

Steel production is eight percent of global CO2 emissions. | Green steel with z gas emissions are from energy production. | Safe, unlimited, carbon-free fusion ammonia synthesis for fertilizer. | Fossil fuel by-products burned into the air. Laboratory-derived wood products. | A 100% renewable grid requires on-Electric vehicles limited by lack of lithium. | Quick, efficient, and sustainable Novel materials to help decarbonize the most problematic industries. | Indu sions. Membrane technology to retrofit existing infrastructure. Current te wave drilling systems will unlock more geothermal energy. | Cement contribution cement using renewable electricity. | Chemical manufacturing emits massive of fossil-fuel-burning heat. | Current electricity infrastructure is insufficient fo more power with no new towers. | Industrial thermal separations account for trial process. | Biologic therapies are hard to discover and make. | Rapid disc rative diseases. | Pacemakers for the brain. | Unidentified public health probl common diseases. | Growing healthy human tissues. | High rates of residual c lity of food supply chains. | Producing low-carb, protein-rich fungi flour. | Sin Scalable process for precision genome editing. | Cellular therapies are timeengineering. | Treatments for neurodegenerative diseases remain elusive. | third of global food produced is wasted. | A natural coating to reduce spoilag harmful for the environment and our health. | New multifunctional bio-inspire ment options. | New drug delivery mechanisims. | Vaccines are hard to train better delivery capability. Unsolvable computational challenges. Scalable Miniaturized sensing solutions. | Artificial intelligence is limited by computing ciency limits electronic capabilities. | Advanced materials for 5G chips. | Old bling materials for the next generation of industrial innovation. | Poor connect centers are at their limit. | Ultra-low-power high speed networks. | Supply cha rehouses and factories. Charging cables are a drag on electrification. More chinery is difficult to electrify. | Replace hydraulics with energy efficient subs guesswork to optimize infrastructure. | Every day globally there are over 4,0 sing in all weather conditions using new frequency ranges. | Inefficiency of pr to all. | The housing industry is in a general resource crisis. | Change how we c be solved with classical computation. **Quantum software and algorithms**.



# **Founders solving** the world's biggest problems through the convergence of breakthrough science, engineering, and remarkable



leadership.





KATIE RAE CEO & Managing Partner, The Engine

EVERY TWO YEARS, it's my privilege to introduce The Engine Report: a public statement of work and one way in which we recommit to the common good. As an independent public benefit corporation, spun out of MIT, The Engine aligns our efforts towards material positive impact for the world, while maintaining our belief that long-term solutions for society's biggest challenges will also create economic benefit for those who bring them to market. This is our third report. Combined, these reports span a remarkable stretch of global events from 2016 through the present. Looking back, it's clear how interconnected our challenges are across the planet. Unraveling these connections helps create more sustainable and resilient approaches for every area of the economy. Today, the urgency and optimism of our mission feel more visceral than ever. This report captures the harmony and tension between those feelings. Yes, we have so much work to do. And also, yes, we have the technology and the people to do it.

The Engine's focus is Tough Tech: transformative technology that solves the world's most important challenges through the convergence of breakthrough science, engineering, and leadership. Tough Tech addresses society's biggest challenges and opportunities: climate change and mitigation, human health and agriculture, advanced systems and infrastructure. We believe these areas are all interconnected — climate change solutions must go hand in hand with improving issues surrounding global supply chains and food systems, and vice versa.

those companies as they scale.

The physical infrastructure surrounding our companies is critical for their early scaling. This September, thanks to MIT's ongoing commitment to investing in the evolving innovation ecosystem in Cambridge, we opened our new headquarters at 750 Main St between Kendall and Central Squares. With this new space, we now operate over 200,000 square feet of space for Tough Tech companies to begin work quickly and

The Engine's unique relationship with MIT was put in place knowing it would require something new to see this mission through. It leverages the world class network and reach of MIT and spans across the research and talent, infrastructure, alumni network, experts, strategics, public affairs at the national and international level and so much more. Resources and connections that are critical for the acceleration and growth of the companies, such as the Industry Liaison Program, where industry strategics from around the world come and meet with our portfolio building lasting relationships that will be key for

then scale in place. Our infrastructure pillar creates a stepping stone for engineers and scientists right out of academia to scale their technologies to the world, while helping keep entrepreneurs in the Boston region and the incredible talent and resources at MIT and nearby universities.

While the milestones, fundraising, and new physical spaces are all important to recognize, the intangible successes are what bring the ecosystem to life. This report shares snapshots from founders' journeys to achieve bold objectives like growing healthy human tissue to treat disease; creating universal access to deep geothermal energy; and reinventing the foundations of industry-steel, concrete, electricity transmission— to support a decarbonized world. Our Tough Tech events like the Annual Tough Tech Summit, Blueprint program, and first-ever Talent Fair yield quotable experiences and emotional encounters that can only be told through photos. You'll find those human moments in this report, too.

The core functions of The Engine are designed to create a sustainable ecosystem with its own momentum. New opportunities come out of conversations and shared problem solving between companies and leaders. I hope you'll read through this report with an eye to how you might add your own unique expertise and energy to the Tough Tech ecosystem. Together, we can make a more optimistic future possible, faster.

# Mission

#### Our mission at The Engine is to enable a more optimistic future, faster.

The Engine was launched by MIT in 2016 to enable a better future by focusing on Tough Tech to address the planet's most challenging problems. The purpose of the public benefit corporation is to create a global positive material impact on society and the environment,

focusing on fostering entrepreneurship through the translation of science & technology, commercializing Tough Tech, and creating regional economic development through the process. We do this in collaboration with stakeholders across research, government, corporations and entrepreneurs, all working towards a common goal of a better future for all. This report is organized by the pillars of that mission to show the progress being made in bridging the gap between discovery and commercialization for the most promising breakthrough inventions — so that we can create a healthier population, a more accessible and adaptive society, and a more resilient world.

# Values

#### **Ambitious Teams**

We support ambitious teams solving global challenges with technology-driven innovation. We support them in their journey from lab to market, and we want to see them change the world. The Engine is also, itself, an ambitious team of hardworking and humble individuals who are driven to achieve our goals and see our portfolio companies succeed. We believe that by supporting ambitious teams and outcomes we can create enduring positive impact in the world.

#### **Mission Focused**

We are laser focused on ensuring bold ideas result in meaningful impact for humanity. Our mission is to support those who are just getting started in their journey to solve global challenges through innovation. We believe success in this mission is achieved through humility in the face of the unknown and dedication in championing the Tough Tech community.

#### Learning Together

We are a team of collaborative individuals committed to constant learning through experimentation and innovation. We do this by working together and lifting each other up to reach our goals. We are iterative, agile, and we lean into ambiguity. We share our wins and our learnings to accelerate the path of the Tough Tech community we support. We believe we can achieve excellence by taking risks, leading in ambiguity, and sharing our knowledge.

#### **Patiently Impatient**

We believe both that important companies take time and that meaningful progress can be made in the near term. We relentlessly look for ways to push more aggressively towards progress, while respecting the milestones that require patience.

#### Inclusive Innovation

The ability to dream, to envision a better world for all, and to activate change is not specific to race, gender, or orientation. Anyone with the technical chops and ambition to drive change could be a tough tech founder or funder. We believe we must build an inclusive Tough Tech community to ensure that we collectively have the greatest impact.

# **Investment** Areas

#### **Climate Change**

Meeting the challenges of a changing climate requires new materials and processes for how we produce, move, store, and use energy. These companies are working to mitigate the most severe consequences of climate change while building the foundation of our economy for decades to come.

#### Human Health

The Boston community has deep biotechnology knowledge and leadership. Our investments in human health build on this foundation and converge biology, materials, engineering, and AI to empower a healthy, vibrant world.

#### Advanced Systems & Infrastructure

Adapting and evolving to meet changing global economies requires new approaches for advanced computing, manufacturing and supply chains, the built environment, and space. These companies are building more effective, productive, and inclusive backbone technologies for industrial systems.





# **Transformative**





Mapping The Engine portfolio across the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals



# A sustainable framework for global impact

The United Nations Sustainable **Development Goals (UNSDGs)** are a set of 17 goals identified by the UN General Assembly global framework across environmental, social, and economic aspects of sustainable development. The goals are interconnected and cut across all aspects of society, with sustainability at the center. In adopting the UNSDG framework, The Engine embraces an integrated approach to solving a diverse set of issues.

We map the portfolio against the 17 UNSDGs to highlight which goals these companies are working towards and the need for an interdisciplinary approach to solving systemic problems. For example, companies with a core focus on human health may also have an impact on climate change if they can change the food choices available to communities. We further seek to invest in companies with a value set that prioritizes investment in cross-cutting goals such as gender equality, education, culture, and health.



13 Climate Action

The Engine invests in companies taking urgent action to mitigate, adapt to, and ultimately reverse the universal crisis of climate change. These companies are on a mission to eliminate global energy inequalities, build the circular economies of the future, and make our communities inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable.

#### 3 Good Health & Well-being

The Engine also invests in companies creating a more healthy, vibrant world. They build from deep biotechnology knowledge and leadership in the Boston community to create foundational companies rooted in biology, materials, engineering, and AL

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Boston Metal																	
CFS																	
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- 1 No Poverty
- 2 Zero Hunger
- 3 Good Health & Well-being
- 4 Quality Education
- 5 Gender Equality
- 6 Clean Water & Sanitation
- 7 Affordable & Clean Energy
- 8 Decent Work & Economic Growth
- 9 Industry, Innovation, & Infrastructure

13 Climate Action

15 Life On Land

10 Reduced Inequalities

11 Sustainable Cities & Communities

12 Responsible Consumption & Production

14 Life Below Water

16 Peace, Justice, & Strong Institutions 17 Partnerships for the Goals



Climate Change Human Health Advanced Systems & Infrastructure



Mapping The Engine initiatives across the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals

# Making a more optimistic future possible, faster







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Commercializing Tough Tech Supporting Regional Development Fostering Entrepreneurship







"When I'm asked why my company will succeed, the answer is always quite simple. It's because we have to. We must transition energy in one generation and it is finally the right time in human history where we

have the right technologies to make it happen. Commercializing these technologies is non-negotiable."

> CARLOS ARAQUE CEO & Co-Founder, Quaise [

> > 16 The Engine Fund

17 Portfolio Company Programming 18

Capital

Stack



# **Investing in the** world's toughest problems

The Engine looks for three key

whether to make an investment.

ingredients when deciding

+ A founding team with the drive and passion to The Engine invests in Tough Tech fulfill their mission. companies, helping bridge the gap from discovery to commercialization. The companies we invest in + A groundbreaking have a clearly articulated scientific scientific discovery or or engineering solution to a global technology solving a big The Engine's total assets problem. This often manifests as under management global problem. the convergence of multiple disciplines. As an early-stage investor, The Engine believes in supporting + A massive opportunity to founding teams who are committransform an industry. ted to societal positive impact. We look for leaders with an authentic connection to their company and an unstoppable drive to realize their vision. The Engine total Investments Q Suc Epsion Sude cellino KYTOPEN ATLANTIC Form s 🛛 z 🖉 g 🖉 NAXESS BIO BOT HU HYPERLIGHT WIA STRABATHING Sync OVISE mori celestial AI Axoft AMIDE TERADAR EMVOLON Foundation Alloy Resonant Link OSMOSES FOR☆Y Hvfé **c** seaspire SENSE FINWAVE BETAN ZAPATA suono <u>K7\\0</u> wolıם VEIR A SUBLIME HEDRON COPERNIC Mantel 16 THE ENGINE REPORT 2021-2022

#### Investing in solutions that increase the speed of innovation, are sustainable on a changing planet, and increase humanity's resilience in the face of crisis.

#### **The Engine Portfolio** Investments



# **Supporting founders** with content and community

Dedicated programming for **Tough Tech founders pioneering** the scientific and technological breakthroughs that will change the future for the better.

