Entrepreneurial
Education Symposium

Ed Engler
Managing Partner – Pittsburgh Equity Partners

Ed Engler is Managing Partner at Pittsburgh Equity Partners and focuses on early stage investments in technology companies in the Western Pennsylvania region.

He has been an investor and entrepreneur in Western Pennsylvania for 15 years, having founded his own successful technology company, and has provided funding and guidance to early-stage companies through his venture capital fund.

Ed's experience at startup companies started in 1989 when he joined Transarc Corporation, a CMU spinout led by Alfred Spector, at its inception. Ed worked as a charter member of Transarc's consulting organization, managing Fortune 500 customer relationships, leading delivery teams and recruiting consultants. In 1994, Transarc was sold to IBM Corporation.

Ed founded Summa Technologies in 1996, creating and providing commercial-grade, customized IT applications for organizations of all sizes, from small entrepreneurial firms to Fortune 100 companies. In 2001, the Pittsburgh Business Times named Summa Technologies the fastest growing private company in Pittsburgh and Summa was among the region's fastest growing private companies for several years. In 2000, Ed founded Summa VentureWorks to fund seed-stage, start-up companies in the enterprise software market. Summa VentureWorks is now one of the top 25 venture capital firms in western Pennsylvania.

He has invested in more than 10 start-up companies in the past decade. He also provides strategic guidance and support as a Director for several of those companies, including JumpStart Wireless, mSpoke, Brainstage and Summa Technologies.

He is also active in the Western Pennsylvania community, serving as Director for Bike Pittsburgh and lending guidance and support to other CEOs through his participation in Vistage, a CEO networking and support organization. He frequently serves as a panelist and speaker at local business and venture capital events.

Ed has a Bachelor's degree in Applied Mathematics/Computer Science from Carnegie Mellon University and has completed the Entrepreneurial Management Program at CMU's Tepper School of Business.

Ed and his family live in Pittsburgh's northern suburbs.