

# RICE | BUSINESS

PRESENTS THE



## RICE BUSINESS PLAN COMPETITION

**BUILD  
WHAT'S  
NEXT**

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2026 RBPC

# COMPETING STARTUPS

\$1M+  
IN PRIZES

42  
STARTUPS

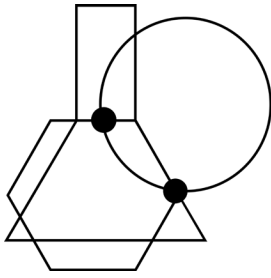
39  
UNIVERSITIES

350+  
JUDGES

# ELEVATOR PITCH COMPETITION

# PITCH ORDER

PITCH ORDER	STARTUP	SCHOOL
1	Cocoa Potash	Case Western Reserve University
2	Crack'd Up	University of Wisconsin-Madison
3	CystoPilot Technologies	University of Texas at Austin
4	GUIDEAIR Labs	University of Washington
5	Lucy	University of Pennsylvania
6	Panoptica Technologies	Georgia Institute of Technology
7	Legion Platforms	Arizona State University
8	BioLegacy	Seattle University
9	JanuTech	University of Washington
10	Innowind Energy	University of Waterloo
11	VivoFlux	University of Rochester
12	BRCĒ	Michigan State University
13	Imagine Devices	University of Texas at Austin
14	DialySafe	Rice University
15	Forge	UC Berkeley
16	Grapheon	University of Pittsburgh
17	Armada Therapeutics	Dartmouth College
18	Quantum Power Systems	University of Texas at Austin
19	Laetech	University of Toronto
20	Hydrastack	University of Chicago
21	Solid Air Dynamics	RWTH Aachen University
22	PowerHouse	Massachusetts Institute of Technology
23	BiliRoo	University of Michigan
24	Vocadian	University of Oxford
25	The Good Company	Michigan Tech
26	Spine Bionics	University of North Carolina
27	Shinra Energy	Harvard University
28	BeamFeed	City University of New York
29	Cottage Core	Kent State University
30	BlueHealer	Johns Hopkins University
31	Arrow Analytics	Texas A&M University
32	Cosnetix	Yale University
33	Altaris MedTech	University of Arkansas
34	NerView Surgical	McMaster University
35	Routora	University of Notre Dame
36	Aura Life Science	Northwestern University
37	ChargeBay	University of Miami
38	UNCHAIN	Lehigh University
39	Foregger Energy Solutions	Babson College
40	AlchemII	University of Tennessee, Knoxville
41	Sentivity.ai	Virginia Tech
42	Salem Robotics	University of Texas at Austin



## **AlchemII**, University of Tennessee, Knoxville

### **HARD TECH**

AlchemII converts natural gas into battery-grade synthetic graphite and clean hydrogen. The U.S. imports 100% of its battery-grade graphite, 70-80% from China, now facing 130% tariffs. Our process is 36x faster, \$0.5 lower cost, and carbon-negative versus traditional Acheson. This enables small-scale domestic production near stranded natural gas. Co-product hydrogen adds revenue and price cushioning. We've won \$60k from DOE EnergyTech and are building a prototype reactor to demonstrate graphitization for the growing U.S. EV and grid storage market.

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[alchemii.co](http://alchemii.co)



## **Altaris MedTech**, University of Arkansas

### **LIFE SCIENCE & HEALTHCARE SOLUTIONS**

Altaris is taking the pain out of the pediatric space and builds trust with patients. Our first product, Strep-Detect, replaces the swab method of sample collection for non-invasive Streptococcus A (commonly referred to as "strep" or "strep throat") with a spray based solution that's tailored to the strep bacteria. On contact and with the help of a blue light we can make the infection glow in the back of the throat. This method will speed up clinic visits but also open the way for at home testing.

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## **Armada Therapeutics**, Dartmouth College

### **LIFE SCIENCE & HEALTHCARE SOLUTIONS**

Armada is a core technology company pioneering the application of microfluidics and photoporation to advance biomedical sciences. Armada's first platform technology, EXOthern, is poised to revolutionize the bioprocessing landscape of extracellular vesicles (EV), enabling their use as therapeutics, drug delivery systems, and diagnostic metrics. EXOthern, is a benchtop system enabling research-scale or large-batch isolation, purification, and cargo loading of EVs from any source, including primary human biofluids.