Everything we do is in service of our founders. The Engine's portfolio company programming is the cornerstone of this mission. We bring best in class programming, people, and resources to our portfolio companies. Through offsites, workshops, and lunches, we unite our portfolio founders and leadership to learn from each other, share best practices, and solve common hurdles faced by rapidly growing companies. We leverage our team, network, and resources to create a community and support system for early stage Tough Tech founders.

#### The Engine provides portfolio companies with resources and opportunities to grow:

- + Annual CEO Offsite
- + Foundations Program
- + Targeted Content & Workshops
- + CEO/CTO/COO Lunches
- + Founder Community Social Programming
- + The Engine Access resource platform



# **The Tough Tech** capital stack is maturing

Getting the most audacious **Tough Tech solutions to** market requires founders to continuously evaluate the capital tools available. For many companies in the space, reaching commercialization will require not only a significant amount of capital, but also different types of capital for different stages of company development.

The Engine maintains a powerful network of capital providers and works closely with portfolio companies to develop and execute innovative financial roadmaps. Our strategies are based in a deep understanding of a company's techno-economic model and the capital tools available.

Over the past two years, the quantity and diversity of options across the capital stack has continued to mature, offering founders the ability to find more efficient capital for certain activities, ranging from equipment and lease financing, to sale leasebacks for property, and other strategies. Our companies have also been successful in securing non-dilutive capital, including grants from government, foundations, corporations, and academia.

The Engine portfolio is attracting more **Tough Tech investment** 



Total equity and convertible debt raised by The Engine portfolio companies



Total non-dilutive capital raised by The Engine portfolio companies

**Total valuation of all The Engine** portfolio companies



For every \$1.00 The Engine invested, its portfolio companies raised another \$14 from other investors

\$B)

invested

Capital i



ment and the scale of global adoption are reaching levels that have never been seen before. Funding for Tough Tech broke new records in 2021, with more than \$130 billion in venture capital invested across 6,300 deals - a 50% year-over-year increase in investor dollars compared to 2020.

This record-setting venture environment has been made possible by breakthrough technical advances, growing adoption and expansion of business applications, as well as macroeconomic factors such as government policies and shifting regulations.

The impact of Tough Tech on our world is massive – and it can be even larger if we have the fortitude to start, stay the course, and scale globally.

To achieve these global scales, companies require capital and deep commercial partnerships. And there are many potential

and services reach all corners of the globe.

In recent years, we have seen the Tough Tech capital stack rise to meet this need, with much of the acceleration in Tough Tech investment driven by later-stage investors.

Corporate venture capital, hedge funds, private equity firms, and sovereign wealth funds accounted for 82% of total deal value in 2021. There are also emerging experiments to fill critical gaps, such as the U.S. Department of Energy Loan Programs Office.

Together, the increased support from later-stage investors reduces risk for early stage startups, extends the performance window for technology development and market entry, and increases the probability of success.

C THE ENGINE **Tough Tech Landscape** - Protein Data supported by the 2021 **Tough Tech Landscape Report that The Engine** published in collaboration

The report showcased that venture investment in Tough Tech has never been stronger.

with Pitchbook.

# **Creating a shared** vision of Tough Tech markets and economies of the future

**Building transformative** infrastructure is necessary to support breakthrough foundational technologies and create new jobs.

As a venture capital fund focused on bringing Tough Tech into the world, close alignment with the U.S. government is key to accomplishing our shared mission of serving the public good. That means driving regulatory innovation in sectors ready for transformation, thereby enabling Tough Tech companies to take root and grow into new industries. And it means driving stronger public-private partnerships, to strengthen the industrial base and enable the formation of new markets.

Government resources provide Tough Tech companies with many different opportunities that help to derisk new technologies, such as pilot projects, testing facilities, and certifications. The Engine's government practice builds relationships with the public sector to develop funding opportunities, understand critical public sector needs, and inform public policy.

Our portfolio companies are developing their technologies faster than regulations are evolving, and they require policy engagement to go-to-market or to create new addressable markets. For our earlier stage companies, we improve access to public sector funding, and develop government agencies as an addressable market. For later stage companies, we support portfolio growth through public-private partnerships, policy, and regulatory support.



Total public sector funding raised by The Engine portfolio companies



Total number of jobs created by The Engine portfolio companies

#### **Funding critical** infrastructure of the future with **ARPA-I**

On July 26, 2022, an invited group of leaders from the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) and infrastructure stakeholders gathered to envision the future of our nation's infrastructure. Our goal was to discuss how the Advanced Research Projects Agency for Infrastructure (ARPA-I) could most effectively help create a future infrastructure that is safe, resilient, equitable, and flexible. The discussion illustrated the overall need for an agency like ARPA-I to engage not just the innovation ecosystem of startups and academia, but the full range of stakeholders in US infrastructure development — including government agencies at the federal, state and local level, regulatory and standards bodies, corporations, and public-private capital providers from early technical development to later-stage deployment.

#### **Guiding founders** through new federal legislation

Understanding the complexity of founding one new agency is critical. It also informs our broader efforts to maximize government action to benefit our portfolio companies and their mission. In the past year, we saw the Bipartisan Infrastructure Act, the CHIPS and Science Act, and the Inflation Reduction Act all become law. In each case, we worked to inform companies of the changes and help them think through how those changes could affect them. Following a portfolio-wide, deep dive analysis of the Inflation Reduction



#### Helping portfolio companies secure nondilutive capital

Our portfolio companies are taking on some of the toughest science and engineering challenges out there, and we work with the public sector to help identify and de-risk these technologies at the earliest stage.





Act, as well as company specific findings, we held a workshop to discuss the implications of the bill at large. It revealed new opportunities for us to come together strategically - driving the kind of change that can only come through the power of collective engagement.

Government support provides our companies access to funding and technical resources that multiply the ability for our founders to make an impact on the world. In total, our companies have raised over \$154M+ in public sector funding alone.For every \$1.00 that The Engine has invested, our portfolio companies have raised an additional \$1.22 from the public sector, and have created over 1,654 new jobs.

# **The Tough Tech** ecosystem brings it all together

Facilitating the creation of long-term mutually beneficial relationships between founders, startups, strategic corporate partners, policy makers, and investors.

We convene the investment, government, regulatory, and corporate communities to help accelerate the progress of those at the helm of early-stage Tough Tech companies. We create opportunities for our portfolio companies to learn from the lessons of existing large corporations and industry leaders. Simultaneously, industry and government have a chance to learn from The Engine's portfolio companies and collaborate on how to augment or build upon existing solutions. Where appropriate, portfolio companies can also tap into the work of these corporations through pilot projects and activities like prototype testing. Together, our network helps remove obstacles and clear a path to commercialization and success for our portfolio.

#### **Tough Tech Talks**



#### Semiconductor Landscape Briefing



Keynote Speaker

R. JOHN E. KELLY III Executive Vice President of IBM, Retired Special Advisor to Chairman and CEO, IBM

#### **Cleantech Landscape Briefing**



#### **Network Partners**

We facilitate the creation of longterm, mutually beneficial relationships between founders, startups, and strategic corporates through our partnership program. Our Network Members enable us to amplify groundbreaking Tough Tech innovation by expanding our resources, network, and community.



SILVER PARTNERS

WDW Five Years Out

GD AUROCAPON ALTERN

#### **Business Development Day**

J.P.Morgan

Tough Tech Business Development Day enables highly curated one-onone meetings between Tough Tech founders, members of government, and representatives from major corporations to forge meaningful and productive relationships.



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"If you want to change the world, there are a lot of stakeholders. You have to think about what's needed for a whole ecosystem so that **Tough Tech can permeate** things across finance, recruiting, and regulation. The systems and networks you have around you matter when you're doing things like putting steel in the ground."

BOB MUMGAARD CEO & Co-Founder, Commonwealth Fusion Systems

"The Engine is helping tackle society's greatest challenges from right

here in Massachusetts by providing emerging companies with the capital, space, and support they need to translate their innovative discoveries into commercial realities. In working with academic, corporate, and public partners to advance this mission, The Engine has developed an impressive cross-sector approach to advancing our innovation ecosystem for the benefit of the Commonwealth and the world."

MIKE KENNEALY

Housing and Economic Development Secretary, Commonwealth of Massachusetts



Supporting startup infrastructure needs

# A home for the **Tough Tech community**

Providing access to the specialized labs, equipment, tools, and space necessary to build transformative technologies as economically and efficiently as possible.

The Engine has a sense of place. We are based in the Boston/Cambridge area and are committed to investing in the greater region so more jobs and foundational companies will be built in our community. Thanks to MIT's ongoing commitment to investing in the evolving innovation ecosystem around Kendall Square, we have built out over 200,000 square feet of space for Tough Tech companies to begin work quickly and then scale in place. Readily available infrastructure can bypass months or even years of delays, moving Tough Tech to commercialization faster.

In our spaces, teams can move in and get to work without significant up-front investment for space or equipment. The labs and offices we provide are built out and movein ready. Providing a flexible and agile solution for real estate lets our teams stay in the region longer and closer to the best resources and talent, their founding partners at local institutions, and investors.



"We have the chance to forge foundational infrastructure that can potentially change the geography of innovation. A thriving hub can propel the Greater Boston region into the future as a magnet for world-changing Tough Tech companies."

EMILY KNIGHT.

Chief Operating Officer, The Engine

#### The Engine offers space to Tough Tech startups looking to

- + Grow and scale their companies.
- + Connect with like-minded entrepreneurs.
- + Expand their networks.



# The Engine Infrastructure

For early-stage Tough Tech companies, we offer flexible use, readymade facilities to help businesses on the path to global scale.

#### Selection of facilities that are part of The Engine Room:

- + Harvard Center for Nanoscale Systems
- + MIT Dept. of Chemistry Instrumentation Facilities
- + Harvard East Quad Nuclear Magnetic Resonance
- + Northeastern Kostas Center
- + Harvard Center for Biological Imaging
- + Materials Research Science & Engineering Centers
- + MIT Nano
- + The Koch Institute
- + UMass Core Facilities



#### **The Engine Room**

Online access to equipment and facilities throughout New England.

Early stage Touch Tech companies often require use of specialized and expensive equipment to run an experiment or build their product. The Engine Room exists to address this issue. Working with leading academic and research institutions across the state, The Engine Room helps early stage companies gain access to specialized labs, equipment, tools, and space necessary to build transformative technologies as economically and efficiently as possible.

Location		Cambridge, MA
Total space		<b>155,000</b> sqft
Number of Tough Tech entrepre	eneurs	535 entrepreneurs
Number of Tough Tech compan	ies	65 companies
Average footprint per company		8 residents per company
Biology & Chemistry Labs		
Engineering Labs & Machine Sh	юр	
3D Printing, Laser Cutter, & Pro	totyping Labs	
Open Industrial Space		
Sensitive Compartmented Infor	rmation Facility (SCIF)	
Open Office Space & Office Sui	tes	
Public Event Space		
Cafe & Collaborative Spaces		



# The Engine at 750 Main

Over 150,000 sq/ft of lab, office, and industrial space for Tough Tech companies.

Opened in September 2022 at 750 Main St in Cambridge, MA, The Engine's new headquarters offer specialized equipment for lab work, fabrication, and engineering tailored to Tough Tech companies. With access to wet labs, fabrication space, and machine shops all under one roof, The Engine at 750 Main serves companies who sit at the convergence of breakthrough science, engineering, and leadership.





# The Engine at 750 Main



#### Biology & Chemistry Labs

Tough Tech teams often need quick access to sophisticated labs spaces, both bio labs and chem labs to do their work. The Engine at 750 Main meets a need for flexible-use science laboratory space that was previously not readily available outside of academia. These labs are move-in ready and provide terms for growth that match a Tough Tech company's trajectory. Our facility provides the infrastructure needed to leave academic labs and quickly continue on with research, development, and experimentation processes.

