

Synacor, Inc.  
Form DFAN14A  
April 06, 2015

**UNITED STATES**

**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

**Washington, D.C. 20549**

**SCHEDULE 14A**

**(Rule 14a-101)**

**INFORMATION REQUIRED IN PROXY STATEMENT**

**SCHEDULE 14A INFORMATION**

**Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

Filed by the Registrant

Filed by a Party other than the Registrant

Check the appropriate box:

Preliminary Proxy Statement

**Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))**

Definitive Proxy Statement

Definitive Additional Materials

Soliciting Material Pursuant to § 240.14a-12

**SYNACOR, INC.**

**(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)**

JEC Capital Partners, LLC

JEC II Associates, LLC

K. Peter Heiland

Ratio Capital Management B.V.

Ratio Capital Partners

Dilip Singh

Jeff Misthal

Scott Williams

**(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if other than the Registrant)**

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

No fee required

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(2) Aggregate number of securities to which transaction applies:

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On April 6, 2015, representatives of JEC Capital Partners, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company (“JEC”) and Ratio Capital Management, B.V., a private limited liability company under the laws of the Netherlands (“Ratio”), and Scott Williams, Jeff Misthal, and Dilip Singh presented the information contained in the following presentation to Institutional Shareholder Services, Inc.

Concerned Stockholders of Synacor April, 2015 Enhancing Stockholder Value at Synacor, Inc. 1 R ATIO C APITAL  
M ANAGEMENT

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• Why we each invested in Synacor • What happened after we invested in Synacor Why we Invested in Synacor  
Reasons Change Is Warranted Our Platform & Nominees • Poor stock performance • Poor business performance • Track  
record of poor acquisitions and poor capital allocation decisions • Poor corporate governance • We are seeking 3 seats  
out of 7 on the Synacor Board . • All 3 of the nominees are independent of JEC and Ratio • Now is the time for change •  
Our nominees are ready to create value 3 Table of Contents

Why we invested in Synacor 4



Why we invested in Synacor (1) 5 2012 2013 2014 o JEC and Ratio each have independently followed Synacor since 2012 as we each have other investments (past and present) that provide industry insight, experience, and perspective. o After the operating results worsened and the share price declined dramatically, we each independently researched Synacor and concluded there was an opportunity for a significant increase in stockholder value if the Company made several necessary changes. 16 14 12 10 8 6 4 2 Synacor Share Price

Why we invested in Synacor (2) 6 o In October of 2013, JEC made its initial investment in Synacor. JEC bought and owns approximately 4.8% of the outstanding common stock of Synacor. In February of 2014, Ratio made its initial investment in Synacor. Ratio bought and owns approximately 4.8% of the outstanding common stock of Synacor . o At the time we each made our respective investments, we were each well aware of Synacor’s poor operating performance over the past several years across many measures, including: - Poor stock price performance - Declining revenue, o perating losses, and declining cash balance: - Declining usage metrics across its products - History of poor corporate governance

Period	Opening Share Price	Closing Share Price	% Change
2/10/12 – 12/31/12	\$5.00	\$5.47	+ 9.4%
1/1/13 – 12/31/13	\$5.65	\$2.45	- 56.6%
1/1/14 – 12/31/14	\$2.46	\$2.00	- 23.0%

USD, In thousands

	2012	2013	2014
Revenue	121,981	111,807	106,579
Net Income (Loss)	3,815	(1,367)	(12,931)
Year End Cash Balance	41,944	36,397	25,600

Key Metrics

	2012	2013	2014
Unique Visitors	20,440,169	19,818,670	18,886,889
Search Queries	968,233,560	711,992,036	530,933,590
Advertising Impressions	42,170,186,571	40,982,588,804	37,141,508,555

