

**CloviTek**

CLOVITEK · FOUNDER

# Founder Story

Vitaly Kirkpatrick — orphanage to America to an award-winning hardware shipper to an AI platform factory. A 20-year arc.



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**Honesty notice:** CloviTek is pre-revenue. Forward figures are labeled PROJECTION; cost figures MODEL/MEASURED.

## Vitaly Kirkpatrick (formerly Vitaliy Mahidov)

"I am a simple man with complex ambitions." — Lassonde Entrepreneur Institute, 2017

- Ukraine-born; grew up in an orphanage and foster care until 18. Arrived in the US in **2005** with minimal resources (accounts say \$1–\$3 in his pocket).
- BS Electronics/Electrical Engineering (Chernivtsi State National University, 2002); **BS Computer Science, Utah Valley University, 2009**; **MBA, University of Utah, 2016**.

## The first product — CloviFi

A Wi-Fi/Bluetooth HD audio transmitter that streams TV audio to phones and headphones at a personalized volume (RCA, 3.5mm, optical, HDMI inputs; 24-bit Wi-Fi audio; proprietary multi-user streaming; PSAP assisted-listening; iOS + Android apps; ~\$99–\$150 MSRP). The idea was conceived at **24 Hour Fitness** — wanting to keep hearing a gym TV while moving between machines.

"More than 360 million people around the world have disabling hearing loss with limited solutions at affordable prices." — Vitaly, 2017. The mission was accessibility, not just convenience. Built out of the University of Utah's Lassonde Entrepreneur Institute.

## Awards & recognition (heritage — prior hardware venture)

Recognition	Detail
CES 2018 Innovation Awards	<b>Honoree</b> , High-Performance Home Audio & Video (NOT "Best of Innovation")
Commercial Integrator BEST Award	Audio Distribution Systems, announced at InfoComm 2018
Exhibited	CES 2018, InfoComm 2018, CES 2019 (Eureka Park)

## Press coverage (verified)

audioXpress (CES honoree list + "impresses at InfoComm 2018"), **Sound & Vision** ("CloviFi Solves the Headphone Listening Dilemma"), PRNewswire (BEST Award), Geek News Central (CES booth interviews), Salt Lake Tribune, Residential Systems.

## Honest later milestones

- **SEC Form D (Feb 2020):** filed to raise up to **\$1M** equity. CIK 0001802262. (Amount sold at filing was \$0; "filed to raise up to \$1M," never "raised \$1M.")
- **~2022:** hardware operations ceased (COVID + funding constraints) — the lesson that reshaped the company.
- **2026:** relaunched as CloviTek, an AI SaaS platform engine.

**Why investors care:** a proven, award-validated shipper (not a first-timer); an authentic, sympathetic "why"; a clear-eyed lesson from the hardware era; and a defensible thesis — the factory + integrated stack as the moat.

The CES 2018 / InfoComm 2018 awards belong to the hardware entity (CloviTek Inc.) and are presented as founder heritage/credibility, not as awards of the current AI platform. Memoir-grade credibility, verified from clovitek\_media\_kb.md and the Investor Portal Plan.