#### Open Industrial Space

Open fabrication space is a critical component for many Tough Tech companies to build prototypes, but is significantly limited in the Kendall Square area. The Engine at 750 Main provides companies an open space to set up their own 'shop' and build, test, and run larger systems in a flexible environment.



### Engineering Labs & Machine Shop

These spaces give teams the ability to create and build their technologies and rapidly prototype along the way. We provide a wide range of additive manufacturing and machining equipment for them to design and create products, as well as engineering support.

#### Public Event & Community Space

Building a community among our founders is a critical part of our ecosystem development. For founders, many who are starting a company for the first time, a network helps maintain momentum and provides a vital touchstone for personal development. The Engine at 750 Main provides a place to meet, convene, connect, and host stakeholders. The building includes spaces for everything from a small internal team meeting, to company offsites, board meetings, and large conferences for up to 350 people. The space is designed to be a gathering place both for the portfolio and the Tough Tech ecosystem.





# **Building Tough Tech teams**

People employed by The Engine's portfolio companies



The power of being located in Boston, concentrated by the mix of industries and the transient nature of the university student population, results in a rich pool of talent for our portfolio companies.

#### The Engine is helping founders tap into this talent pool with the following resources:

- + Talent fair
- + Job board
- + Compensation analysis
- + Machine shop co-op program

#### **Tough Tech Talent Fair**



### hiring



# **Convening the Tough Tech ecosystem**

In addition to lab and office space. The Engine residents gain access to many other resources:

- + The Engine Access resource platform
- + Discounted equipment and reagents
- + Membership to The Engine Room
- + Membership with MassBio
- + Office hours with The Engine's government team
- + Consultations with The Engine's Network Members

+ Community happy hours



**"The Engine infrastructure** brings together groups of companies with knowledge about different spaces and pushes the boundaries of how they can work together while lowering the barriers for collaboration."



#### Community



Street in the building's first two months of being open.



Events hosted at 750 Main Street in the building's first two months of being open.

PAULO GARCIA CEO & Co-Founder, Kytopen

"The Engine has been pivotal because there's such a truly unique component of helping new founders, in a way that feels very safe and allows you to be open and honest to find the support you need, both with funding and other operational challenges."

AMY RIPKA

CEO & Founder, Lucy Therapeutics



"The Engine provides inspiring support for companies working to tackle some of the

greatest challenges of our time. It is a privilege and a pleasure to be able to join with so many brilliant and passionate entrepreneurs to help bring breakthrough ideas to the point of having real benefits for society by addressing these challenges."

> JIM GERAGHTY Chairman of the Board, Orchard Therapeutics & Pharmaceuticals

> > 42 Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion

44 Founder Advisors

46 Blueprint



# **Bold ideas come from** diverse experiences

Technical founders often pull inspiration from their lived experiences. Massive opportunities can be found by intentionally creating pathways into Tough Tech for underrepresented communities. Further, we must invest in support systems to make sure any and every one can thrive in the ecosystem.

Our current portfolio represents an initial step towards a socially representative and diverse portfolio of founders. We continue to invest in improving these metrics, and in creating a ripple effect where more diverse founders are supported in hiring a more diverse set of employees, partnering with a more diverse set of advisors and, as a whole, bringing in new perspectives and approaches towards tackling society's biggest problems.

The Engine provides portfolio companies with a multitude of resources

- + Diversity @ Workplace
- + Browning The Green Space
- + Diverse Hiring Office Hours

"I see the value of being in a community with not necessarily like-minded people, but people who are in a similar situation and have different perspectives and views. It's diverse, and gives me ideas, experiences, and principles that I can keep in the back of my head."

> BHARATH KANNAN. CEO & Co-Founder, Atlantic Quantum

"You cannot solve the world's biggest problems without recruiting people of all backgrounds to put their ideas into action. It is imperative that the founders we bet on, the investors we work with, and the teams we build continue to provide a model for diversity and inclusion for the rest of the industry and that we strive to be more inclusive each and every year."

> KATIE RAE CEO & Managing Partner, The Engine

# By the numbers

Underrepresented minority groups include Asians/Asian Americans, Black/African Americans, Latinos, American Indians, Native Pacific Islanders, and women.



Percentage of portfolio companies with an underrepresented minority CEO



Percentage of portfolio companies with an underrepresented minority **CEO and/or Founder** 



Percentage of portfolio companies with an underrepresented minority board member

Percentage of portfolio companies with a CEO and/or Founder who is an immigrant to the U.S.

Percentage of portfolio companies with a woman CEO



Percentage of portfolio companies with a woman CEO and/or Founder



# **Advising the next** generation of **Tough Tech leaders**

#### **Prior experiences of founder** advisors include:

- + Founders or early executives of a Tough Tech company.
- + Strategic decisionmakers with a record of creating value.
- + Deep knowledge and expertise in key strategic areas.
- + Sourced significant levels of capital financing through multiple stages.
- + Successfully exited a Tough Tech company.
- + Built or enabled a diverse, highperforming organization.
- + Exemplify the highest levels of integrity.

Working with The Engine's portfolio companies to accelerate their growth and path to commercialization.

The Engine's Founder Advisors uniquely contribute to the success of building companies solving important world challenges. To accelerate company and CEO-founder development, Advisors engage with The Engine portfolio founders and CEOs on their company strategy, provide a counter-perspective relative to investor-think, share



generation of Tough Tech leaders. Our advisors exemplify a few crucial characteristics: empathy

their experiences and knowledge,

and open their network to the next

for Tough Tech founders, based on experience; advice and counseling with the highest integrity; commitment and appreciation for building diverse organizations; and a deep desire, mindset, and willingness to give back to other founders. Their values resonate with ours.

"The Engine has taken a leadership role in addressing some of the biggest challenges we face worldwide by giving a generation of talented founders the resources to make the journey from bench to market successful. Through the Founder Advisor program, entrepreneurial founders have access to very successful business and science leaders. As an advisor, I am thankful for my contribution in making the next generation successful and engaged on issues that matter to mankind."

> MARTIN MADAUS. Global Healthcare Executive



supporting The Engine portfolio companies

**Tough Tech companies** started by Founder Advisors





Entrepreneu



NIKHITA SINGH Co-Founder & CPO, Artificial



Americas Regional VP

of Engineering & Project



PRESCOTT LOGAN Advisor Management, Fluence Energy



# **Turning Tough Tech** breakthroughs into **Tough Tech startups**

Blueprint is a nonresident program for graduate students, postdocs, research scientists, faculty members, and their teams, to explore the commercial opportunities of their breakthroughs and startup projects.

The program helps the next generation of Tough Tech leaders navigate the commercialization process through tailored programming concerning technology risk mitigation and experimentation planning, market discovery and selection, IP, team building, storytelling, and other topics.

Blueprint provides participants access to The Engine team, Tough Tech founders, investors, and representatives from major corporations.





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"When I started my PhD, to me, the only option was to become a professor. And then, as work progressed, I realized that there were other options — I realized

that I may want to go into the world of industry and entrepreneurship to translate my research or apply what I had learned during my PhD to real world situations. At Blueprint, I was able to see and to meet with other founders that have similar backgrounds. I got to see what a success story is made of. It was inspiring to see where the panelists were in their journeys and how they evaluated risk and fostered growth."

PAUL LE FLOCH, CEO & Co-Founder, Axoft, Harvard University



"Blueprint taught me that the journey of a Tough Tech founder is much more than, 'I'm only in this to make money,' or 'I just want to to call myself a CEO,' or 'I can't get

a faculty job so I'll just start a company.' You need to care about the problems you're solving. The program also reassured me that the skills I've developed as a scientist translate into entrepreneurship. Blueprint helps consolidate lessons that I've heard in other programs, but in a way that truly connects with being a deep tech science founder. It is a translational layer between academia and building a company."

> AARON HALL Founder, Intropic Materials, University of California, Berkeley













Participants 2021-2022

Mii

"Blueprint enabled us to understand the unique needs of Tough Tech ventures. We make materials and hardware, and some of the challenges companies like ours face, such as scaling and supply chains, are nonexistent to software companies, for example. In addition, being part of the Tough Tech ecosystem has enabled Atacama to learn from other companies about technoeconomic analyses, scaling strategies, and operations. Thanks to Blueprint and this network, Atacama has a clearly defined pathway forward to success."



### **Catalyzing a Tough Tech movement**

# Tough Tech Summit<sup>®</sup> 2022 Invest 10.27 — Build 10.28

Solving the world's biggest problems with Tough Tech requires building a movement. We must unite those working towards change.

For Tough Tech to succeed, it's critical that discussions about the technologies at play, the stakeholders, the founders, and the ecosystems are dynamic, intersectional, and highly engaged. Tough Tech Summit is the opportunity to make those connections and elevate the ecosystem's work, as well as making the act of investing in, or working on, a Tough Tech startup more mainstream.

We've intentionally designed a twoday Summit united by this single agenda. During keynotes and panel discussions, attendees dive deep into prevailing themes within the Tough Tech community and strategic decision making. Meanwhile, case studies and founder stories provide an opportunity for founders to learn from one another, sharing successes, failures, and their collective experiences.

Many Tough Tech companies are still at the beginnings of their capital journeys. Some have proof of concept and are moving into pilot deployment, others are further along and are available in the market, while others are still deep in the research and development phase. The ingredients and founders to build successful companies are there but they need capital and partnerships to be able to scale and maintain their momentum. Tough Tech Summit has been, and will continue to be, a catalyzing event for the growing Tough Tech community.



"Networking and community building is a staple for innovation and climate tech conferences. The

Engine takes the Tough Tech Summit to the next level. The mix of formats, topics, venues, and attendees ensures that everyone learns, shares, builds, and leaves with actions planned, human connections made, and, maybe most importantly, a deeper understanding of the context — progress, challenges, and possibilities — of the mission to bring Tough Tech to market to address big challenges and the multitudes that it will take to make that happen. Bravo to The Engine Team for the creation and execution of the Tough Tech Summit."

#### BARBARA BURGER

Former VP of Innovation & President of Technology Ventures, Chevron



#### Invest Day | 875 unique attendees, 2021-2022

Stakeholders across the capital stack gather to hear firsthand from Tough Tech CEOs who are shaping the industries of tomorrow.

#### Key Speakers

MAKHTAR DIOP. Managing Director, IFC

RICK NEEDHAM, Energy Sector Lead, TPG's The Rise Fund

#### JIGAR SHAH,

Director of the Loan Programs Office, U.S. Department of Energy

CARMICHAEL ROBERTS, Partner, Breakthrough Energy Ventures; Co-Founder & Managing Partner, Material Impact

#### REGINE CLEMENT, President & CEO, CREO

JESSE D. JENKINS, Assistant Professor, Princeton University

JEFF JOHNSON, Managing Director, Temasek

- Selection of startups who pitched at the Tough Tech Summit + Atlantic Quantum
  - + Axoft
  - + Biobot Analytics
  - + Cemvita Factory + ClearFlame Engine
  - Technologies
  - + Copernic Catalysts
  - + Droplet + Emvolon
  - + Foray Biosciences
  - + Fortify
  - + Foundation Alloy
  - + GRO Biosciences
  - + Hyfé Foods
  - + ISEE
  - + Kano Therapeutics
  - + Kytopen

- + Lilac Solutions + Mantel
- + Osmoses
- + Quaise
- + Quidnet Energy
- + REGENT
- + Seaspire Skincare
- + Sublime Systems
- + Sync Computing
- + Syzygy Plasmonics
- + TeraDAR
- + Tynt Technologies
- + Vaxess
- + VFTR
- + Via Separations
- + Zapata Computing



#### Build Day | 723 unique attendees, 2021-2022

Strategy

& Leader

Engagement from stakeholders across academia, industry, government, and the founder ecosystem who are critical for the acceleration of Tough Tech globally.

