



**LOOKING BEYOND THE
PANDEMIC: *THE FINANCIAL
AND ECONOMIC IMPACT TO
BUSINESSES***

Oct. 12, 2021



SPEAKING WITH YOU TODAY

Moderator



Anant Patel
Partner
GHJ

Panelist



Ross DeVol
President and CEO
Heartland Forward

Panelist



Angie Timm
CFO
Fed Up Foods

Panelist



Thomas Beer
CEO
SSF Imported Auto Parts LLC



October 12, 2021

SPEAKER BIOS



WE ARE AN INDEPENDENT MEMBER OF
THE GLOBAL ADVISORY
AND ACCOUNTING NETWORK

ANANT PATEL PARTNER, GHJ

Anant Patel, CPA, has over 25 years of public accounting experience and leads both the Firm's Advisory Services Practice and Transaction Advisory Services Practice and is a member of the Executive Committee for GHJ. He advises in the area of mergers and acquisitions and provides financial due diligence consulting such as quality of earnings, working capital analysis, EBITDA analysis and projections and deal structuring. Anant has assisted on deals ranging from \$20 million to \$750 million and is a Certified Merger & Acquisition Advisor (CM&AA).

He provides audit and accounting, tax and general business consulting services. His industry experience includes closely held companies in food and beverage, entertainment, media and technology, manufacturing, wholesale/distribution, consumer products and real estate. Many of Anant's clients are owned by Private Equity Groups, VCs and institutional investors.

Additionally, Anant is the Global Chair of the HLB's (the world-wide accounting network GHJ is a member of) Transaction Advisory Group. He also currently serves on the Board of Directors and is the Chairman of the Board of Step Up on Second. Due to his impact on the community and accounting industry, Anant was recognized as a 2018 and 2019 "Most Influential Private Equity Investors and Advisors," a 2018-2020 "Most Influential Minority CPA," a 2019-2020 "Leader of Influence in Private Equity Advisory" and multiple times as a "Top 40 in 40s" by the *Los Angeles Business Journal*.

Prior to joining GHJ in 2000, Anant worked for six years at a national accounting firm, which was a member of HLB and located in England. He graduated, with honors, from the University of Leeds, England, where he received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Accounting. Anant is a member of the California Society of CPAs and the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

Anant previously owned and managed a number of family-owned retail businesses. Anant and his family reside in Valencia located in Santa Clarita. Anant is an avid sports fan, especially soccer, and enjoys a wide variety of music.



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RELATED INDUSTRIES AND SERVICES

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- Entertainment and Media
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- Forensic Consulting
- Forensic Accounting
- International
- M&A Advisory and Due Diligence
- Real Estate



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ROSS DEVOL

PRESIDENT AND CEO, HEARTLAND FORWARD

Ross DeVol is president and CEO, Heartland Forward. Heartland Forward's goal is to promote regional innovation and entrepreneurial ecosystems that foster job creation, wage gains, health and wellbeing and economic growth for the American Heartland. Heartland Forward pursues its mission through independent, data-driven research, action-oriented convenings, such as the Heartland Summit, and impactful policy recommendations and programs such as "Connecting the Heartland." Heartland Forward works with universities, colleges, the business community, economic development officials, public policy leaders and philanthropy to analyze resources supporting the startup community and identify workforce and talent gaps.

DeVol has raised the profile of Heartland Forward through media engagement with quotes in the *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Economist* and *Axios* and op-eds in the *Dallas Morning News*, *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel* and *Des Moines Register* as well as TV appearances throughout the heartland.

DeVol is former chief research officer for the Milken Institute where he spent nearly 20 years, an economic think tank headquartered in California. He oversaw research on international, national and comparative regional growth performance; access to capital and its role in economic growth and job creation; and health-related topics. He has been ranked among the "Superstars of Think Tank Scholars" by *International Economy* magazine.



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RELATED INDUSTRIES AND SERVICES

- Economic Growth
- Health and Wellness
- Philanthropy

ANGIE TIMM

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER, FED UP FOODS

Angie Timm currently works as the Chief Financial Officer for Fed Up Foods, PBC having joined the Leadership Team in 2019.

Prior to Fed Up, Angie led finance and operations for multiple private label companies and retail brands including Commonwealth Dairy, Charter Baking and ForesTrade.

Angie has a Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration and Management from Rutgers University, is an IRS certified Enrolled Agent and earned SHRM-CP certification.



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RELATED INDUSTRIES AND SERVICES

- Finance
- Food and Beverage

THOMAS BEER

CEO AND CO-OWNER, SSF IMPORTED AUTO PARTS LLC

Thomas Beer, SSF, joined SSF in 2012 as CEO and co-owner. SSF is the leading Importer and Wholesale Distributor for replacement car parts for European vehicles with eight warehouses on both coasts.

Prior to SSF, Thomas was CEO for IMC from 2004 to 2011. IMC is another import specialist WD, specializing in European and Asian vehicles.

Thomas' career started in the airline industry with Lufthansa in Frankfurt before managing a specialty tour operator. He gained his early experience in supply chain management as CEO and co-owner of a specialty industry "postal" service for the German travel industry before relocating to the U.S. in 2001.

He lives with his wife and youngest of four boys in San Francisco.



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RELATED INDUSTRIES AND SERVICES

- Automobiles
- Importing and Distributing
- International Business
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