

# Dr. Avi S. Katz

GigCapital Global | Founding Managing Member

Founder, CEO & Chairman • Philanthropist • Serial Entrepreneur • Deep Tech Investor

Ph.D. Materials Science, Technion, IIT, Israel

## CAREER OVERVIEW

Dr. Avi Katz, a philanthropist and high-tech serial entrepreneur, launched his professional life as a commissioned naval officer in the Israeli Navy, where he developed the technical discipline and strategic instincts that would define his career. He went on to join the technical staff at AT&T Bell Laboratories, Murray Hill, NJ, in 1988 where he spent six years working at the frontier of applied science and technology, building a body of more than 70 patents and over 350 published scientific and technical works. In 2007, after serving 10 years as executive in high-tech private and public corporates, he founded GigOptix, a fabless semiconductor company, taking it public on a reverse-merge in 2008 initially on the OTC-BB exchange and eventually in 2011 up-listed it into the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE GIG). Over the next decade he drove its growth through intensive organic development augmented by ten strategic acquisitions of lead companies across the globe, assembling a portfolio of technology and intellectual property that attracted attention of numerous prospective corporate acquirers including Integrated Device Technology (NYSE IDTI), which eventually acquired the company in cash in 2017 for \$250 million, before being sold in 2019 to the Japanese Renesas for about \$6.7 billion dollars.

In 2017, following the sale of GigOptix, that was renamed as GigPeak a few years earlier, he launched GigCapital Global (GIG) enterprise, a Private-to-Public Equity (PPE), using the Special-Purpose-Acquisition-Company (SPAC) methodology platform for taking high-potential late-stage private companies into the public market. He deployed his unique Mentor-Investor™ Methodology using the reverse-merge model of advanced differentiating high-tech companies into the “blank-check” GIG “shelf” platforms, which he deployed successfully as an operator in the previous 20 years, to successfully prepare them for and steer them through the IPO process, and then most importantly actively work with these companies over the following years post the IPO in building them as successful public companies on the National Exchanges (Nasdaq and NYSE). He has since attracted over \$7.5 billion over the life span of nine vehicles on Nasdaq and NYSE through the IPO process, deSPACs and follow-up funding. The GIG underlying portfolio of companies has generated public shareholders value over three billion dollars in both exit M&A sales and trading enterprise value. He served as the Founder, Executive Chairman and CEO of all the GigCapital PPEs, and currently serves as CEO and Executive Chairman of GigCapital7 Corp (Nasdaq GIG), GigCapital8 Corp (Nasdaq GIW), GigCapital9 Corp (Nasdaq GIX) and Executive Chairman of Hadron Energy Inc (Nasdaq HDRN).

Beyond his high-tech business career spanning almost 40 years and serving as Chairman of all the GigCapital PPEs and its deSPACed public companies, he is a global active philanthropist, with most of his activities being focused in Israel, Romania and the USA, and serves also as a member of the board of the New York Philharmonic. He has four children and eight grandchildren living in the USA and Israel, which he labors to maximize quality time with them all.



**2011**  
GigOptix IPO \$120M

**2017**  
GigOptix/GigPeak sold to IDT \$250M

**2017 - 2026**  
IPO of 9 PPEs/SPACs for total >\$2.5B

**2021**  
Acquired mGage from Blackstone by Kaleyra \$225M

**2023**  
Kaleyra ▶ Tata Communications \$350M

IGI ▶ Belmar Pharma \$56M

**2024**  
Cloudbreak Health ▶ GTCR \$180M

**2026**  
HDRN IPO by GigCapital7 >\$600M  
and funded the deSPAC >\$30M

## PUBLICATIONS, PATENTS & INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

- Author and co-author of 350+ scientific and technical articles in reputable journals
- Holder of 70+ U.S. and international patents
- Editor of multiple technical books

## EDUCATION

- Ph.D. Materials Science, Technion, IIT, Israel
- Israeli Naval Academy — Class of 1976
- U.S. Naval ASW School — Class of 1979

## BOARD MEMBERSHIPS & AFFILIATIONS

- Board Member, New York Philharmonic
- Angel investor across numerous global high-tech companies
- Global philanthropist
- Executive Chairman of the Board of all GigCapital entities