#### **Key Speakers**

SANGEETA BHATIA, John J. and Dorothy Wilson Professor, MIT

#### GINNI ROMETTY,

Former Chairman, President & CEO of IBM

#### GINA RAIMONDO,

U.S. Secretary of Commerce

#### EDWARD J. MARKEY, Massachusetts Senator

GAURAB CHAKRABARTI, Co-Founder & CEO, Solugen

#### GENE BERDICHEVSKY, Co-Founder & CEO, Sila Nanotechnologies

BARBARA BURGER, Former VP Innovation & President of Technology

Ventures, Chevron



Function

#### **Topics Covered**

- + From Pilot to Your First Commercial Deal
- + Defining Your Platform
- + Working with the U.S. Department of Defense
- + When to Build A Public Policy Function As Your Company Scales
- + Developing As A CEO
- + Underscoring Your Company's Mission Through Decision Making
- + Growing Your Marketing
- + Board Development
- + Building an IP Strategy

- + Debt Instruments & Types of Financings
- + Growth Roadmap: Discovering Your Customer Pipeline
- + Managing Risks for Product Development and Project Deployment
- + Developing a Government Strategy From The Ground Up
- + How to Run Effective Collaborations with Large Strategics
- + Engaging Enterprise Customers
- + Developing Media Relationships

"Nobody gets great work done in a vacuum. At The Engine we are building an ecosystem to help founders learn from each other, recruit amazing talent, and build lasting relationships with corporate partners and investors. When everyone is on the mission together it creates compounding returns."

REED STURTEVANT,









UN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



Founders & Leadership Background Industries

Bob Mumgaard, Brandon Sorbom, Dan Brunner, Dennis Whyte, Martin Greenwald, Zach Hartwig MIT Plasma Science & Fusion Center (PSFC)

Advanced Manufacturing, Energy

### Safe, unlimited, carbon-free fusion power.







Sparc



SPARC begins operations – a device that will demonstrate net fusion energy

Arc



Demonstrated strongest high temperature superconducting magnet, a key technology for fusion energy

#### The Problem today's challenges

The world's electricity demand is set to increase by more than 60% over the next two decades and today's needs are still largely met by fossil fuels, quickly exhausting our carbon budget. Currently, energy production is already responsible for 25% of global GHG emissions.

#### The Solution

#### the Tough Tech breakthrough

Commonwealth Fusion systems (CFS) is on track to build and deploy the first commercial fusion power plants in the world. The team has developed high-field magnets using high-temperature superconductors that allow fusion machines to be 10 times smaller, economically feasible, and operational in the next 10-15 years. Fusion is a source of safe, clean energy: limitless, no greenhouse gases, no meltdown, and no proliferation; and has the potential to change the energy landscape.

#### The Opportunity

#### the world we want to build

The CFS team has set a goal of deploying thousands of fusion power plants globally by 2050, providing a significant percentage of the world's total energy.



"If you have fusion energy, then you have a huge solution for the energy crisis and climate change. Fusion is scalable, it can be deployed anywhere in the world, anytime you need, and is dispatchable, meaning you can turn it on and off. Fusion is, essentially, inexhaustible."

#### BOB MUMGAARD CEO & Co-Founder, Commonwealth Fusion

employees at CFS

Total number of full time

Systems



Electricity needed to power the world by 2050







61



Founders & Leadership Background

Industries

Mateo Jaramillo, Yet-Ming Chiang, Ted Wiley, William Woodford, Marco Ferrara MIT Department of Material Science and Engineering, 24M Technologies, A123, Tesla Energy Advanced Materials, Energy

### **Enabling a 100% renewable** grid with multi-day energy storage systems.



Render of a Form Energy's 56 MW Multi-Day Energy Storage System.





U.S. citizens live in a state that requires 100% clean energy

#### **The Problem**

today's challenges The world needs 24/7 renewable energy to successfully combat climate change. But utility-scale energy storage can only deliver power for up to 4 hours, making it impossible to reliably provide renewable powernamely solar and wind.

#### **The Solution**

the Tough Tech breakthrough Form Energy has created a largescale, modular, multi-day energy storage system built with novel iron-air chemistry that uses lowcost, abundant materials available worldwide. Form Energy has the capability to reshape the electric system, making renewable energy available year-round and extending transmission capacity without building new wires.

#### The Opportunity

the world we want to build Eliminate 10 Gt of CO2 emissions caused by fossil fuels per year-or approximately 25% of all CO2 emissions worldwide.



Duration required to make wind, water, and solar reliable year-round, anywhere in the world



Energy's Somerville lab

60k sq/ft Bay Area, CA



Total number of full time employees at Form Energy

"It's key is that we see how we get to gigaton reduction emissions as we scale our technology. With our designs, the capital, the market buyers, we see a clear path to impact at a meaningful scale, and with this you can build a meaningful business."

MATEO JARAMILLO CEO & Co-Founder, Form Energy







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50k sq/ft Pittburgh, PA







lowest cost rechargeable battery chemistry

Form Energy's first pilot project comes online, with more in the pipeline

#### FOUNDERS ON A MISSION > CLIMATE CHANGE



Founders & Leadership Background

Industries

Dave Snydacker, Nick Goldberg, Tom Wilson

Northwestern University

Advanced Materials, Resource Extraction

## The fastest, most sustainable, and most efficient lithium extraction platform.

#### The Problem

#### today's challenges

The world currently cannot meet the predicted 30X increase in demand for lithium to electrify the transportation sector. The conventional process for extracting lithium from brines requires large evaporation ponds that are environmentally damaging, slow to start up, and vulnerable to weather.

#### The Solution

the Tough Tech breakthrough

Lilac Solutions is sustainably developing previously inaccessible brine resources by commercializing a new ion exchange technology for lithium extraction. It is significantly faster, cheaper, and more sustainable than existing technology, enabling the massive increase in lithium supply needed for electric vehicles. Lilac's platform protects freshwater resources for local communities, reduces land use by 1,000X, and reduces GHG emissions by 80%.

Faster brine processing using Lilac's technology compared to incumbents

#### The Opportunity

the world we want to build Meet the growing demand for electric mobility solutions with a sustainable, long-term lithium supply.





#### Lilac's Process: Proprietary Ion Exchange





Smaller footprint using Lilac's technology compared to the incumbents



Demonstrated lithium recovery from brine resources using Lilac's method



DAVE SNYDACKER,
CEO & Co-Founder,
Lilac Solutions

Lilac Improves Environmental Performance





Less Footprint

Less Water Impact

Less Greenhouse Gases

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\$60

\$40





lithium by 2035





	Ponds	Lilac
Accessible Resources	Rare: need>500 ppm Li, low impurities	Abundant: >500 ppm Li, high impurities
Permitting/ESG	Difficult or Impossible	Streamlined
Development Time	10 years	3 years
Lithium Recovery	30-40%	80-90%
Product Quality	Low Purity	Battery Grade

\$47 billion shortfall in lithium supply by 2035









#### UN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

### QVISE

Founders & Carlos Araque, Matthew Houde, Henry Phan, Franck Leadership Monmont, Paul Woskov & Kevin Bonebrake Background Schlumberger, MIT, University of Cambridge, Stanford Industries Advanced Engineering, Advanced Materials, Energy

## **Universal access to** geothermal energy through disruptive millimeter wave drilling technology.



#### The Problem

today's challenges The world cannot transition away from fossil fuels with current technologies. Geothermal is the largest source of power-dense clean energy on Earth, but there is limited access today.

#### The Solution

#### the Tough Tech breakthrough

Quaise is developing millimeter wave energy drilling systems to access greater depths (10-20 km) below the Earth's crust, where the temperatures are high enough to use supercritical steam to generate electricity. Quaise avoids the site restrictions of other geothermal approaches to make rapid deployment feasible at scale.

#### The Opportunity

the world we want to build

Unlock a clean energy source that can scale to address the climate crisis and strengthen energy security throughout the world.



Temperatures to repower global fleet of existing fossil-fired power plants

Greater scalability of geothermal at these depths and temperatures



"I had this important realization that the energy transition needed to happen in the span of my career. That wasn't actually happening with existing technology. So I started looking for a way to do it."

CARLOS ARAOUE CEO & Co-Founder, Quaise

Total primary energy to supply

the world by 2050







To make geothermal available

to all nations









cost of energy

#### FOUNDERS ON A MISSION > CLIMATE CHANGE



Founders & Leah Ellis, Yet-Ming Chiang Leadership

Background

Industries

MIT, Dalhousie University

Advanced Manufacturing, Advanced Materials

### **Cost-effective**, low-carbon cement produced via electrochemistry.



`Set time measurement: a needle probes fresh Sublime cement paste every 15 minutes to determine its set time.

#### **The Problem**

today's challenges Cement production currently accounts for 8% of global CO2 emissions, and 75% of the industry's CO2 emissions come from lime production. Currently, 4 billion tons of cement are produced per year, and each kilogram of cement produces a kilogram of CO2.

#### **The Solution**

the Tough Tech breakthrough Sublime Systems is producing low-cost, zero-carbon cement. Its electrochemical platform converts limestone to lime at room temperature, making the CO2 produced during the conversion process easier to capture, while reducing overall energy consumption. Sublime's initial tests show that its cement meets targets for strength, setting time, and increased flow - all at lower CO2 intensity compared to incumbents.



Deep decarbonization of the cement industry to meet emissions targets while supporting continued urban development around the world. Cement is the biggest industry by mass in the world, with an average of 4 billion tonnes produced per year. With an average cost of cement at \$130/ton, this is a massive market.

cement production is one of the biggest and least expensive levers for reducing global CO2 emissions."

CEO & Co-Founder, Sublime Systems



from the cement industry

Fraction of global GHG emissions



atmosphere



MPa



Sublime's target cement production scale in 2028



CO2 reduction potential using Sublime's electrochemical cement production process

For every 1 ton of cement produced, 1 ton of CO2 is emitted into the





Founders & Adam Wallen, Tim Heidel, Steve Ashworth, Franco Leadership Moriconi Background MIT, Los Alamos National Laboratories, ARPA-E, Breakthrough Energy Ventures

Industries Energy

### **Reinventing the architecture** of electricity transmission.





# thousand GW-miles

In order to get to a net zero grid, the US transmission grid needs to grow to 1100 thousand GW miles from 200 thousand today

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#### The Problem today's challenges

The electrical grid is the backbone of the energy sector. As renewables deployments increase, electric vehicles and charging infrastructure become more widespread, and industrial processes are electrified, the grid is becoming more strained and operators are struggling to balance supply and demand.

#### The Solution

the Tough Tech breakthrough VEIR's transmission lines use superconducting tape to enable existing electricity transmission infrastructure to transmit 5X more power, alleviating significant electric system pain points like congestion and renewable integration. VEIR's platform can reduce the uncertainty, time, and cost of siting and permitting new transmission corridors.

#### The Opportunity

the world we want to build

A robust electricity grid enables widespread electrification of power generation, mobility, and industrial processes-all key elements for meeting global decarbonization goals.



% of north american transmission market with deployed cost > \$10,000/MW-mile



To build new extra **High Voltage** transmission lines.

"Decarbonization of the global economy will require an unprecedented expansion of transmission networks, but new transmission is exceptionally difficult to build. VEIR unlocks the holy grail of transmission, using high temperature superconductors to allow far more power to be transmitted over long distances in smaller rightsof-wav."

TIM HEIDEL CTO & Co-Founder, VEIR





Between liquid nitrogen delivery infrastructure. signifcantly higher than incumbent nitrogen cooled transmission lines





2023 Market size for grid tie lines. constrained corridors, high capacity long-distance markets

VEIR enables the market to grow to \$1.8T by 2040

FOUNDERS ON A MISSION  $\rightarrow$  CLIMATE CHANGE



Founders & Leadership	Tadeu Carneiro, Rich Bradshaw, Adam Rauwerdink, Donald R. Sadoway, Antoine Allanore, Jim Yurko
Background	MIT Department of Materials Science and Engineering
Industries	Advanced Manufacturing, Energy



#### **Efficient**, lower-cost production of steel and alloys with zero emissions.

#### **The Problem**

#### today's challenges

The steel manufacturing industry relies on coal for industrial processes. As a sector, it's the largest industrial source of CO2 emissions and contributes approximately 8% of global emissions.

