

Dinesh C. Patel, Ph.D.

Managing Director,
vSpring Capital



Dr. Patel is a Managing Director and Founding Partner of vSpring Capital, an early-stage venture capital fund with \$200 million under management.

Dr. Patel was the Founder, Chairman, President & CEO of Ashni Naturaceuticals, Inc., a company that specializes in the research, development and marketing of clinically tested and patent-protected naturaceutical products from 1999 to 2004. In 1999, Dr. Patel co-founded and was the Chairman of Salus Therapeutics, Inc., a biotechnology company focused on the research and development of nucleic acid-based therapeutics, including antisense and gene therapy drugs. In August 2003 publicly traded Genta, Inc. acquired Salus for \$30 million. From 1985 – 1999, Dr. Patel served as Co-founder, Chairman of The Board of Directors, President & CEO of TheraTech, Inc., a Salt Lake City, Utah based company that has been a pioneer in the development and manufacturing of innovative drug delivery products. TheraTech went public in 1992 and became profitable in 1997. In January 1999, TheraTech was acquired for approximately \$350 million by Watson Pharmaceuticals, a California based company.

Dr. Patel has been the recipient of numerous awards including; The 2006 Utah Technology Council Hall of Fame, 2006 Pathfinder Award - Edison Showcase University of Utah, 2006 Ellis Island Medal of Honor, Utah Asian Chamber of Commerce Outstanding Business Award, US Small Business Administration's Business Achiever Award, Scientific and Technology Award (State of Utah), Entrepreneur of the Year Award (Mountain West Venture Group) and Scientific and Technology Development Pioneer of Progress Award to name just a few.

Dr. Patel served as co-chair of Governor Huntsman's transition team and is currently on the board of the Utah Policy Partnership (UPP). Dr. Patel was recently appointed the Chairman of the USTAR Governing Authority board.

Born and raised in Zambia, Africa, Dr. Patel got his undergraduate degree from India and his doctorate degree from University of Michigan. Dr. Patel along with his wife Kalpana and children, Ashish and Avni, reside in Salt Lake City, Utah. Dr. Patel is active in the Indian and local community serving on several boards and is an active donor for various charitable causes.