Ross is Director, Strategic Investments for Presidio Ventures’ Boston Office. His interests include network infrastructure, data storage, security, enterprise software, digital advertising, and mobility. Ross divides time between new business development in Japan for promising western startups and the pursuit of strategic equity investments. Since joining in 1997, Ross established dozens of such partnerships and several successful investment outcomes. A Japanese speaker, Ross holds a BA in International Relations from Tufts University. Prior to Presidio, Ross spent time living and working in Japan. In his spare time, Ross practices karate, skiing and disk golf.

1. Do many popular ideas start in Japan and then after some time get adopted in the US or vice versa?
2. Is the startup experience and company culture for a startup similar between the US and Japan? Have you found that startup tactics and advice that work well in the US have translated to Japan or is it a completely different game? If they're different, which do you find more appealing?
3. What are the challenges arising from different regulatory environments with respect to Japan and the US?
4. With certain Asian countries lacking ethnic diversity such as Japan would this make it easier to penetrate the market or does it make it more difficult to attract new consumers? Also how do you see the gaming industry developing in Japan ; do you see arcade, mobile, pc, or console gaming increasing more?
5. Do you see differences in how various cultures interact with data? If so, what do you view as the pros and cons of these differences and how do they impact your investment decisions?
6. I'd like Ross's opinion of the Japanese firm SoftBank which run the world's largest technology fund.
7. Where does FAANG (facebook, amazon, apple, Netflix, google) go in 2019? the growth over the last 2 years is enormous, predicatively, does in his opinion FAANG investments are a safe bet in 2019/2020?