#### **The Solution**

#### the Tough Tech breakthrough

Boston Metal has developed a coal-free, emissions-free, modular industrial steel, and ferroalloy production method using a novel electrochemical process. Compared to incumbent steel mills, this technology requires significantly less upfront capital expenditure, giving steel manufacturers the flexibility to add production capacity as needed.

#### The Opportunity the world we want to build

Meet Paris Climate Agreement emissions targets for the steel industry (driving down emissions by at least 50% by 2050 and decreasing carbon intensity to 0.6 ton CO2 per ton of steel) and open up a large industrial sector for disruption.



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ounders & eadership	Jacob Grose, Aruna Ramkrishnan
ackground	BASF, ExxonMobil
ndustries	Advanced Manufacturing, Energy, Advanced Materials, Food & Ag

#### **Enabling low-temperature** chemical production using novel catalysts.

#### The Problem

todav's challenges

Ammonia production uses the century-old Haber-Bosch process and is attributed to 1% of global carbon emissions. Catalysts capable of operating at low temperatures will directly reduce carbon emissions and enable fuel-switching to zero-carbon, electrified heating.

#### The Solution

#### the Tough Tech breakthrough

Copernic's innovation replaces Haber-Bosch's traditional iron ore catalyst with a next-generation catalyst that can drop into the world's existing ammonia manufacturing infrastructure. This drastically reduces the temperatures and pressures required to make ammonia-reducing energy usage, bringing down the cost of production, and opening the door to low-cost zero-carbon ammonia.

#### The Opportunity

#### the world we want to build

Reduce both capex and opex of ammonia production and enable the electrification of the thermal process, creating a pathway to carbon- free production. The utilization of this invention framework could lead to the development of a wide diversity of novel, lowtemperature catalysts that can be deployed for the \$600+ billion chemicals market.



### EMVOLON

ounders & eadership	Emmanuel Kasseris, Leslie Bromberg
ackground	MIT Mechanical Engineering Department, MIT Plasma Science and Fusion Center,
	Chevron, ConocoPhilips

Industries

ConocoPhilips

Energy



#### **Decarbonizing chemicals** synthesis using a low-cost distributed platform.

#### The Problem

#### today's challenges

Chemical synthesis today requires very hightemperature thermal process heat, primarily driven by fossil fuels, and takes place in billion- dollar, centralized chemical plants.

#### The Solution

#### the Tough Tech breakthrough

Emvolon's platform leverages the economies of scale associated with the mass production of engines, converting the engines into mini-chemical plants for distributed and decarbonized chemicals production. The process enables economically-attractive chemical production plants by exchanging economies of mass production for economies of scale.

#### The Opportunity

#### the world we want to build

Radically reduce supply chain transportation costs and dramatically cut the emissions from fuel and fertilizer production, as well as those associated with transportation.





Founders & Leadership	Ashley Beckwith
Background	MIT Department of Mechanical Engineering, Draper Labs, HBS
Industries	Advanced Manufacturing, Biotech & Life

#### **Ending deforestation with** lab-grown wood.

#### The Problem

#### today's challenges

In roughly the last thirty years, the planet has lost more than 500,000 square miles of natural forests, an area about two and a half times the size of France. An estimated 15.3 billion trees are net-lost each yearat this rate, the world's forests would disappear in a century.

#### The Solution

#### the Tough Tech breakthrough

Foray is developing a platform to bioengineer plantbased products that can be cultured and grown to order. The company is building a biological library—cataloging, collecting, and optimizing growth strategies for woody species. It is concurrently developing a toolkit of novel mechanisms for guiding cellular plant growth, using both external factors (like the cell culturing environment), and internal ones (like plant genetics).

#### The Opportunity

#### the world we want to build

Replicate the macro-structures of commercially useful woods in the lab and minimize wasteful, inefficient harvesting of forests.





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#### Mantel

Founders & Leadership	Cameron Halliday, Danielle Colson, Sean Robertson, Alan Hatton, Takuya Harada
Background	MIT, Harvard
Industries	Energy



### Reinventing carbon capture with novel materials.

#### **The Problem**

#### today's challenges

Carbon capture is an essential part of reaching net-zero global emissions. However, today's point-source carbon capture systems are highly inefficient.

#### **The Solution**

#### the Tough Tech breakthrough

Mantel is developing a point-source carbon capture platform that uses molten borate salts to selectively absorb  $CO_2$  from gasses produced by any combustion process. By operating at around 600°C, the heat generated during capture is recovered as high-quality heat – reducing energy losses by more than 60%. Additionally, by leveraging liquid-phase chemistry Mantel can cycle between capture and release indefinitely without deterioration or decay.

#### The Opportunity the world we want to build

The technology can be deployed to the hardest to decarbonize industrial sectors, which represent 40% of global CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

ounders & eadership	Francesco Benedetti, Holden Lai, Katherine Mizrahi Rodriguez, Zachary Smith
ackground	MIT, Stanford
ndustries	Advanced Materials, Energy

#### Decarbonizing gas separations to eliminate one gigaton of carbon emissions per year.

#### The Problem today's challenges

The process of chemical separations — the act of transforming complex mixtures into pure components — is ubiquitous in nearly every major industry and constitutes nearly 16% of the world's carbon emissions.

#### The Solution

#### the Tough Tech breakthrough

Osmoses is developing a membrane platform technology to mitigate these emissions by passively unmixing heterogeneous gasses. Applications exist across energy transition pathways in carbon capture and removal, hydrogen production and distribution, and renewable natural gas.

#### The Opportunity

#### the world we want to build

Replace thermal gas separation processes—a \$100 billion opportunity that will prevent gigatons of carbon from entering the atmosphere.



#### S OZ OG O

Founders & Leadership	Trevor Best, Suman Khatiwada, Naomi Halas, Peter Nordlander			
Background	Rice University, Baker Hughes			
Industries	Advanced Manufacturing, Energy			



### Illuminating the future of chemical manufacturing.

#### The Problem

#### today's challenges

Historically, the chemical reactions required to produce the world's chemicals, such as hydrogen, ammonia, and methanol, have been powered by fossil fuel combustion.

#### The Solution

#### the Tough Tech breakthrough

Syzygy Plasmonics is developing a novel photocatalyst and reactor platform that can produce fuels, fertilizers, and other chemicals with far fewer greenhouse gas emissions compared to incumbents. The technology platform allows for chemicals to be produced on-site, in a modular, scalable, and cost-effective way, and can also be scaled up for mass chemical production.

#### The Opportunity

#### the world we want to build

Decarbonizing the trillion-dollar chemical manufacturing industry from hydrogen to sustainable aviation fuels.





Founders & Leadership	Shreya Dave, Brent Keller, Jeff Grossman		
Background	MIT Department of Materials Science and Engineering		
Industries	Advanced Manufacturing, Advanced Materials, Energy		

# Decarbonizing liquid and solid separation – the core of every industrial process.

#### The Problem

#### today's challenges

Separation processes are the building blocks for materials, chemicals, and consumer goods. Currently, most separations are done with thermal processes such as evaporation and distillation, which are very energy intensive—12% of all U.S. energy consumption.

#### **The Solution**

#### the Tough Tech breakthrough

Via Separations is commercializing novel membrane materials and manufacturing processes to replace evaporation and distillation with filtration. The company's technology has the potential to replace thermal separation processes for liquids and solids, and is targeting the pulp & paper, chemical, and dairy industries.

#### The Opportunity

#### the world we want to build

By replacing all liquid and solid thermal separation processes with their membrane solution, Via is transforming the industrial landscape and making processes cleaner, cheaper, and more efficient.





"The energy transition is the largest economic opportunity since the industrial revolution. **Deep decarbonization is not the** changing or modification of a single industry, it is the complete transformation of the means of production across our economy. **Producing everything from energy** carriers and what we use to move and power the world, to materials and chemicals fundamental to daily life. The companies that win in these spaces will be foundational to the next 100 years."

MICHAEL KEARNEY



### Axoft

Founders & Leadership

Industries

Paul Le Floch, Tianyang Ye, Jia Liu

#### Background Harvard University

Advanced Materials, Advanced Systems & Infrastructure, Biotech & Life Sciences

### **Amplifying brain-machine** communication with soft, implantable electronics.





#### **The Problem**

today's challenges

Brain-machine interfaces rely on electrodes implanted directly into brain tissue to selectively communicate with neurons. Yet current probes are too stiff and lack sufficient electrode density to match the brain and reach single neuron resolution.

#### The Solution

the Tough Tech breakthrough Axoft is creating neural implants that are >10,000x softer than plastics and >100,000x softer than silicon used in current brain implants. These new soft electronic materials are fabricated at the nanoscale, and have similar properties to the brain tissue itself. Axoft's implants can also accommodate thousands of individual sensors, orders of magnitude more than currently possible.

#### The Opportunity

the world we want to build

Mitigate a wide array of neurological disorders, such as paralysis, epilepsy, and even depression.



Deaths per year attributed to neurological disorders

"We are making new materials to interface with the brain, which has not been done for decades. it will enable us to develop better therapies for patients with mobility disorders and improve their quality of life. These implants will be the brain pacemakers of the future."

#### PAUL LE FLOCH CEO & Co-Founder, Axoft















Market potential, including paralysis, epilepsy, movement disorders, depression, blindness, and aging







a rubbery thread , thin as a single hair strand.









Large animal pilot is conducted



Founders & Mariana Matus, Newsha Ghaeli Leadership Background MIT Industries AI & ML, Biotech & Life Sciences

### **Transforming wastewater** infrastructure into public health observatories.



#### The Problem

today's challenges Many public health problems, like COVID-19, monkeypox, and the opioid epidemic, are monitored by hospitalizations and diagnostic tests -lagging indicators of community spread. Earlier warning signals could inform proactive, timely decisions.

#### **The Solution**

the Tough Tech breakthrough Biobot Analytics is a wastewater epidemiology company analyzing urine and stool samples to create a rapidly updated, populationlevel picture of community health. Biobot's proprietary predictive models provide insights for decision-makers to take more informed actions regarding ongoing threats.

The Opportunity the world we want to build Early identification of public health threats and more decisive action.



Biobot dashboard

of what's coming and adjust their treatment strategies accordingly."

MARIANA MATUS





Biobot's ability to detect spikes in Covid-19 viral concentrations preempts case testing data and gives governments and institutional clients time to make decisions and take action





The founders were recognized by Time Magazine for their leadership in wastewater intelligence

This virus is shed in the stool of infected individuals, making its way into the

sewer system

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cellino

Founders & Leadership Background

Nabiha Saklayen, Matthias Wagner, Marinna Madrid

The Problem

patients.

The Solution

today's challenges

Illnesses like diabetes and heart

disease claim nearly 750,000

lives per year in the U.S. alone.

Research suggests these diseases

can be cured using stem cell-based

therapies to replace damaged cells,

but current technologies lack the precision, scale, and affordability necessary to treat millions of

the Tough Tech breakthrough

Inspired by the scale and precision

of semiconductor manufacturing, Cellino is developing the first-ever

stem cell foundry to manufacture

Cellino engineers use automated,

technology to personalize stem cells

regenerative medicines at scale.

software-driven, closed-system

with laser-precision.