What happened after we invested in Synacor 7 After making our investments and throughout 2014, in our view things went from bad TO WORSE at Synacor, including: - Poor stock price performance REPEATED INSIDER SELLING - Declining revenue, operating losses, and declining cash balance A GREATER THAN 10% REVENUE CUSTOMER TERMINATED ITS CORE RELATIONSHIP WITH SYNACOR (EFFECTIVE MARCH, 2015) - Declining usage metrics across its products DESPITE CUMULATIVE \$100M INVESTMENT IN R&D AND DESPITE 20% REDUCTION IN WORKFORCE IN SEPTEMBER OF 2014, SYNACOR ANNOUNCED “AQUI - HIRE” OF A DEFUNCT COMPANY AND ITS EMPLOYEES IN JANUARY 2015 - History of poor corporate governance WHAT WE BELIEVE IS AN ABOVE MARKET EXIT PACKAGE TO OUT - GOING CEO, UNNECESSARY AND AGGRESSIVE POISON PILL, AND INVITING A FORMER DIRECTOR WITH NO RELEVANT QUALIFICATIONS TO RE - JOIN BOARD We believe change is urgently need at Synacor. Since the IPO, this Board has failed to produce shareholder value and in fact has destroyed stockholder value. We have nominated 3 directors who we believe are highly - qualified, focused on recovering stockholder value, and offer a better plan for the future of Synacor. We believe there is a substantial opportunity to improve corporate governance and recover and create value for the benefit of all Synacor stockholders.

Reasons Change is Warranted 8

1. Poor Stock Performance 9

Years of Poor Performance – Synacor Stock (1) 10 2012 2013 2014 o On January 30, 2012, Synacor filed an amended registration statement indicating it expected to price its IPO between \$10.00 and \$12.00 per share. o In February, 2012 Synacor went public and its shares were priced at \$5.00 per share. o Since August of 2013, the share price has been below \$3.00 per share. o In December of 2014, the share price reached its all time low, of \$1.52 per share. 16 14 12 10 8 6 4 2 Synacor Share Price

Years of Poor Performance – Synacor Stock (2) 11 The stock price performance demonstrates, in our view, that the Board of Directors has been unable to produce stockholder value. In fact, the Board has destroyed stockholder value while underperforming its peer group and benchmarks by a very wide margin. Our nominees are highly qualified and focused on recovering and increasing shareholder value

	1-Year	3-Year	5-Year	RussellK000
Synacor, Inc (SYNC)	15.9%	14.2%	61.5%	100.6%
NASDAQ Composite Index	17.9%	18.7%	70.4%	121.1%
NASDAQ Internet Index	-0.7%	2.7%	75.9%	167.2%
Underperformance vs RussellK000	-34.7%	-15.0%	-128.2%	N/A
Underperformance vs NASDAQ Composite	-36.7%	-19.5%	-137.1%	N/A
Underperformance vs NASDAQ Composite Internet Index	-18.1%	-3.5%	-142.5%	N/A

Source: Bloomberg

1. Unless otherwise indicated, performance is as of MarchJ3,J015
2. As of FebruaryJ3,J015, the date the Concerned Shareholders announced their nomination of directors.

Share Price Performance (1)

2. Poor Business Performance 12



Years of Poor Performance – Synacor’s Business (1) 13 Synacor is in a market segment that has rapidly changed and experienced significant opportunity and organic growth the past few years. Synacor’s revenue has declined since 2012. It is expected to continue to decline in 2015. Synacor has also been generating net losses and burning cash since 2012. In our view, the declines in Synacor’s business and corresponding underperformance of Synacor’s stock price are directly related to failures of leadership by its Board of Directors. USD, In thousands

	2012	2013	2014	2015	1
Revenue	121,981	111,807	106,579	95,000	- 100,000
Net Income (Loss)	3,815	(1,367)	(12,931)	Not Provided	Year End Cash
Balance	41,944	36,397	25,600	Not Provided	1

Numbers reflect Synacor 2015 guidance provided for year ended December 31, 2015.

Years of Poor Performance – Synacor’s Business (2) 14 Synacor’s core business (approximately 80% of revenue) is start pages and search and display advertising revenue. We believe the Board failed to anticipate and then failed to address the following shifts effecting 80% of its revenue. As a result, revenue and reported metrics have been declining as evidenced below. Mobile Devices: The number of individuals who access the internet on non - PC devices, including tablets and smart phones, has increased dramatically in the last few years. The Synacor Board failed to anticipate and address this trend. The Company had no product for mobile devices until late 2014. As a result, the Company’s revenue from search and display declined. Windows 8 Operating System: In 2012, Microsoft released its Windows 8 operating system which placed Synacor’s start page on the second tab instead of first tab. This change negatively impacted Synacor’s consumer electronics business.  $y = - 2E+06x + 2E+07 R^2 = 1$  Unique visitors - 8%  $y = - 5E+09x + 5E+10 R^2 = 1$  Advertising impressions - 12%  $y = - 4E+08x + 1E+09 R^2 = 1$  Search queries - 45%

