

Lak Ananth

Lak leads next47 and reports to Siemens' Chief Technology Officer. Prior to heading next47 he developed and built up the Hewlett Packard Pathfinder organization, bringing together innovation strategy, venture investments, acquisitions, and partnerships. Drawing on his experience in building up Pathfinder, he advised senior leaders on their digital strategies and how to shape the innovation agendas of their organizations. In recognition of his pioneering work, Global Corporate Venturing included him in the 2016 Top 25 Power List.

At HP, Lak was Vice President for strategy and corporate development and worked with the company's business group leaders. Those business groups had combined revenues of \$40+ billion in enterprise infrastructure, software, and services. Before joining HP, Lak worked in strategy and corporate development at Cisco Systems. There, he led multiple initiatives, including acquisitions, investments, joint ventures, and divestitures. Most notably, he was instrumental in the \$2.9 billion acquisition of Starent Networks (NASDAQ:STAR), the \$1.2 billion acquisition of Meraki, and investment in Control4 (NASDAQ:CTRL).

Prior to Cisco, Lak was a Kauffman Fellow, an elite venture investing group, and venture capital investor in Silicon Valley, where he invested in several companies such as Proofpoint (NASDAQ:PFPT), Jasper Wireless (acquired by Cisco for \$1.4 billion), and Open-Silicon. Earlier in his career, he was with 3i Private Equity in Asia, where he specialized in growth capital investments in North Asia and India, and formulated 3i's venture capital strategy throughout that region. He was also a Director with Cambridge Technology Partners in Silicon Valley, managing teams for clients ranging from startups to Fortune 50 companies.

Lak holds an MBA with distinction from INSEAD, an MS in Electrical Engineering from Kansas State University, and a BE from Guindy Engineering College, India, where he was a Gold Medalist.