

Marzio Pozzuoli, RuggedCom founder, joins Ryerson University as entrepreneur-in-residence

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Pozzuoli brings real-world entrepreneurial experience and mentorship to students in the Faculty of Engineering and Architectural Science and to the Centre for Urban Energy

TORONTO, February 6, 2013 --- Marzio Pozzuoli, founder and former president and chief executive officer of RuggedCom Inc., has been appointed entrepreneur-in-residence at the Faculty of Engineering and Architectural Science (FEAS) at Ryerson University.

A graduate of Ryerson's electrical engineering program in 1987, Pozzuoli is a successful entrepreneur, having recently sold his company to Siemens. Pozzuoli founded RuggedCom more than 10 years ago after he saw a gap in the marketplace for communications equipment capable of being placed in harsh outdoor and industrial environments.

"Ryerson University is proud to welcome Marzio Pozzuoli *back* to campus," said John Isbister, interim provost and vice president academic. "A Ryerson alumnus and one of Canada's most successful cleantech entrepreneurs, his appointment reflects the excellence in research and innovation currently being fueled by Ryerson students and faculty."

"We are delighted that Marzio will be joining us as an entrepreneur-in-residence," said Mohamed Lachemi, dean of FEAS. "Marzio is an outstanding example of how far education and determination can take you. He will be an excellent role model and mentor for our students."

In his new role, Pozzuoli will advise FEAS students on their entrepreneurial activities and deliver guest lectures on entrepreneurship at various university events. He will also mentor budding entrepreneurs in the Centre for Urban Energy's (CUE) newly launched business incubator and accelerator known as the i-CUE.

In addition, Pozzuoli will work with CUE to establish an investment fund for start-up businesses focused on intelligent infrastructure, such as smart grid, transportation and water systems. He will serve on the fund's investment committee and play a crucial role in getting participation from entrepreneurs, high-net worth individuals, corporations and financial institutions.

"We are very fortunate to have the expertise that Marzio will bring to the table," said Dan McGillivray, executive director of CUE. "He will be a great resource for the companies currently being incubated in the i-CUE as well as recruiting investors for the intelligent infrastructure fund."

"I look forward to working with Ryerson University," said Pozzuoli. "I hope to inspire more entrepreneurs and investors to get involved in the exciting and profitable energy industry."

Pozzuoli will reside at CUE during this one-year appointment. For more information, contact Karen Parucha at [kparucha\[at\]ryerson.ca](mailto:kparucha@ryerson.ca).