Harvard Physics Department, Harvard School of Engineering and Applied Sciences (SEAS), Harvard Medical School

Industries Advanced Manufacturing, Biotech & Life Sciences

### Curing the world's toughest diseases by automating personalized medicine.



# Cellino's automated R&D production system

Target cost reductions enabled by Cellino's technology compared to incumbent methods



Cellino is moving actively towards enabling scaled personalized iPSC trials at Phase 2b and beyond for the first time



#### The Opportunity the world we want to build

Open up access to personalized cell- and tissue-based therapies for everyone. These living medicines have the potential to cure many diseases - from Alzheimer's to agerelated.

"Cellino brings a truly unique approach, with a high level of complexity: hardware, AI/ML, bioengineering, cell based therapy, automation, and fluidics. It is supremely rewarding to see the convergence happening every day at Cellino. Our multidisciplinary team comes together actively, solving problems with creativity."

NABIHA SAKLAYEN CEO & Co-founder, Cellino







Hyfé

Founders & Michelle Ruiz, Andrea Schoen

Leadership Background Industries

LanzaTech, ExxonMobil, Carnegie Mellon, Northwestern Advanced Manufacturing, Biotech & Life Sciences, Food & Ag

### **Producing low-carb**, protein-rich fungi flour.

#### The Problem

#### today's challenges

Diet-related chronic illnesses, such as diabetes, are responsible for 60% of deaths per year. These diseases can be managed by replacing foods that cause inflammation with alternative flours and proteins, but these are unaffordable to most of the population.

#### **The Solution**

#### the Tough Tech breakthrough

Hyfé Foods is harnessing rich sugars from industrial food manufacturing waste streams to make protein from mycelium, the roots of mushrooms. The company has developed a platform that can produce fermentation feedstocks that are dramatically cheaper, climate positive, and noncompetitive with food.

#### The Opportunity

the world we want to build To start, Hyfé is utilizing their platform to disrupt the \$26 billion alternative flours market, by leveraging the nutritional superiority of the mycelium protein to solve for health issues that are causing consumers to look for healthier and more sustainable alternatives to indulgent, everyday comfort foods.

Single solution adressing multiple complex problems







Hvfé projects its system will enable food manufacturers to achieve dramatic operating cost savings



for wastewater and water treatment

"The food manufacturing industry generates billions and billions of gallons of sugar-andwater byproduct each year, which goes to treatment plants and contributes to carbon emissions and pollution. Hyfé upcycles this waste through a sustainable fermentation process to turn it into useful products, starting with a low-cost, high-nutrient flour made from fungi."



Fermentation platform monetizing both inputs and outputs







from the food industry









trillion gallons per year

Global wastewater production, 2020. Only 52% is collected and treated

# mori

Founders &<br/>LeadershipAdam Behrens, Sezin Yigit, Livio Valenti, Benedetto<br/>Marelli, Fiorenzo OmenettoBackgroundTufts University SilkLab, MIT Laboratory for Advanced<br/>BiopolymersIndustriesAdvanced Materials, Food & Agriculture

### Keeping food fresher for longer and reducing packaging waste with a natural coating.





shelf life of food

Elements in Mori's proprietary process: salt, water, and heat to extract natural silk protein

#### The Problem

today's challenges About a third of all food produced globally is wasted and, together, food and packaging/ containers account for almost 45% of the materials landfilled in the United States.

#### The Solution

the Tough Tech breakthrough

Mori takes advantage of silk's natural qualities by harnessing the protein in silk cocoons into a water-soluble powder designed to integrate seamlessly into existing harvesting, processing, and distribution workflows. Mori's allnatural protective layer slows down the spoiling processes across whole and cut produce, protein, and packaging, among others.

#### The Opportunity

the world we want to build

Mori will improve access to fresh food with less waste, increasing resiliency and sustainability in the global food supply chain. This will provide access to safe and healthy food that will remain fresher for longer—without the need for single-use plastic packaging. — "Mori will become the material of choice for food, agriculture, and packaging. We will be in everyone's pantry."

ADAM BEHRENS CEO & Co-Founder, Mori











Whole & cut produce, protein, packaging, and others

Food supply that is wasted





![](_page_45_Picture_29.jpeg)

![](_page_45_Picture_30.jpeg)

![](_page_45_Picture_31.jpeg)

89

![](_page_46_Picture_2.jpeg)

Founders & Michael Schrader, Kathryn Kosuda, Livio Valenti, David Leadership Kaplan, Fiorenzo Omenetto Background Harvard Business School, Tufts University SilkLab Industries Advanced Manufacturing, Advanced Materials, Biotech & Life Sciences

### **Transforming efficacy** and access for vaccines and therapeutics.

#### The Problem

today's challenges Easy access to vaccination and many therapeutics is critical to maintaining public health. To achieve this, the world requires medicines with long shelf-life, room-temperature shipping and handling, and a replacement for needle-based administration.

#### The Solution

the Tough Tech breakthrough Vaxess is pioneering a smart release therapeutic patch that provides shelf-stable and easily administered vaccines and therapeutics. The solution stabilizes vaccines at room temperature, eventually removing the need for cold chain and enabling at-home delivery-critical for the COVID pandemic. The patch works with both traditional antigen vaccines as well as mRNAbased vaccines.

#### The Opportunity

the world we want to build

Accelerate vaccine access around the world through at-home delivery and administration.

![](_page_46_Picture_12.jpeg)

Patent families

![](_page_46_Picture_14.jpeg)

![](_page_46_Picture_15.jpeg)

First program launches for the influenza vaccine using the MIMIX platform

![](_page_46_Picture_17.jpeg)

MIMIX-flu is currently in Phase 1 trials

"As a team, Vaxess has gone from interesting science to realworld testing with humans. Our new manufacturing facility allows us to make patches, with a plan to scale up production, and our applicator has gone from a concept to a product."

#### MICHAEL SCHRADER CEO & Co-Founder, Vaxess

Mimix patch system: Various renderings of the MIMIX™ product including the packaging, instructions and user-friendly applicator. The vaccine patch is visible from the underside of the applicator.

![](_page_46_Picture_22.jpeg)

![](_page_46_Picture_23.jpeg)

![](_page_46_Picture_24.jpeg)

UN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

![](_page_46_Picture_27.jpeg)

![](_page_46_Picture_30.jpeg)

#### ANIDE

Founders & Leadership	Brad Pentelute, Jeremy Wertheimer	
Background	MIT	
Industries	Advanced Manufacturing, Biotech & Life Sciences Machine Learning	

## Changing the drug discovery paradigm.

#### The Problem today's challenges

Biologic therapeutics are the fastest-growing category of drugs, but in order to accelerate drug discovery and manufacturing in this industry, scientists still need a way to quickly fabricate small- and mediumlength proteins.

#### The Solution

#### the Tough Tech breakthrough

Amide is developing an automated platform for discovering and synthesizing biologic therapeutics. The company's automated tool is a robotic "printer" capable of synthesizing proteins and nanobodies with more amino acids, improved solubility, and at a faster rate compared to incumbent processes. It can also make non-natural, or mirror, amino acids, which exhibit unique therapeutic advantages.

#### The Opportunity

#### the world we want to build

Unlock the potential of biologic therapeutics, resulting in drugs that are safer, stronger, longer-lasting, and more stable.

![](_page_47_Picture_13.jpeg)

Founders & Leadership	Theresa Tribble, Jose Zevallos, Aadel Chaudhuri, Stan Lapidus
Background	Washington University School of Medicine
Industries	Biotech & Life Sciences

biotech & Life Sciences

#### Assessing cancer risk and informing treatment using post-surgical diagnostic tools.

#### The Problem today's challenges

Physicians need appropriate and timely information in order to make decisions about patient care. Yet this type of data is currently unavailable, particularly in postsurgical oncology.

#### The Solution

#### the Tough Tech breakthrough

Droplet Biosciences is developing novel diagnostic tools to analyze post-surgical fluids and provide more nuanced, proximal diagnostics to oncologists and their patients. These tools can better assess cancer risk, identify residual disease, and inform post-surgical treatment.

#### The Opportunity

#### the world we want to build

Return patients to health faster and reduce unnecessary treatments, such as chemotherapy, with a more timely and accurate picture of post-operative health.

![](_page_47_Picture_25.jpeg)

![](_page_47_Picture_26.jpeg)

Founders & Leadership	Floris Engelhardt, John Vroom, Mark Bathe
Background	MIT BioNanoLab, Technical University of Munich, MIT Sloan
ndustries	Biotech & Life Sciences

![](_page_47_Picture_28.jpeg)

Enabling precision-genomic editing with single-stranded DNA technology.

#### The Problem

#### today's challenges

To realize the full potential of CRISPR technologies, therapeutic gene editing needs to become more targeted, efficient, and cheaper.

#### The Solution

#### the Tough Tech breakthrough

Kano is pioneering single-stranded DNA as a safe, efficient, and flexible biomaterial for gene insertions. The company's fermentation process enables the precision manufacturing of gene vectors in custom lengths and sequences. Its platform can supply singlestranded DNA molecules with specific properties for a broad range of needs— at manufacturing scale.

#### The Opportunity

#### the world we want to build

Expand our ability to use human genetic code to treat conditions like cancer and autoimmune diseases and potentially curing them.

![](_page_47_Picture_39.jpeg)

#### KYTOPEN

 
 Founders & Leadership
 Paulo Garcia, Cullen Buie

 Background
 MIT Department of Mechanical Engineering

 Industries
 Advanced Manufacturing

#### Cellular engineering at unparalleled speeds, from discovery to the clinic, with no process re-optimization.

#### The Problem

#### today's challenges

Engineered cells hold the potential to save lives and cure the toughest diseases, but manufacturing them is currently a slow, laborious, and expensive process.

#### **The Solution**

#### the Tough Tech breakthrough

Kytopen has invented a new method of introducing genetic material into cells using continuous processing and electro-mechanical energy that is the same from discovery- to commercial-scale. This approach results in highly functional and healthy engineered cells in a fraction of the time and at a higher volume than other methods.

#### The Opportunity

#### the world we want to build

Accelerate time to clinic for groundbreaking new therapies and reduce the overall cost of development processes.

![](_page_47_Picture_53.jpeg)

![](_page_47_Picture_54.jpeg)

#### FOUNDERS ON A MISSION > HUMAN HEALTH

![](_page_48_Picture_1.jpeg)

Founders & Leadership	Amy Ripka
Background	University of Wisconsin-Madison, The Scripps Research Institute Advanced
ndustries	Biotech & Life Sciences

![](_page_48_Picture_3.jpeg)

#### **Breakthrough therapies for** neurological diseases based on mitochondrial biology

#### **The Problem**

#### today's challenges

Treatments for our most insidious neurodegenerative diseases remain elusive, even after decades of research.

#### **The Solution**

#### the Tough Tech breakthrough

Lucy Therapeutics is targeting the mitochondria as a central player for many pathways known to be involved in neurological and other diseases. The insights will drive both more effective medicines as well as biomarker discovery to enable early, presymptomatic diagnosis of diseases.

#### The Opportunity

#### the world we want to build

Enabling doctors to diagnose and treat neurological diseases, such as Rett Syndrome, Alzheimer's, and Parkinson's, before patients develop debilitating symptoms like tremors, dementia, or seizures.

C	seaspire								
<b>V</b>	S	Κ	Т	Ν	C	А	R	Е	

Founders & Leadership	Camille Martin, Leila Deravi		
Background	Northeastern University		
Industries	Advanced Materials, Biotech &		

#### Sustainable, bio-inspired ingredients for skincare and consumer products.

#### **The Problem**

#### today's challenges

In suncare alone, more than 70% of products contain chemical UV-filters that have been reported to disrupt the endocrine system. Such UV-filters can also damage coral reefs, which are already critically endangered by climate change.

#### The Solution

#### the Tough Tech breakthrough

Seaspire is developing Xanthochrome, a proprietary organic natural biomolecule that functions as an SPF-booster, UV-filter stabilizer, and antioxidant. Xanthochrome outperforms current active ingredients found in over-the-counter products in safety, aesthetics, and function-without adversely affecting marine life.