Years of Poor Performance – Synacor’s Business (3) 15 Synacor is a product company. Its core business ( 80% of reported revenue) has been declining in revenue and recently lost a large customer. In our view, that means: 1. Synacor’s Product is not compelling to its customers Microsoft: Moved Synacor to second tab in Windows 8 No mobile compatible product until Q4 2014 Charter Communications terminated core relationship, effective March 2015 2. The decline in the business metrics Synacor reports (detailed on the prior slide) suggests fundamental problems with its product. 3. The Board’s failure to respond is evident in the Search and Display revenue development, net losses, and cash burn: USD, In thousands 2012 2013 2014 Revenue 121,981 111,807 106,579 Net Income (Loss) 3,815 (1,367) (12,931) Year End Cash Balance 41,944 36,397 25,600

Years of Poor Performance – Synacor’s Business (4)	16	2012	2013	2014	Search & Display	101,559\$
	90,447\$	83,906\$	Subscription	20,422		21,360
	22,673	Total Revenue	121,981\$	111,807\$		106,579\$
Net Income (Loss)	3,815		(1,367)	(12,931)	Cash and Cash Equivalents	
	41,944	36,397	25,600		Source: SynacorJ014	FormI0-K

(1) All numbers are USD, in thousands

2) As reported on the balance sheet at end of each reported year Years Ended DecemberK1, (1) The other 20% of SYNC’s revenue is from ‘subscription - based services’, which include email, authentication, and TV Everywhere. Subscription revenue grew by 4.5%, or \$938,000, in 2013. which was not enough to offset the decline of 11% or \$11,112,000 in core business. Subscription revenue grew by 6.1%, or \$1,313,000, in 2014. which was not enough to offset decline of 7.3% or \$6,541,000 in core business.

Years of Poor Performance – Synacor’s Business (5) 17 \$, In millions Change, Year over Year Annual Expense Level  
(1) (1) After we pointed out the cumulative ‘research and development’ expense from 2012 through 2014 would exceed \$100 million, which is more than twice the enterprise value, the Company changed the name of these expenses to “Technology and Development”. (2) 2014 figures reflect 20% reduction in force announced and effective Sept. 1, 2014  
2013 2014 In our view, the Board failed to adjust costs to reflect declining revenue. Result: unsustainable model of operating losses and cash burned.

3. Track Record of Poor Acquisitions and Poor Capital Allocation Decisions 18

Years of Poor Performance – Acquisitions / Capital Allocation 19 No mobile compatible product until Q4 2014  
DESPITE the following acquisitions: May 2012: Carbyn , an HTML5 platform that delivers apps across Net -  
connected devices including smartphones, tablets, laptops and connected TVs. November 2013: Teknision , an  
Android Development Platform Company. No revenue from Chinese market, DESPITE the following joint venture:  
March 2013: announced joint venture called Synacor China. Synacor has provided over \$2 million in funding and the  
'strategic joint venture' has yet to generate revenue. Three additional examples we believe are failures by this Board:  
July 2013: \$1 million “investment” into a company called Blazer and Flip Flops, Inc . The investment in Blazer & Flip  
Flops is considered an available - for - sale security and no strategic rationale has ever been articulated for this use of  
capital. March 2014: announced \$5 million stock repurchase program citing “confidence in the prospects that we have  
for our new products and the future of the Company” . August 2014 : suspended stock repurchase program after  
utilizing \$562,000 of authorized \$5 million. January 2015: “acqui - hire of Nimble - TV and its development team.  
Nimble - TV had ceased operations prior to being acquired by Synacor. Intent unclear as this was an acquisition of  
approx 10 employees only 3 months after Synacor laid off 20% of its workforce.

