepreneur, TechLaunch really helped me to perfect my pitch deck and tell my story. Long before the actual BullPen #18 event, the TechLaunch mentors coached me in ways that were invaluable. My company, Calamu was named the winner less than an hour ago and I already have several email inquiries and LinkedIn requests from potential investors! Thank you, TechLaunch!"

The other fine Presenters who made the voting process so tough were:

[TapArt](#) - the first graphic design marketplace exclusively for wall art, which empowers digital artists around the world to bring their designs to the user's door, ready to hang. The company handles the marketing and fulfillment of products, helping artists stay focused on what they do best while giving them a royalty on every purchase.

[Career.Place](#) - a subscription-based HR Tech startup which removes the bias, risk, and high costs of candidate screening. It accomplishes this by offering a blind candidate screening solution to promote diverse and efficient hiring.



Pictured from Left to Right: TL Senior Mentor/Host Robin Bear; Panelist Jill Johnson; Panelist Christine Caruso; TL Founder Mario Casabona; Panelist Jay Bhatti; TapArt Founder Srikaran Masabathula; Calamu Founder Paul Lewis; TL Senior Mentor Peter Kestenbaum; Career.Place CEO Melissa Dobbins

Mario Casabona, TechLaunch's Founder & Managing Director, observed, "Notwithstanding our preference for the face-to-face networking of the traditional BullPen experience, this – our 2nd all-virtual pitch event – has proven categorically that the quality of contenders has not only been sustained, it's actually increased. The caliber of Presenters last night was uniformly high, matched indeed by our terrific panel of Investor Judges and the exceptional guidance delivered by our peerless Senior Mentors. My hats off to all and onward to BullPen #19!"

BullPen #18 is grateful to last evening's illustrious Investor Panel who judged the presentations:

[Christine Caruso](#) – Advisory Services for Social Impact and Innovation

[Jay Bhatti](#) – Entrepreneur, Investor, and Co-founder of BrandProject LP, as well as Co-founder of spock.com.

[Jill Johnson](#) – Entrepreneurs, and Co-founder/CEO at Institute for Entrepreneurial Leadership (IFEL)

[Joanne Lin](#) - Principal at Newark Venture Partners

TechLaunch also appreciates the following sponsors for their generous support in the form of \$15K of advisory services to the Investor Panel winner, Calamu. They include:

- [Jumpstart NJ Angel Network](#) – a Mid-Atlantic region premier Angel group which invests in seed and early stage tech ventures.
- [Tech Council Ventures](#) - a NJ-based venture capital firm which targets all industries throughout the Mid-Atlantic, investing between \$500K to \$2.5M into that region's most promising growth companies.
- [Gibbons Law](#) - a leading law firm in New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Washington, DC, and Florida, ranked among the nation's top 200 by The American Lawyer Magazine.
- [Withum](#) – a nationally ranked public accounting firm providing advisory, tax and audit services to businesses and individuals on a local-to-global scale.
- [Gearhart Law](#) – a leading patent, trademark and copyright law firm that works directly with clients from entrepreneurial startups to global companies.
- [Casabona Ventures](#) – Invests in, mentors and advises early stage tech ventures.

Tech Startups who would like to pitch at the next BullPen #19, also planned as a virtual event and slated for December, 2020, should [APPLY](#) to be considered. Applications are screened on a rolling basis.

About TechLaunch: Formed in 2012 to drive the commercialization of emerging technology, TechLaunch has served over 100 tech focused companies and mentored over 200 aspiring entrepreneurs. Our focus is to screen, select and nurture early stage tech ventures to accelerate their growth opportunities via mentoring, coaching, networking, and providing access to resources and capital. Its core objective is to generate Quality Deal Flow for early stage investors and prepare entrepreneurs for the Investor presentation. To learn more please visit [TechLaunch](#). Any media inquiries should be directed to norma@techlaunch.com.

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