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## **Arrow Analytics,** Texas A&M University

### **HARD TECH**

Arrow Analytics is reducing travel stress with the first autonomous baggage tracker, counter, and sizer. Using depth cameras and spatial AI at airport gates, our platform helps airlines reduce boarding delays, optimize cabin storage, and enhance the passenger experience. Ultimately, our mission is to never have a lost bag or flight delay due to baggage again. We are currently on a contract with Southwest Airlines and Gerald R. Ford International Airport in Michigan to deploy in early 2026, with an expected deployment at Pittsburgh International Airport soon after.

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## **Aura Life Science,** Northwestern University

### **ENERGY, CLEAN TECH & SUSTAINABILITY**

We engineered cyanobacteria with reprogrammed circadian clocks to enable inexpensive, carbon-negative biomanufacturing, allowing businesses to produce valuable bioproducts while actively sequestering CO<sub>2</sub>. Through precise manipulations to the circadian clock, we've fundamentally reshaped the metabolic architecture of cyanobacteria to increase production 30-50x without impacting growth. From our projections, this breakthrough enables carbon-negative biomanufacturing to be an economically viable alternative to petrochemical synthesis and agricultural extraction across applications from industrial enzymes to bioplastics and therapeutics.

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## **BeamFeed,** City University of New York

### **HARD TECH**

BeamFeed is an academic spin-out company from the City University of New York focusing on long distance wireless power transfer, a solution that eliminates traditional wiring needed to charge and power modern-day electronics. Specifically designed for battery-powered aerial systems, this laser-based technology addresses recharging interruptions by enabling continuous in-flight energy transfer for extended flight time, reduced user downtime, and greater operational efficiency. The company's most recent achievement is securing an NSF STTR Phase I grant and being a recipient of the Round 3 Innovation Matching Grant issued by New York State Empire State Development.

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[beamfeed.co](http://beamfeed.co)

## BiliRoo



[www.biliroo.com](http://www.biliroo.com)

**BiliRoo**, University of Michigan

### LIFE SCIENCE & HEALTHCARE SOLUTIONS

Worldwide, 60% of newborns develop jaundice; if left untreated, moderate-to-severe jaundice can cause permanent brain damage and even death. BiliRoo is a neonatal phototherapy sling that treats infant jaundice while enabling kangaroo care (prolonged skin-to-skin contact). Using filtered sunlight, BiliRoo is designed to expand access to effective jaundice treatment in low-resource settings while also preventing parent-infant separation in developed markets. Recognized as a top invention by the USPTO, BiliRoo has published bench research in Nature's Pediatric Research, filed two patents, and is launching clinical trials this May, targeting a 2027 emerging-market launch and 2028 US launch.

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**BIOLEGACY**

**BioLegacy**, Seattle University

### LIFE SCIENCE & HEALTHCARE SOLUTIONS

BioLegacy transforms organ transplantation from a race against time into a planned, scalable system. By extending organ viability from hours to years, reducing costs by up to 70%, and rescuing organs that would otherwise be discarded, BioLegacy offers a rare opportunity to save lives while creating massive economic and societal value.

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**BLUEHEALER**  
Vascular Orthopedics

**BlueHealer**, Johns Hopkins University

### LIFE SCIENCE & HEALTHCARE SOLUTIONS

BlueHealer is a Maryland-based medical device startup developing perfusion restoration systems using patent-pending bone distraction implant technology. Our first-in-class device restores blood flow to limbs threatened by chronic limb-threatening ischemia (CLTI), offering a biologic solution where current vascular interventions fail. With over 150,000 amputations annually in the U.S., BlueHealer provides a durable internal alternative that expands limb-salvage treatment options, reduces complications, and enables orthopedic and vascular teams to prevent amputations.

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**BRCĒ**, Michigan State University

**HARD TECH**

BRCĒ is a patented material-tech startup replacing failure-prone textiles with utility-based polymer composites engineered for strength, fire resistance, and intrinsic stability. BRCĒ's micro-structured architecture enables directional grip and controlled tension at the yarn level, eliminating slippage and performance loss under extreme conditions. Built on award-winning Lattice-Grip® technology, BRCĒ serves athletic, medical, and industrial safety markets. Our platform scales profitably through direct products, B2B integration, and material-platform licensing, backed by senior executives from Nike and NFL teams and partnerships with global brands.

