



# KEIZAI SILICON VALLEY

## US - JAPAN BUSINESS FORUM

*Newsletter – Issue No. 284 – August 2020*

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LIVE WEBINAR

**How has COVID19 accelerated  
Digital Transformation?**

September 8, 2020  
5-6pm PST



DANIEL MICHALEK   KEN D. KUMAYAMA   VANESSA LIU   SAM WILEY



The digital transformations that were well under way for companies, governments, and education institutions all over the world before COVID-19 have been forced to adapt and accelerate those programs. In the first of two webinars, join our panel of Technology, Operations, and Strategy experts to learn about the opportunities and risks presented by digital transformation in the COVID-19 era.

Registration at [keizai.org](https://www.keizai.org)

**Vanessa Liu, Vice President, SAP.iO**



Vanessa is the Vice President of SAP.iO, the early stage venture arm of SAP which invests in and accelerates startups in enterprise technology. She oversees SAP.iO's North American Foundries which helps startups integrate with SAP solutions, collaborate with SAP customers, and become part of SAP's ecosystem of partners delivering the intelligent enterprise. Before SAP, Vanessa was the Chief Operating Officer at Trigger Media Group, a digital media incubator. In her role, she co-founded, incubated and oversaw business operations and strategic initiatives of Trigger's portfolio companies: InsideHook and Fevo.

**Daniel Michalek, Legal Operations, Veritas Technologies LLC**



Daniel advises the general counsel on operational strategy of the legal department and leads initiatives that oversee financial management, law firm and legal vendor management, tools and technology and learning and training. When he's not busy enforcing the department's billing guidelines or researching a new legal technology, Daniel can be found in the kitchen – he is an avid baker who designs beautiful decorated sugar cookies using various edible mediums.

**Ken D. Kumayama, Partner IP & Technology Cybersecurity & Privacy, Skadden**



Ken concentrates his practice on IP transactional matters and privacy. He represents clients in technology and commercial transactions relating to the ownership, protection and exploitation of intellectual property, including IP monetization strategies, development and license agreements, co-development agreements, pharmaceutical collaboration agreements, patent and other technology license agreements, trademark and copyright license agreements, and patent and other intellectual property asset sales and acquisitions. He also counsels clients in a broad range of industries on privacy-related matters.

**Sam Wiley (Moderator), Director of IP & Business Intelligence Solutions, VALUENEX**



Sam uses proprietary machine learning and predictive analytics technology to help companies make better innovation, financing, marketing, and strategic decisions, with a special focus on visualizing complicated technical data. Prior to VALUENEX, Sam was with CPA Global and Innography, working with clients to apply IP Intelligence to solve business problems as well as help companies deploy IP technology and best practices to align their IP operations with their business strategy.

# The Tech Industry and COVID-19: What's Up and What's Down?

*By Joe Quinlan*

One thing that has alleviated some of the pain of the COVID-19 crisis is that up till now the tech industry does not seem to have been hit as hard as the broader economy. There have been changes in the demand pattern for tech, but the overall effect seems to be a slight positive at the current time. To be sure consumer electronics, and specifically smart phones, have seen some decline in demand. But this seems to have been offset by increased tech demand originating from the ramp up of work-from-home, home schooling, and online retail. This has caused an increased investment in cloud data centers (hyperscale cloud) and communications infrastructure. COVID-19 has also caused companies to beef up their business continuity planning via automation and IoT. Finally, some areas of tech, like artificial intelligence, seem to be moving forward without any decline, since companies see investment in AI as indispensable for their future competitiveness. We invite you to join our September 8th live webinar to learn more about how COVID-19 is affecting the digital transformation. It promises to be a thought-provoking event.



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## Event Recap: Mobility Innovations (July 8, 2020)

*By Joe Quinlan*

Keizai Silicon Valley's first completely virtual event was a tremendous success, with 160 online attendees. The July 8<sup>th</sup> event covered the topic of innovations in mobility such as autonomous vehicles. Morgan Livermore of Geodesic Capital led off the evening with a discussion of current state of



autonomous vehicles. Morgan stated that globally 1.3 million people die in traffic accidents every year, with 1.2 million of those attributable to human error. So the opportunity for autonomous vehicles to save lives is large. As a result, mobility has grown to be 18% of all current VC funding. Risa Ishii of Plug and Play continued the evening, with observations such as that future GPS systems may take

you to the exact facility entrance and even the exact parking spot that you want. Also, autonomous vehicles may mean that for many people car ownership will be a thing of the past. Masahiro Suzuki of Autotech Ventures completed our panel presentations by focusing on the actual technology of autonomy itself. Autonomy consists of levels ranging from 0 to 5. Level 3 is where the machine starts to take the lead on control. From level 4 on, human support is not expected. A key issue becomes: How is it confirmed that both human and machine are ready for the human to machine transfer?

The group discussion brought up a number of interesting points:

- With the advent of autonomous vehicles, is society ready for machines killing people, even though the number of people killed would be much less than with human driving?
- In the current Covid-19 situation, personal vehicle usage is actually increasing, since people do not want to use public transportation.
- The reduced overall traffic during Covid-19 presents some opportunity for autonomous vehicle companies to test their technology, but actually the simple mapping of turning corners and the like is already solved, and what these companies really want to do is test their technology against cars running red lights and other unexpected events.

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