



2008 Mentor

Michael J Eckert

Former CEO of The Weather Channel and of Pathfire, Inc.

Entrepreneur/Founder of this software/services business which provides digital delivery and asset management solutions to video content providers. As President and CEO repositioned the business plan and strategy from a cable TV focus to a broadcast TV focus. With a strong team of professionals built and then scaled the largest IP multicast distributed video delivery network to TV stations in the US market. Pathfire's software applications which drive the IP network became the industry standard for digital video delivery of Hollywood produced and distributed shows and movies to TV stations. Scaled the business to include customers in the TV news and video news release markets; and through partnerships, the ad delivery market. Raised capital which enabled the business to build its software and hardware based network, and to survive the economic slowdown of 2000-2002. Turned over, then hired and built a top-notch senior management team. Dramatically grew the number of customers and product offerings. As the business grew, scaled the operations/network management and software development sides of the business. Sold the company to DG Fast Channel in June of 2007.