

Ottawa Business Journal has named Giatec as a tech-firm-to-watch in 2019.

"There's no industry more physical than concrete, and Giatec Scientific has become one of Ottawa's fastest-growing companies by disrupting the sector's foundations through its embedded sensors. Giatec's devices can communicate with a project manager's smartphone to relay real-time data about a concrete installation's structural integrity.

Though the 40-person firm has been growing at an impressive clip on its own as of late, it's the addition of Ottawa tech veteran Paul Loucks that has us the most intrigued. Loucks took over the CEO role from co-founder Aali Alizadeh in late 2018, stepping back into the limelight for the first time since departing Ottawa's Halogen Software in 2015.

Named OBJ's CEO of the Year in 2013, Loucks earned acclaim for his decade and a half of work at Halogen, during which he brought the HR management software firm from obscurity to publicly traded powerhouse.

While the new chief may have made his name in software, he told OBJ he's "super excited" to dig into IoT, adding that certain business fundamentals such as decision-making speed carry over between sectors. Loucks also left the door open to raising Giatec's first round of venture capital."

Read the full article [here](#).