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**ChargeBay**, University of Miami

**ENERGY, CLEAN TECH & SUSTAINABILITY**

ChargeBay makes EV charging profitable and scalable for commercial properties. We combine hardware-agnostic chargers with a powerful software platform that reduces installation costs by up to 60% while automating payments, access control, and energy optimization. Our AI-driven load management and reseller-first distribution model enable buildings to deploy EV charging quickly, affordably, and without operational complexity.

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**Cocoa Potash**, Case Western Reserve University

**ENERGY, CLEAN TECH & SUSTAINABILITY**

Each year, over 100 million tons of high-emissions agricultural byproducts decay unmanaged, releasing toxic gases, triggering plant disease outbreaks, disrupting soil pH balance, and reducing crop yield. At the same time, industrial manufacturers rely on derived from environmental destructive mining operations with high carbon footprints, and no traceability, failing ESG and decarbonization mandates. We transform this liability into traceable, low-carbon organic potassium carbonate ( $K_2CO_3$ ) for manufacturers in food processing, biotech, pharmaceutical, personal care, display technologies, batteries and electronics, delivering an ESG-compliant alternative for advanced manufacturing.

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**Cosnetix**, Yale University

**CONSUMER PRODUCTS & SERVICES**

Cosnetix is an AI-powered skincare intelligence platform that predicts how your unique biology will react to any product on the market before you buy. The \$155B beauty industry thrives on trial-and-error. 50M Americans struggle with acne, yet nothing tells them what will trigger their next breakout. Our patent-pending algorithm analyzes genetics, microbiome, and skin traits to deliver personalized risk scores and safer choices. We're launching DTC to build a proprietary dataset linking biology to real outcomes. That data fuels powerful analysis tools for formulators, telederm platforms, and dermatologists, making the entire skincare ecosystem smarter.

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**Cottage Core**, Kent State University

**CONSUMER PRODUCTS & SERVICES**

There is a lack of healthy, unprocessed snack options. Current selections are full of ingredients unknown to the human body. With society pushing towards a healthier lifestyle, and the exponential growth in the billion-dollar protein market, there is a need for better, holistic snack options. Cottage Core is the solution - a sweet new spin on a classic high protein dairy product that is made without preservatives. Created by a former D1 athlete who understands the importance of a healthy diet, Cottage Core is designed to make eating healthy easier and sweeter.

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[eatcottagecore.com/home](http://eatcottagecore.com/home)



**Crack'd Up**, University of Wisconsin-Madison

**CONSUMER PRODUCTS & SERVICES**

Crack'd Up is a premium line of all-natural, flavored liquid eggs designed for convenience, great taste, and balanced nutrition. Despite being a roughly \$50B U.S. market, the egg industry has seen little meaningful product innovation in decades, leaving consumers to choose between bland "healthy" options or flavorful but less nutritious breakfasts. Crack'd Up changes that by introducing chef-inspired flavors in a ready-to-pour format that makes eggs effortless and craveable. Just shake, pour, and cook for a delicious, high-protein breakfast that finally delivers both health and flavor.

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## **CystoPilot Technologies,** The University of Texas at Austin

### **LIFE SCIENCE & HEALTHCARE SOLUTIONS**

CystoPilot Technologies develops a robotic add-on that improves diagnostic cystoscopy, where patients often face 4-12 week delays due to urologist shortages and procedural burden. By retrofitting existing cystoscopes with automated steering and remote supervision capabilities, CystoPilot reduces procedure complexity, improves inspection consistency, expands care capacity, and enhances diagnostic accuracy, without disrupting clinical workflows or existing reimbursement pathways.

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## **DialySafe,** Rice University

### **LIFE SCIENCE & HEALTHCARE SOLUTIONS**

DialySafe is an AI-powered RPM platform initially tackling peritonitis, a severe infection affecting 26% of home dialysis patients. Current visual detection is subjective and late-stage, often identifying infection 3-5 days too late and causing \$20,000+ hospitalizations. Our proprietary Magnetic Induction Spectroscopy (MIS) sensor clips onto any standard tubing to detect biomarkers without fluid contact. This universal, zero-disposable design offers a passive infrastructure approach, requiring no supply chain changes while enabling clinics to bill for recurring revenue. We transform tubing into smart diagnostics to save lives and costs.