#### The Opportunity

#### the world we want to build

Preventing skin damage and cancers caused by environmental pollutants, such as sunlight, smog, blue light, and oxidation, using a natural ingredient that is healthy for humans and the planet.

![](_page_48_Picture_26.jpeg)

& p	Carl Schoellhammer, Robert Langer, Gi Traverso, Scott Kellogg
nd	MIT Department of Chemical Engineerin
;	Biotech & Life Sciences

![](_page_48_Picture_29.jpeg)

![](_page_48_Picture_40.jpeg)

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![](_page_49_Picture_1.jpeg)

**"Opportunities to create** a positive step change in the health of entire populations is possible by converging scientific and technology disciplines. Tough Tech seeks new manufacturing processes and products that do just that— from diagnosing or preventing disease and health threats, to treating both personally and broadly with medicines, and even to eating fresh, healthy food." ANN DEWITT General Partner, The Engine

![](_page_50_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_51_Picture_2.jpeg)

Founders & Leadership Background

Industries

Chris Schuh, Tim Rupert, Jake Guglin, Jasper Lienhard MIT Department of Materials Science and Engineering,

Advanced Manufacturing, Advanced Materials

UC Irvine

## **Spring-loading the next** generation of industrial innovation with novel metal alloys.

#### **The Problem**

today's challenges

The world needs a step change in materials productions and performance to meet manufacturing needs and fix current bottlenecks of global supply chains.

#### The Solution

the Tough Tech breakthrough Foundation Alloy is reinventing the microstructure design of metals, from the atom up, to achieve stronger, lighter, less corrosive materials. Its high-performance metals have made-to-order structural qualities and derive from a more economical, 90% faster, and less energy-intensive manufacturing process.

#### The Opportunity

#### the world we want to build

Shift the \$867 billion global market for metal parts to highperformance metal components and broaden the horizon for new industrial design paradigms.

![](_page_51_Picture_15.jpeg)

![](_page_51_Picture_16.jpeg)

Performance Materials Engineering Manufacturing

Products + Supply Chain.

![](_page_51_Picture_19.jpeg)

Proprietary alloy families created to date

![](_page_51_Picture_21.jpeg)

Reduction in energy usage in part production

"Engineering and manufacturing technologies have far outpaced the materials they rely on. Foundation Alloy modernizes metals, with control on an atomic level. This represents a seismic shift in the long history of metal design."

JAKE GUGLIN CEO & Co-Founder, Foundation Alloy

![](_page_51_Picture_25.jpeg)

![](_page_51_Picture_26.jpeg)

![](_page_51_Picture_27.jpeg)

UN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

![](_page_51_Picture_30.jpeg)

![](_page_51_Picture_32.jpeg)

Market size across copper alloy, nickel alloy, steel, titanium, and other alloy parts

#### HL HYPERLIGHT

Mian Zhang, Marko Loncar, Christian Reimer, Kevin Luke

Leadership Background Industries

Founders &

Laboratory for Nanoscale Optics at Harvard University Advanced Manufacturing, Advanced Materials,

**De-bottlenecking data** centers and telecom networks using ultra-efficient optical circuits.

Semiconductors

#### **The Problem**

today's challenges

Data centers are quickly reaching limits of speed and energy consumption. Without significant innovation in material efficiency, the quantity of data and the transmission speed will reach a ceiling.

#### The Solution

#### the Tough Tech breakthrough

The connections between our most fundamental technologies rely on a device to convert signals between electricity and light waves at high speeds: the electro-optic modulator. HyperLight has developed Thin-Film Lithium Niobate (TFLN) photonic integrated circuits with innovative designs and scalable manufacturing processes that offer silicon-like reliable processing with the unique superior cost-efficiency and power performance. Integrated optical modulator devices made with HyperLight's low-loss chips will meet the growing market

demand for ultrahigh-performance, yet cost-effective optical solutions.

#### The Opportunity

the world we want to build Reshape the world's relationship with optical data with faster and more capable connections between data centers, industries, offices, and homes, which can support modeling-heavy approaches to artificial intelligence and machine learning-a \$250 billion market by 2035.

![](_page_52_Picture_15.jpeg)

TFLN modulators.

dB

![](_page_52_Picture_17.jpeg)

Bandwidth of Hyperlight's integrated photonics devices

on-chip loss Drive voltage

volt

![](_page_52_Picture_20.jpeg)

Reduced the loss factor by 100x compared to existing optical fibers

CEO & Co-Founder, HyperLight

![](_page_52_Picture_24.jpeg)

#### FOUNDERS ON A MISSION > ADVANCED SYSTEMS & INFRASTRUCTURE

![](_page_53_Picture_1.jpeg)

Founders & Yibiao Zhao, Debbie Yu, Chris Baker Leadership Background MIT Computational & Cognitive Science Group Industries AI & ML

## **Automating the logistics** industry with a humanistic, **Al-powered autonomous** driving technology.

#### The Problem

today's challenges

Today's global supply chain is in dire need of modernization. Logistics companies face unpredictable labor capacity, variable costs, and increasing demands to improve safety.

#### The Solution

the Tough Tech breakthrough With ISEE's AI-powered, selfdriving yard trucks, logistics yard operators can improve yard safety, maximize yard efficiency, realize cost savings, and gain reliable driving capacity — all in the midst of a global supply chain crisis. The company plans to first automate logistics yards, reducing costs by 50% and increasing yard throughput by 30%.

#### The Opportunity

the world we want to build

A world where autonomous machines can thrive alongside people, freeing us to do what we do best.

![](_page_53_Picture_12.jpeg)

![](_page_53_Picture_13.jpeg)

Global Market for logistics vards and driver labor

weeks To seamlessly integrate hardware and software to ease customer

adoption

"We have built a sophisticated tech stack, which is like ten technologies and innovations in one startup. This foundation gives us the ability to expand our AI-powered system to more general use cases."

YIBIAO ZHAO CEO & Co-Founder, ISEE

![](_page_53_Picture_18.jpeg)

![](_page_53_Picture_19.jpeg)

![](_page_53_Picture_20.jpeg)

Shortage of gualified and experienced drivers for supply chains, forecasted by 2026

![](_page_53_Picture_23.jpeg)

![](_page_53_Picture_24.jpeg)

![](_page_53_Picture_25.jpeg)

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#### FOUNDERS ON A MISSION > ADVANCED SYSTEMS & INFRASTRUCTURE

![](_page_54_Picture_2.jpeg)

Founders & Leadership Backgr Industri

Grayson Zulauf, Aaron Stein, Phyo Aung Kyaw

ound	Tesla, Apple, Motiv, Dynapower, Stanford, Dartmouth
ies	Biotech & Life Sciences, Mobility

## **Untethering electric vehicles** and medical devices with wireless charging.

![](_page_54_Picture_7.jpeg)

# Implantable Medical Device Charger. Power health for all.

![](_page_54_Picture_9.jpeg)

Higher performance than conventional wireless charging coils

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![](_page_54_Picture_11.jpeg)

Cost improvement over current state-of-the-art wireless chargers **The Problem** 

today's challenges Electrification often comes with an unfortunate tangle: the charging cable. But today's wireless charging systems are slow, inefficient, unreliable, and expensive to manufacture.

#### The Solution

the Tough Tech breakthrough Resonant Link is developing a novel wireless charging technology for systems as small as implantable medical devices and consumer electronics, to those as large as industrial applications and electric vehicles. Its platform can charge at greater distances, with a smaller footprint, and greater thermal efficiency than conventional systems.

#### The Opportunity

the world we want to build

Resonant Link's fast, safe, and reliable wireless charging seamlessly powers the vehicles and devices we depend on, without needing to plug in or swap out batteries. This has the potential to help people live safer, more productive lives - no more unnecessary surgeries, reduced logistics costs, and a way to support the grid through full electrification.

![](_page_54_Picture_20.jpeg)

![](_page_54_Picture_21.jpeg)

"I've always been drawn to electric vehicles and the connection between electrification and health - reshaping the paradigm between energy and power to enable people to live safer, more fulfilling lives, and protect our planet at the same time."

GRAYSON ZULAUF CEO & Co-Founder, Resonant Link

![](_page_54_Picture_25.jpeg)

![](_page_54_Picture_27.jpeg)

Industrial and Material Handling Equipment Charger. Power fleets while they work.

![](_page_54_Picture_29.jpeg)

Electric Vehicle Charger. Charging that drives you forward.

![](_page_54_Picture_31.jpeg)

Sync

Founders & Jeff Chou, Suraj Bramhavar Leadership Background MIT Lincoln Lab Industries Advanced Computing

## **Transforming the way** developers control cloud infrastructure for machine learning workloads.

#### **The Problem**

today's challenges

The \$300B global cloud computing industry is massively inefficient and complex, contributing to tens of billions of dollars of wasted time and electricity a year.

#### The Solution

the Tough Tech breakthrough

Sync Computing automatically reconfigures and reschedules big data and machine learning jobs to make the cloud easier, faster, and cheaper. Its technology can quickly optimize complex cloud infrastructure for cost and time with a single click.

#### The Opportunity

the world we want to build By eliminating the guesswork, cloud applications such as big data analytics, machine learning, and scientific simulations can be instantly and optimally deployed to the cloud, saving companies billions of dollars.

![](_page_55_Picture_12.jpeg)

![](_page_55_Picture_13.jpeg)

![](_page_55_Picture_14.jpeg)

impact of compute power is quite real. By optimizing systems we can drastically reduce companies annual spend but we are also really reducing a huge amount of waste. That is the Tough Tech challenge of computing that we are up against."

"The environmental

JEFF CHOU CEO & Co-Founder, Sync Computing

Before Time

Autotuner for Apache Spark

Performance	Balanced			
Speed	Cost	Speed		
73.9%	42.2%	45%		
Faster	More	Faster		

![](_page_55_Picture_20.jpeg)

Cheaper than competitors

Cloud infrastructure costs

UN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

![](_page_55_Picture_25.jpeg)

![](_page_55_Figure_26.jpeg)

	Economy	
Cost	Speed	Cost
32%	<b>38%</b>	65.6%
More	Faster	More

![](_page_56_Picture_1.jpeg)

Industries

Founders & Leadership	Bharath Kannan, Simon Gustavsson, Tim Menke, Youngkyu Sung, Shereen Shermak, Jonas Bylander, Will Oliver
Background	MIT Engineering Quantum Systems (EQuS), Chalmers University of Technology

Advanced Computing, Quantum Computing

![](_page_56_Picture_5.jpeg)

Tackling the world's hardest computational challenges with scalable quantum computers.

#### The Problem

#### today's challenges

Today's quantum computers are physically complex and error-prone. Like the gargantuan early vacuum tube computers, these systems scale with a bruteforce approach to engineering—requiring endless racks of equipment.

#### The Solution

#### the Tough Tech breakthrough

Atlantic Quantum is developing quantum computer hardware that achieves up to 100X improved performance compared to incumbents. This improved performance results in the ability to build scalable, fault-tolerant quantum computers.

#### The Opportunity

#### the world we want to build

A step change in computing will address the complexities of analyzing world challenges, and drastically reduce the power and space needed as both global compute needs and populations continue to scale.

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6	-	-			

ounders & eadership	George Linscott, Tim Swager, Eric Keller, JT Mann
ackground	MIT Department of Chemistry
ndustries	Advanced Materials, Internet of Things

#### **Enabling a healthier and** safer world with miniaturized, mobile lab-grade sensing solutions.

![](_page_56_Picture_19.jpeg)

Outdated sensing solutions and slow, costly, lab-based analyses limit access to invisible chemical signatures hidden all around us in air, food, medicines, and more. As a result, critical information on diseases, toxins, and product integrity remains under-reported and inaccessible.

#### The Solution

#### the Tough Tech breakthrough

C2Sense's miniaturized sensing solutions are low-cost, portable, and laboratory grade, making the detection of invisible compounds and the power of rapid diagnosis readily available. The technology has a wide range of applications including diagnostic tools to bring lab accuracy into the home, counterfeit detection solutions for products across markets, and sensing platforms to monitor air, food, and water quality.