4. Poor Corporate Governance 20



Years of Poor Performance – Corporate Governance (1) 21 5 of the current 7 Directors were Board members at the time of the IPO. It is likely or at least possible these directors influenced and/or determined the corporate governance policies for Synacor. Many of these practices are not best practices, including: » Classified Board: The Board has 3 classes of director, elected to 3 - year terms. • Academic studies have shown that staggered boards are bad for stockholder returns. » Special meetings of stockholders can only be called by the Board – not stockholders • JEC Capital Partners and Ratio Capital Partners asked the Board to call a special meeting and offered to pay for the meeting. Synacor board never responded to the request . » Stockholders may not act by written consent • JEC Capital Partners and Ratio Capital Partners had to wait for this meeting to propose change. » Board’s Response to Shareholders: Entrenchment Tactics • First, by enacting a poison pill (in absence of any takeover offer) • Second, by inviting a former director Scott Murphy to re - join the Board in 2014. Mr. Murphy is a venture capitalist with no apparent qualifications, aside from working for an 8% stockholder. We view his appointment by this Board as an entrenchment tactic to get votes. • Third, by timing the annual stockholder meeting such as to avoid disclosing Q1 results and Q2 guidance to stockholders until AFTER the voting is closed. • Synacor has not requested a NOBO list. Synacor requested a NOBO list last year. Our view is that they do not want investors to vote in this election.

Years of Poor Performance – Corporate Governance (2) 22 Shareholders have taken notice, 2014 Annual Shareholder Meeting: The two directors ‘elected’ each received only 45% VOTES FOR.

Years of Poor Performance – Corporate Governance (3) 23 Mr. Levy and Mr. Kau have combined to serve over 27 years on this Board. Mr. Kau is employed by a significant shareholder of Synacor – a venture capital firm that sold a company to Synacor in 2000. Given their long standing Board participation and Mr. Kau’s ‘ownership’ – we believe Mr. Levy and Mr. Kau must be held accountable for the following: Deterioration of Synacor’s business from 2012 onwards Destruction of stockholder value from 2012 onwards Poor corporate governance, including prohibiting stockholders from acting by written consent, enacting a poison pill in the absence of takeover threat, and staggering the election of directors. Rewarding directors who we believe are ineffective ( Mr. Levy and Mr. Kau included) by nominating them for re - election and increasing equity director compensation in 2013 – while the business and stockholder value were declining. Embarrassing the Company by announcing a share repurchase program in March of 2014 (due to confidence in prospects of business) and terminating it in August of 2014 (due to poor operating results) after utilizing just 10% of the funds authorized. Publicly announcing a CEO transition publicly with no succession plan. Decision to give the out - going CEO what we believe is an above market exit package, including amending his employment agreement to add a second year of base salary to severance. After JEC and Ratio filed their initial 13D, launching a misleading press release campaign that included ‘highlighting’ previously announced customer wins and announcing ‘new executive’ hires when in fact those individuals joined the Company half a year prior.

Our Platform & Nominees 24

Our Platform – Now is the time for change (1) 25 The current Synacor directors have overseen Synacor’s poor performance. Two of three incumbents up for election at this meeting, including the Chairman of the Board, are the longest tenured directors. Other incumbent is first year CEO. He is also a first time CEO. He was hired by a Board that has, in our view, has consistently failed to create shareholder value. Our Nominees would bring operating expertise, industry and strategic insights, capital allocation experience, and stockholder representation that this Board has never had. Now is the time for change.

Director	Tenure	Election	Year	Title
Jordan Levy	13+	2015	Chairman	
Andrew Kau	14+	2015	Director	
Himesh Bhise	<I	2015	Director / CEO	
Marwan Fawaz	3+	2016	Director	
Michael Montgomery	3+	2016	Director	
Gary Ginsburg	3+	2017	Director	
Scott Murphy	5+	2017	Director	

Stock Performance since IPO in 2012

Our Platform – Now is the time for change (2) 26 1. Recover, then create and maximize stockholder value over the optimum time horizon. The current directors have destroyed millions in stockholder value. 2. Reassess Strategy Synacor’s products are not compelling, as evidenced by declining revenue and customer losses. The Board failed to anticipate and react to changes in operating environment. We seek to add Board members who have successfully navigated the exact challenges currently facing Synacor. 3. Embrace fiscal discipline while growing Despite revenue declines, Synacor has continued to spend money seemingly without regard for operating losses and cash burned. We seek to add Board members who will reassess the cost structure and strategy, including scrutinize ROI on R&D projects and all other expenditures. 4. Enhance corporate governance De - classify Board, allow for stockholder written consents, special stockholder meetings 5. Explore strategic alternatives Synacor has failed to make money for over two years. The Board - approved strategy to recover, then create and maximize stockholder value should be evaluated in context of a current value - maximizing opportunity (if there is one).

