



Celebrating 10 Years With CCOE's OGs



Eric “The Innovator” Basu, President & CEO, Haiku

“The growth in the cybersecurity sector in San Diego has been nothing short of amazing. The CCOE, under the leadership of Ken Slaght, Lisa Easterly, Pat Sullivan and Kris Virtue has helped to both promote that growth as well as provide resources to the community to help them deal with the ever growing cyber threats. I’ve been honored to be part of this.”



Kevin “The Voice” Dinino, President, KCD PR

“It's been a pleasure for KCD PR to work closely with CCOE these past 10 years and seeing the fruits of our partnership transform. **CCOE and KCD PR have built a communications and social media program from the ground up and now produce an award-winning podcast in Cyber Insiders.**”

Greg “The Mountain Mover” Geisen, Revitalization Project Manager, NAVWAR

“In 10 years, NAVWAR’s Federal budget has grown from \$7 billion to \$11 billion and our workforce has grown from 10k to nearly 12k worldwide. Cyber capabilities and Cybersecurity have dominated every facet of naval warfare and has become a critical facet of every mission. In San Diego, the Navy relies now more than ever on our university and industry partners to keep us ahead of our adversaries in cyberspace. **Partnering with CCOE strengthens those important relationships and helps cultivate tomorrow’s cyber warriors.**”



Jesse “Big Picture” Gipe, Pacific-South Regional Director, NSIN

“**CCOE was founded when the White House debated whether cybersecurity was one word or two. Ten years later, we at least know that answer.** More importantly, cybersecurity and the importance of the workforce that enables it have become widely acknowledged as a vital national security asset and driver of economic growth. It has been amazing to watch the impact CCOE has had in this region and, through that work, on similar-minded organizations across the globe.”





Sai “Big Ideas” Huda, Founder & CEO, CyberCatch

“CCOE is a unique world-class organization delivering amazing value in multiple fronts dedicated to cyber excellence. I am honored to be a founding board member, and very much look forward to CCOE’s continuing success and contributions to grow the cyber economy to the next level.”

Chad “Get It Done” Nelley, Founder, Nelley Consulting

“As we stand here 10 years later, it is amazing to see how far the CCOE community has pushed the original agenda forward while morphing and molding the organization into the economic development powerhouse it is today for San Diego's vibrant Cybersecurity ecosystem. Over the last 10 years we have seen San Diego's cyber economy grow substantially and CCOE, in coalition with the partnerships that Lisa Easterly and her team have developed, has led the way in connecting far more than the original "dots" identified. **I'm immensely proud and humbled to have been a part of it for the last 10 years.**”



Victor “The Anchor” Ramsauer,
President & Shareholder, LevitZacks

“I’m honored to be part of the CCOE team since the very beginning. **Together with industry, academic and government partners, we’ve helped San Diego’s Cyber industry growth from 100 to 1,000 cyber businesses in the past decade.** Here’s to our next 10 years!”



Jim “The Great Convener” Skeen, Founder,
Lockton San Diego

“In 2014, a group of volunteer leaders came together to address the growing threat in Cybersecurity and to make a sustained difference by building a community asset focused on workforce development. **We are a well led team comprised of a broad range of professionals, colleagues and friends. All aligned on vision, mission and purpose.** While proud of our accomplishments, we are focused on the future and the vigilance required to keep our community resilient and prosperous.”





RADM Ken “The Godfather” Slaght, Emeritus Founding Chairman & President, CCOE

“Cybersecurity impacts everyone and San Diego has the opportunity to lead the way to a more secure future.”

Pat “The Visionary” Sullivan, CCOE Co-Chairman

“It has been great to see the growth of cybersecurity companies in the region since we started CCOE. We have clearly developed a forum to create partnerships across business, academia, and government that has highlighted opportunity and activated these partnerships to grow our regional economy.”



Kris “The Strategist” Virtue, Vice President, Cybersecurity, QUALCOMM

“Throughout the last decade, I’ve had the privilege of actively engaging with the San Diego Cyber Center of Excellence. **This remarkable organization has played a pivotal role in bolstering cybersecurity across our region.** By fostering robust partnerships within our diverse ecosystem, it effectively bridges the gap between government, academia, and industry. As a result, our collective cybersecurity expertise and capabilities have flourished.”



Dr. Scott “130+ Patents & Counting” Zoldi, Chief Analytics Officer, FICO

“Over the last decade, we have observed an ever-increasing sophistication of AI-based cyber-attacks launched against businesses and consumers. The best defense is to combat utilizing AI-based defensive technologies, and **through the work of CCOE we enable broad collaboration in the adoption and use of defensive AI.**”