#### The Opportunity

#### the world we want to build

Make the world a healthier and safer place, particularly in two broad categories: 1) food safety and product integrity across the supply chain, and 2) health and environmental testing anywhere anytime.

![](_page_56_Picture_27.jpeg)

Founders & David Lazovsky, Preet Virk Leadership Background Intermolecular, POET Technologies, NVIDIA. Google. Grog. MACOM. Transmeta. Applied Materials Industries Advanced Materials, Semiconductors

![](_page_56_Picture_30.jpeg)

celestial AL

#### Creating the most impactful Al computing solutions for the benefit of humanity.

#### The Problem

#### today's challenges

The rise of artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML) is driving an explosion in compute demand. This acceleration in demand is coming at a time when transistor scaling has hit its limits and AI accelerator companies are struggling to keep pace with demands, particularly in "edge" applications, where energy use is of paramount concern.

#### The Solution

#### the Tough Tech breakthrough

Celestial AI is developing a silicon photonics systemin-package technology that includes a state-of-the-art AI accelerator chip. The system harnesses light rather than electrons to perform data-parallel calculations-a process that is many orders of magnitude faster, more power efficient, and more scalable than in traditional semiconductors.

#### The Opportunity

#### the world we want to build

Meet the needs of an AI compute market that is increasing by a factor of 128x every two years, and expected to grow to become a \$250 billion opportunity by 2030.

![](_page_56_Picture_41.jpeg)

### FINWAVE

Founders &	Bin Lu, Tomás Palacios	
Leadership		
Background	MIT Microsystems Technology Laboratories, MIT Department of	
	Electrical Engineering and Computer	

Science

Industries

Advanced Materials, Semiconductors

#### **Significantly more efficient** electronics: from cell towers to data centers.

#### The Problem

#### today's challenges

The poor energy efficiency of silicon semiconductor chips prevents wide adoption of 5G broadband services, constrains data center performance and efficiency, and limits the range of electric vehicles.

#### The Solution

#### the Tough Tech breakthrough

Finwave is overcoming the constraints of silicon chips with its new generation of semiconductor devices and chips based on a revolutionary gallium nitride (GaN) technology with a three- dimensional structure. The company's chips can be made in standard fabs, with no special tools required, allowing Finwave to capitalize on the capabilities of modern foundries.

#### The Opportunity

#### the world we want to build

Create a usable 5G network—and even enable 6G services.

![](_page_56_Picture_57.jpeg)

![](_page_56_Picture_58.jpeg)

#### HEDRON

Founders & Leadership	Daniel Nevius, Baris I. Erkmen, Katherine Monson, Rhonda Landers
Background	MIT, NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory, X the moonshot factory, Facebook
Industries	Internet of Things Space

![](_page_57_Picture_3.jpeg)

#### Real-time satellite network connecting space to Earth 24/7.

#### The Problem

today's challenges

Remote sensing satellites lack basic connectivity in orbit. We need real-time imagery from space to keep the planet safe and prosperous.

#### **The Solution**

#### the Tough Tech breakthrough

Hedron is building a network of in-orbit communication relay satellites that offers expanded connectivity for data transfer, without any change to existing hardware. Terabytes of data are liberated through faster data downloading, more access to download windows, lower latency, and improved cost structures while being compatible with heritage satellites and new satellites alike.

#### The Opportunity

#### the world we want to build

Provide abundant and timely information from space, to empower action in a quickly-changing world.

![](_page_57_Picture_14.jpeg)

RISE	
Ч-I <sup>i</sup>	

 Founders &
 Arron Acosta, Blake Sessions, Toomas

 Leadership
 Sepp, Kyle Dell'Aquila

 Background
 MIT

 Industries
 Robotics

#### Accelerating the electrification of heavy machinery with solid-state hydraulics.

#### The Problem today's challenges

Heavy machinery consumes 14B gallons of diesel per year, resulting in 154M tons of annual CO2 emissions in the United States alone. Worldwide, this number is much larger – 570M tons of CO2 per year.

#### The Solution

#### the Tough Tech breakthrough

RISE Robotics has invented a replacement for hydraulic systems that will enable the next era of fully electrified heavy machinery, one that is at once sustainable, robust, and precise. The company's core technology is an electrically-powered mechanical linear actuator with all the abilities of a hydraulic cylinder but vastly improved efficiency and control.

#### The Opportunity

#### the world we want to build

Transforming the heavy industry sector through an allelectric, oil-free, zero-emission hydraulics replacement.

![](_page_57_Picture_26.jpeg)

#### **7ERADAR**

Founders & Leadership	Matt Carey, Greg Charvat, Nicholas Sai
Background	Humatics, Lincoln Labs, Draper Laboratory, Butterfly Network, MIT
Industries	AI & ML. Transportation

![](_page_57_Picture_29.jpeg)

Enabling the next level of perception and communication.

#### The Problem

today's challenges

Historically, there has been insufficient advancements in communication and sensing to enable a safe, connected world.

#### The Solution

#### the Tough Tech breakthrough

TeraDAR is developing a new category of sensors that will fundamentally transform the intelligent sensor landscape, enabling high-resolution sensing and high-speed communication. By moving into previously impossible electromagnetic frequency ranges, TeraDAR will be able to combine the benefits of multiple sensor systems into a single low-cost system.

#### The Opportunity

#### the world we want to build

Improve safety and add a critical, new component to smart city infrastructure.

![](_page_57_Picture_40.jpeg)

![](_page_57_Picture_42.jpeg)

Founders & Leadership	James Cox, Alex Wallar, Menno van der Zee, Daniela Rus, Javier Alonso-Mora, Bradford Church
Background	MIT, Uber, Canoo
Industries	AI & ML, Transportation

#### Democratizing public transit.

#### The Problem

#### today's challenges

Areas with public transit hubs are in high demand, pushing lower-income communities further away from the transportation options they need. This leads to more traffic congestion and higher transport costs for all.

#### The Solution

#### the Tough Tech breakthrough

Using optimization research pioneered at MIT's Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence Laboratory, The Routing Company is redefining public transit to make it the most reliable and accessible mobility option. Its platform gives communities of any size, in any place, with any resources, the ability to meet the transportation needs of its people, while reducing traffic congestion.

#### The Opportunity

#### the world we want to build

Reduce vehicle emissions and provide better access to economic opportunity.

![](_page_57_Picture_54.jpeg)

![](_page_57_Picture_55.jpeg)

### wolia

Founders & Leadership	Antón García-Abril, Débora Mesa
Background	MIT, Ensamble Studio
Industries	Advanced Manufacturing, Advanced Materials

#### Changing how we design and construct our world.

#### The Problem

#### today's challenges

The housing industry is in crisis with a scarcity of labor, higher prices, and fragmented supply chains. Additionally, as the world's population grows and becomes increasingly urban, housing density needs to keep pace.

#### The Solution

#### the Tough Tech breakthrough

WoHo integrates architectural design, engineering, and construction into a single, streamlined platform to quickly build resilient, sustainable, high-rise buildings. The company will build lean, modular factories that balance automation and handwork close to construction hubs, simplifying the logistics, lowering the costs, and reducing the environmental footprint of its buildings.

#### The Opportunity

the world we want to build

Housing the growing population by lowering construction costs, reducing project delivery time, minimizing environmental impact, and improving project predictability and construction quality.

![](_page_58_Picture_14.jpeg)

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🐺 ZAPATA

Founders & Leadership	Christopher Savoie, Alán Aspuru-Guzik, Jonathan Olson, Peter Johnson, Yudong Cao, Jhonathan Romero Fontalvo
Background	Harvard Department of Chemistry, University of Toronto Department of Chemistry
Industries	Advanced Computing

![](_page_58_Picture_18.jpeg)

#### Solving the world's most complex problems with quantum software.

#### The Problem

#### today's challenges

Classical compute lacks the power to solve the most important problems in science and industry.

#### **The Solution**

#### the Tough Tech breakthrough

Zapata Computing writes algorithms that harness the power of quantum computing to bridge the quantum and classical computing regimes and help predict and simulate some of the universe's most complex interactions, such as the behavior of molecules at an atomic level.

#### The Opportunity

#### the world we want to build

Accelerate discoveries across the pharmaceutical, logistics, aerospace & automotive, finance, and materials industries, and much more.

![](_page_58_Picture_29.jpeg)

"In order to spread prosperity across the planet's global population, we need to use our natural resources 10x more efficiently. This means transforming industries that support our most basic life needs including food, housing, healthcare, transportation and much more."

MILO WERNER General Partner, The Engine

**"The creation of The Engine** has been instrumental in translating "Tough Tech" ideas from MIT. It has been inspiring to see our graduates create amazing companies that they might not have otherwise. Through the extensive mentorship, facilities, space, and funding, our students, postdocs and faculty have been able to envision and create a path for impact. The **Engine has been critical in creating** truly impressive leaders. It was a honor to serve on the inaugural **Board of The Engine and see the** growth of the entity from a concept to an expansive operation."

ANANTHA P. CHANDRAKASAN

Dean of the School of Engineering, MIT Board Emeritus, The Engine

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#### THE ENGINE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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![](_page_59_Picture_15.jpeg)

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![](_page_60_Picture_0.jpeg)

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The most urgent problems hold the biggest opportunities. The Engine invests in remarkable founders to create positive global change.

![](_page_60_Picture_3.jpeg)

![](_page_61_Picture_0.jpeg)

**The Engine Report** 2021 & 2022

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en steel with zero greenhouse gas emissions. | One quarter of all greenhouse **bon-free fusion power.** | Sustainable food for a growing population. | Efficient into the air. | Mini-plants make useful chemicals from waste. | Deforestation. requires on-demand energy access. | Low-cost multi-day energy storage. d sustainable lithium extraction. Carbon capture systems are inefficient. stries. | Industrial gas purification produces 16% of the world's carbon emis-Current technologies can't transition us fully from fossil fuels. | Millimeter ment contributes 8% of global CO2 emissions. Cost-effective, zero-carbon emits massive amounts of CO2. Catalyze reactions with electric light instead insufficient for a decarbonized world. | Superconducting cables transmit 5x s account for 12% of all U.S. energy consumption. | Decarbonize every indus-| Rapid discovery and printing of new proteins. | Progressive neurodegenec health problems. | Sewage analysis for earlier detection. | Lack of cures for s of residual cancer. | Nuanced, proximal post-surgical diagnostics. | Instabingi flour. Single-stranded DNA is hard to produce, but medically powerful. pies are time-consuming and expensive to commercialize. Automated cell ain elusive. | Mitochondrial-based approach to treat diseases of the brain. | A educe spoilage and packaging waste. | Topical products like sunscreens are nal bio-inspired materials. | Common health conditions still have limited treatre hard to transport and not maximally effective. | A shelf-stable patch with es. Scalable quantum computing. Molecular information is unreadable. by computing power. | Data moved by photons not electrons. | Silicon ineffi-**G chips.** Old materials don't work for new manufacturing techniques. **Ena**-Poor connectivity in orbit. | Relay satellites for 24/7 connection. | Global data Supply chain gaps from a truck driver shortage. | Self-driving trucks at wacation. | More efficient wireless charging, over longer distances. | Heavy maefficient substitutes. | Cloud computing is massively inefficient. | Eliminate e are over 4,000 deaths attributed to automobiles. | Better imaging and senfficiency of public transportation. | Al-optimized routes bring transportation ange how we design and construct our world. | Super complex problems can't algorithms. | ...and more Tough Tech challenges that need solutions.

"The Engine is a champion for complexity, a cross-pollinator of knowledge, and a convener for the Tough Tech ecosystem. Together, we can make a more optimistic future possible, faster."

> KATIE RAE, CEO & Managing Partner, The Engine