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## **Foregger Energy Solutions,** Babson College

### **ENERGY, CLEAN TECH & SUSTAINABILITY**

There are over 500,000 refrigerated trucking trailers operating in the U.S., each spending \$10,000-\$30,000 annually on diesel. Reefer failures are also common across the food and biopharma industries alone, over \$69 billion in product losses have been attributed to temperature-related issues. Transport Refrigeration Unit Electrified (TRUE) is a retrofit kit that uses regenerative braking and an onboard battery to power refrigerated trailers. TRUE can reduce diesel consumption and emissions by up to 100% while providing backup power during unit failure. It installs at any point in an 8-12 year trailer lifespan without new charging infrastructure.

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## **Forge**, UC Berkeley

### **DIGITAL ENTERPRISE**

Forge converts 2D media into 3D intelligence. Existing three dimensional creation is slow, costly, and dependent on specialized hardware. Our platform delivers scalable, high fidelity three dimensional outputs from minimal input to enable broad cross industry use, from augmented and virtual reality to fashion and ecommerce.

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## **Grapheon**, University of Pittsburgh

### **ENERGY, CLEAN TECH & SUSTAINABILITY**

At Grapheon, we have a novel technology to disrupt the way graphite is made for batteries. For the first time in the U.S., we can produce battery-grade graphite at half the production cost of China.

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## **GUIDE AIR Labs**, University of Washington

### **HARD TECH**

GUIDE AIR Labs is building Fusion Flight, a resilient navigation platform that keeps drones and autonomous systems operating when GPS becomes unreliable. GPS degradation today causes frequent mission failures and is a barrier to scaling autonomy across logistics, inspection, and security markets representing over \$100B in annual spend. Fusion Flight replaces fragile GPS dependence with adaptive signal intelligence and onboard sensor fusion, delivering stable positioning without costly infrastructure or external corrections. The company has early traction through industry engagement, pilot interest, and peer-reviewed research.

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## **Hydrastack**, University of Chicago

### **DIGITAL ENTERPRISE**

Hydrastack is building the operating platform for casino gaming, starting with tools that accelerate moving casino games across platforms and formats. Our first product reduces the time required to convert slot machine games to online formats from 8 months to 8 weeks.

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## **Imagine Devices**, The University of Texas at Austin

### **LIFE SCIENCE & HEALTHCARE SOLUTIONS**

Imagine Devices is a medical device company developing Trinity Tube, a multifunctional nasogastric feeding tube that delivers nutrition while continuously monitoring airway pressure, core temperature, ECG, and heart rate. By replacing multiple wires, sensors, and tubes with a single integrated device, Trinity Tube enhances respiratory monitoring, protects fragile skin, supports skin-to-skin care, and reduces device burden, enabling safer, more efficient care for premature infants in the NICU.

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## **Innowind Energy Solutions**, University of Waterloo

### **ENERGY, CLEAN TECH & SUSTAINABILITY**

Innowind develops a retrofittable AI-enabled "Robotic Fin" system that boosts wind turbine energy production by up to 15% and extends component life. Our patented technology attaches directly to existing blades with out the need for drilling or re-certification, enabling asset owners to unlock new revenue from aging fleets. Unlike costly re-powering or OEM-dependent upgrades, Innowind provides a low-cost, scalable retrofit solution that improves AEP, reduces downtime, and accelerates decarbonization.

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**JanuTech**, University of Washington

**ENERGY, CLEAN TECH & SUSTAINABILITY**

JanuTech is developing high-power anode electrodes made from proprietary antimony sulfide nanoparticles that blend seamlessly into existing electrode manufacturing. Our technology overcomes the power and fast-charge limits of today's graphite anodes by enabling faster lithium-ion transport and more uniform lithium deposition. We help drone, robotics, and industrial battery manufacturers unlock higher performance without changing their production lines.

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janutech.com

# Laetech

**Laetech**, University of Toronto

**LIFE SCIENCE & HEALTHCARE SOLUTIONS**

Laetech is a Toronto-based biotech start-up developing novel reconstruction and cosmetic solutions for soft-tissue defects, with our flagship product addressing gum recession, a condition affecting half of adults. The gold-standard treatment is cutting tissue from the roof of the mouth, leading to pain, bleeding, infection risk, and limited tissue availability. Laetech's technology combines a functionalized scaffold with processed fat tissue, allowing clinicians to prepare a cellular graft during surgery. This approach provides the cells which acellular materials lack, with no donor-site incisions, less pain, and faster healing, while increasing the number of teeth a surgeon can treat.

