



US
Emerging
Manager
Institute

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Technology & AI for Emerging Managers

Key Takeaways from the US Emerging Manager Institute 2025 Summit

Panelists



Rodney Reisdorf
CEO & Co-Founder, **Verivend**



Max Leykin
Chief Data Science Officer, **Sandbrook Capital**



James Thomas
Chief AI Officer, **ContractPodAI**



Peter Rosenstein
Chief Product Officer, **Gen II**

Moderator



Ed Stubbings
Founder, **US Emerging Manager Institute**

Private Markets Technology is Still in the **Early Innings**

The consensus across the panel was clear: private markets are still in the **first inning** of true technology and AI adoption.

Despite allocating capital into some of the most innovative companies in the world, **many firms continue to run their operations using 19th-century processes:**

spreadsheets, email, PDFs, and manual bank details exchanged over unsecure channels.

As Rodney Reisdorf put it:



“The private markets are a really contradictory industry. You’ve got asset managers investing in the most cutting-edge, high-growth businesses, but the way they’re running their firm and their fund operations is from the 19th century.”

The opportunity for Emerging Managers is to **skip the legacy phase** and build on modern rails from day one.

LP Expectations Have Moved **Faster** Than GP Infrastructure

The panel agreed that technology is no longer a “nice-to-have” for LPs, **it’s part of the investment decision**. LPs increasingly expect:

- A professional, digital-first onboarding experience
- A single, secure environment to commit, sign, and fund
- Timely, self-serve access to key data points
- Fewer emails, fewer attachments, less friction

First impressions matter. For Emerging Managers, **your operating model is now part of your pitch**.

“The last thing you want to do is lead off with a bad first impression to your LPs... If it’s just a bunch of emails and PDFs and spreadsheets going back and forth, that’s going to quickly erode trust from your LP base, and there goes your investable capital.”

Where AI is Creating Real Value Today

The discussion surfaced two practical dimensions of AI for managers:

AI for decision-making and judgment

- Accelerated deal screening and diligence
- Automated DDQ and document analysis
- The ability to “look under the materiality threshold” without adding headcount

AI for process and operations

- Normalizing and connecting data across teams (deal, IR, finance, ops)
- Reducing time spent on reporting, reconciliations, and manual data prep
- Enabling more work with leaner teams

However, all panelists stressed the same constraint:

AI is limited by the quality and structure of your data.

“Like the old adage goes, garbage in, garbage out... Get yourself audit ready before you need to be audited and also get yourself AI ready so that you’ve got a really good cohesive structured data set that AI can interpret and really help you with.”

-Rodney Reisdorf

What Emerging Managers Should Do **Now**

Two practical themes emerged for managers across Fund I, Fund II, and independent sponsor models:

1

Invest in technology earlier than feels comfortable.

Waiting until Fund III or a “critical mass” of LPs often leads to painful cleanup, inconsistent histories, and an operational drag that LPs can feel.

2

Choose partners that match your current stage and who will scale with you.

Not every firm needs a global, enterprise-priced solution on Day One. The key is to pick partners that are right-sized now and can grow with you.

“Find partners that are going to meet you where you are today but also be able to scale with you.”

– Rodney Reisdorf

How Verivend Enables Emerging Managers

Verivend was built on a simple, but bold premise:

“Why wasn’t there a payments platform that was purpose-built for the private markets? Why wasn’t there something like Venmo or PayPal where GPs could easily raise and deploy capital, and LPs could easily fund their commitments without everyone operating in 19th-century processes and un-securely exchanging bank account information?” – Rodney Reisdorf

Today, Verivend delivers an **end-to-end, payments-powered operating platform** for GPs:

From Launch Through Liquidity

- Launch **Funds, SPVs, Syndications, and Co-Invests** on a single platform
- Configure digital subscription experiences for each vehicle
- Guide each LP only to the fields they need to complete based on their profile
- Execute commitments, signatures, and capital calls in one seamless workflow
- Digitally manage distributions and fund flows, purpose-built for private markets

How Verivend Enables Emerging Managers

A Unified Platform for Deal, IR, and Finance

Rodney described Verivend's guiding principle:

“What if there was a place where your deal team could work, your IR team could work, where your transactional reporting could work, that all feeds into ongoing LP reporting and the general ledger...”

What if there was just an entire throughput platform where it was one office, and all of that data from your deal team, your IR team, and your financial reporting could live?

We're moving that from a 'what if' to a 'right now.'”

With Verivend, Emerging Managers can:

- Eliminate artificial “front / middle / back office” divides
- Centralize the data that powers AI, reporting, and investor communications
- Become both **audit ready** and **AI ready** far earlier in their lifecycle

3 Questions to Ask About Your Current Fund Ops Stack

1

Investor Experience

Can an LP discover the opportunity, subscribe, sign, and fund in one seamless, secure experience, or are they still moving between emails, PDFs, and portals?

2

Data & AI Readiness

Is your key data (investor, deal, capital flows, reporting) structured and normalized, or is it trapped in spreadsheets and shared drives that AI tools can't reliably use?

3

Scalability from SPV #1 to Fund III

If you doubled the number of LPs and vehicles you manage, would your current tools and processes scale without adding disproportionate headcount or operational risk?

From Reporting Burden to Real-Time Insights

The panel's forward-looking view was less about replacing people and more about **elevating their work**. Rodney's perspective on where this goes over the coming years:

“It's going to take firm operations from people just being buried in reports, spreadsheets, and analytics and models to having all that data readily available for both the GP and the LPs at their fingertips, when and how they want it.”

Managers who set their data and payments infrastructure correctly now will be best positioned to deliver that experience to LPs tomorrow.

[See How Verivend Supports Emerging Managers](#)

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