Our Platform – Our nominees are ready to create value (1) 27 Jeff Misthal Mr. Misthal has significant expertise and business experience in the media and telecommunications industry in which Synacor operates. Specifically, Mr. Misthal brings a ‘ competitor perspective ’ to the Board having spent 9 years at Yahoo, Inc., most recently as Vice President of Finance for the Search and Ad Technology Groups. Prior to Yahoo, Inc., Mr. Misthal was an investment banker at Savvian and JP Morgan, where he gained significant capital market and mergers and acquisitions expertise. Mr. Misthal is independent of JEC Capital Partners and Ratio Capital Partners. Dilip Singh With 40 years of global operational executive management experience in technology companies and telecom carriers from Fortune 500 companies to start - ups, Mr. Singh brings added oversight experience in strategic planning, financial discipline, mergers and acquisitions, and turnaround experience. Mr. Singh has served on numerous corporate boards including MRV (NASDAQ: MRVC) and Concurrent (NASDAQ: CCUR) Mr. Singh is independent of JEC Capital Partners and Ratio Capital Partners. Scott Williams Mr. Williams has significant expertise and experience in the media and telecommunications industry in which Synacor operates. Specifically, Mr. Williams brings a ‘ customer perspective ’ to the Board, having worked for a number of potential Synacor customers – including AT&T, Inc., Time Inc., the Weather Channel, and Turner Broadcasting. Mr. Williams is independent of JEC Capital Partners and Ratio Capital Partners.

Our Platform – Our nominees are ready to create value (2) 28 Nominee Telecom and Media Operations Telecom CapEx and Ecosystem Cross Platform Product Development and Management Search, Advertising, and Video M+A Legal and Contracts Jeff Misthal Yes Yes Yes Yes Yes Yes Dilip Singh Yes Yes Yes Yes Yes Scott Williams Yes Yes Yes Yes Yes Our board nominees bring a range of highly relevant experience, skills and abilities in operations, technology, and finance. Our Board nominees include a “competitor” perspective, a “customer” perspective, and a technology / telecom industry veteran with significant CEO and Board experience. There is a tremendous opportunity to recover and create value at Synacor. Our nominees will work tirelessly to achieve that value.



Our Platform – Our nominees are ready to create value (3) 29 The current Board of Synacor has failed to create value for stockholders. Incumbent directors Mr. Levy and Mr. Kau have served a combined 27 years on the Board – and stockholders have lost over 50% of their value since the IPO in 2012. The Concerned Stockholders are committed to realizing full value for all stockholders. Our interests are aligned with all stockholders. Our nominees are independent, highly qualified, and offer a better plan for Synacor. There is a tremendous opportunity to recover and create value at Synacor. Our nominees will work tirelessly to achieve that value.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

This filing is not a solicitation of a proxy from any security holder of Synacor, Inc. (the "Company"). On April 2, 2015, JEC Capital Partners, LLC, JEC II Associates LLC, K. Peter Heiland, Ratio Capital Management B.V., Ratio Capital Partners, Jeff Misthal, Dilip Singh and Scott Williams (collectively, the "Participants") mailed to stockholders of the Company and filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") a definitive proxy statement and an accompanying proxy card to be used to solicit proxies in connection with the Company's 2015 annual meeting of stockholders (the "2015 Annual Meeting"). Information concerning the interests of the Participants in connection with the matters to be voted on at the 2015 Annual Meeting is included in the definitive proxy statement filed by Participants with the SEC in connection with such meeting.

STOCKHOLDERS OF THE COMPANY ARE STRONGLY ADVISED TO READ THE DEFINITIVE PROXY STATEMENT AND OTHER PROXY MATERIALS FILED BY THE PARTICIPANTS WHEN THEY BECOME AVAILABLE BECAUSE THEY WILL CONTAIN IMPORTANT INFORMATION. SUCH PROXY MATERIALS ARE AVAILABLE AT NO CHARGE ON THE SEC'S WEB SITE AT [HTTP://WWW.SEC.GOV](http://www.sec.gov). IN ADDITION, THE PARTICIPANTS IN THIS PROXY SOLICITATION WILL PROVIDE COPIES OF THE PROXY STATEMENT WITHOUT CHARGE UPON REQUEST.