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**Legion Platforms**, Arizona State University

**CONSUMER PRODUCTS & SERVICES**

Legion Platforms is creating 3D online games that are accessible to people with bad computers, slow internet, or a have a device that can't download games. Our games are built through our own proprietary game engine which allows users to easily play our games through our website, which loads on your web browser or mobile device within seconds. We have generated strong traction, as we have 16 million users across 190 countries worldwide, with 70% of those users being in the US/Europe. We have also partnered with large companies like Microsoft, Discord, and CrazyGames to distribute our games to over 1.5 billion users on their respective platforms.

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**Lucy**, University of Pennsylvania

#### **HARD TECH**

Lucy is an invisible bone-conduction wearable (worn on a molar or behind the ear) that enables private, always-on AI audio without breaking presence. Our device delivers real-time information, coaching, and communication through a form factor no one can see. We're launching into protective security, where operators need hands-free intelligence without visible hardware, and expanding into in-person sales and knowledge work. We've closed paid pilots and are backed by Blackbird Ventures.

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**NerView Surgical**, McMaster University

#### **LIFE SCIENCE & HEALTHCARE SOLUTIONS**

NerView Surgical is developing NerveSense™, a non-invasive, contact-free imaging system that helps surgeons visualize nerves in real time to prevent accidental nerve injuries. Today's approaches often rely on the naked eye and judgment. Using our patent-pending optical imaging technology, NerveSense detects nerves without any physical contact, enabling faster, more confident nerve identification when anatomy is unclear. We are building a solution that will make a difference in the lives of surgeons and patients, and ultimately redefine the standard of care, ensuring no parent, friend, or relative has to watch their loved one suffer from a preventable mistake. Learn more at [www.nerview.com](http://www.nerview.com).

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**Panoptica Technologies**, Georgia Institute of Technology

#### **DIGITAL ENTERPRISE**

Panoptica Technologies is a defense tech company that uses AI/ML to automate the intelligence cycle, improving mission planning and execution for military and law enforcement organizations. Panoptica replaces legacy, time-consuming analytical workflows with systems that enable faster target identification and threat detection.

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**PowerHouse**, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)

**ENERGY, CLEAN TECH & SUSTAINABILITY**

PowerHouse is building the power plant of the future—transforming homes into a network of dispatchable, utility-grade energy. As demand surges and the grid strains to keep up, PowerHouse delivers immediate, scalable capacity by aggregating residential energy resources into a reliable, flexible solution. Utilities can defer costly infrastructure investments and optimize existing assets, while homeowners join at no upfront cost to gain backup power. PowerHouse isn't just building a power plant—it's powering a more resilient, affordable energy future.

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**Quantum Power Systems**, The University of Texas at Austin

**ENERGY, CLEAN TECH & SUSTAINABILITY**

Nanoinverter is a patent-pending, GaN-based solar inverter that converts DC to AC with higher efficiency and significantly smaller size than existing solutions. Operating at 500 kHz, it is up to 66% smaller and more efficient than conventional microinverters. Its plug-and-play architecture reduces installation time by up to 40% and eliminates high-voltage components, lowering system cost and improving reliability. This solution targets homeowners and solar installers seeking a simpler, more affordable way to deploy rooftop solar.

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**Routora**, University of Notre Dame

**DIGITAL ENTERPRISE**

Routora's AI is transforming how cities/small businesses plan and manage inspection operations. Our AI-powered B2G/B2B SaaS automates inspection scheduling, assignment, and route optimization - eliminating manual, spreadsheet-driven planning that wastes time, money, and capacity. Today, depts and small inspection businesses rely on paper, Excel, Google Maps, or clunky tools, leading to missed inspections, lost revenue, and reduced public safety. Routora digitizes this process in minutes. NYC Buildings estimates 625 hours saved per week (\$2M in annual labor) and 52k additional annual inspections (\$9M+ in revenue). Across small businesses, Routora has saved 5M minutes and \$450k in fuel costs.

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## **Salem Robotics,** University of Texas at Austin

### **ENERGY, CLEAN TECH & SUSTAINABILITY**

Salem Robotics is bringing autonomous robots into hazardous spaces. We are starting with nuclear, automating mandated routine radiological surveys that have to be performed daily. Today, these surveys are done manually by workers carrying handheld instruments, recording using pen and paper, and later transcribing said results into a simple computer sheet. Our platform allows robots to navigate facilities, execute surveys, overcome obstacles, collect radiation measurements, and generate compliance-ready records; all autonomously (without human presence or intervention). Nuclear is facing major work shortages and by automating data collection/documentation, customers can improve consistency, and reduce labor burden and operating costs. Initial customers are U.S. commercial nuclear power plants and DOE facilities. Adjacent markets for expansion with very similar workflows include hazardous chemical, biological, oil, and gas facilities.

