



Douglas Kato

**Founder,
Roots Holding, Inc.**

Business Experience

Douglas Kato is the Founder of Roots Holding, Inc. where he developed technologies that eventually became a revolutionary Social Fundraising Platform that serves in growing local communities together. Prior to Roots, Douglas was the co-founder of Qmania®, Inc., where he sought to develop a service that, plugging into the growing smartphone market, would grow users while saving consumers, retailers, and producers money. Before Qmania, Mr. Kato founded Up Above Records in 1995. As the music industry began shuttering vinyl manufacturing plants in the early 2000s, Mr Kato recognized the fallow land of vinyl record sales, rebirthing it to a \$30MM annum business via Up Above and its associated Barefoot Distribution, serving the vinyl needs. Barefoot Distribution, Inc. has for the past 15 years assisted in bringing over 500 companies and brands to an international market in Asia. Mr. Kato's fierce entrepreneurialism and keen sensibilities has made him a driving force in bettering and refining services and products for the past twenty+ years.

Personal

Douglas has been married to his wife Kaori for 19 years and has two teenage children. He enjoys traveling, eating, and spending time with his family and friends.

Education & Certifications

Bachelor of Science, Business in Marketing,

University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA 2000

Special Emphasis, International Marketing,

Waseda University, Tokyo, Japan