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## **Sentivity.ai,** Virginia Tech

### **CONSUMER PRODUCTS & SERVICES**

Sentivity.ai is an AI driven consumer insights platform that helps brands understand how their messaging, products, and identity are perceived across diverse audiences. By analyzing language, tone, and cultural context, we identify blind spots, risks, and opportunities that traditional market research often misses. Sentivity.ai delivers fast, scalable, and data backed perception analysis, enabling companies to make more informed branding, marketing, and product decisions while reducing reputational and market risk.

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**SHINRA ENERGY**

## **Shinra Energy,** Harvard Business School

### **ENERGY, CLEAN TECH & SUSTAINABILITY**

Shinra Energy reduces geothermal drilling risk by directly measuring subsurface stress in deep, high-temperature environments. Geothermal deployment is constrained by expensive and uncertain drilling, where a single underperforming well can materially impact project economics. Our technology captures in-situ stress directly from a core (sub-surface rock sample), enabling more informed well placement and improved reservoir targeting. By integrating stress data into exploration workflows, we aim to reduce unproductive wells and improve capital efficiency for geothermal developers.

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SA-Dynamics

## Solid Air Dynamics, RWTH Aachen University

### HARD TECH

Solid Air Dynamics develops aerogel fibers that combine aerogel typical thermal insulation with textile flexibility. Conventional aerogels are brittle, energy-intensive to produce and difficult to scale. We transform cellulose precursor fibers into high-performance aerogel fibers using a faster, more efficient process, reducing cycle times and thus enabling high-throughput production. Our fibers are lightweight, super-insulating, flexible and on top biodegradable. By integrating seamlessly along the textile value chain, we unlock scalable, high-performance insulation solutions for apparel, technical textiles, and beyond.

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## Spine Bionics, University of North Carolina

### LIFE SCIENCE & HEALTHCARE SOLUTIONS

Spine Bionics is developing next-generation spine fusion implants that actively enhance bone healing rather than passively stabilize the spine. Our technology converts normal spinal micromotion into electrical energy to stimulate bone growth while enabling wireless, real-time monitoring of fusion progress. By promoting faster, more reliable fusion and reducing reliance on repeated CT imaging, Spine Bionics lowers the risk of nonunion and reoperation, decreases radiation exposure and delays in care, and helps patients return to their daily lives sooner with greater confidence and fewer complications.

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The Good Company

## The Good Company, Michigan Technological University

### CONSUMER PRODUCTS & SERVICES

The Good Company (formerly imi) is developing a sweat-native wearable that continuously measures molecular signals to guide fueling, hydration, and fatigue decisions. It solves a core limitation of non-enzymatic sensing by enabling continuous sweat glucose monitoring in near-neutral conditions without user-handled harsh reagents. Unlike wearables that infer physiology from proxies or invasive CGMs that penetrate skin, we deliver direct, non-invasive molecular trends for global endurance athletes and high heat, high strain occupations.

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## **UNCHAIN**, Lehigh University

### **DIGITAL ENTERPRISE**

UNCHAIN is building ASGUARD, an AI security platform. Today, businesses are deploying AI agents to handle everything from customer support to internal operations. But these agents can be manipulated, tricked into leaking data, taking unauthorized actions, or going off-script. Most security tools try to block bad inputs before they reach the agent. ASGUARD takes a fundamentally different approach: it monitors what the agent actually does. By learning each agent's normal behavior and flagging anything unusual in real time, ASGUARD catches compromised agents and contains them before any damage is done. Think of it as a security guard that watches from the inside, not just the front door.

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## **VivoFlux**, University of Rochester

### **LIFE SCIENCE & HEALTHCARE SOLUTIONS**

VivoFlux makes dynamic, human-relevant cell culture easy and accessible. Most labs rely on static culture because existing organ-on-chip platforms are expensive, complex, and unreliable. VivoFlux's patented, peel-and-stick flow inserts convert standard labware into reliable flow systems in under five minutes, with no cleanroom fabrication, proprietary hardware, or specialized training required. By removing technical and cost barriers while preserving reproducibility and workflow compatibility, VivoFlux enables more predictive biology earlier in research and supports a scalable, recurring consumables model for academia and industry.

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## **Vocadian**, University of Oxford

### **DIGITAL ENTERPRISE**

Employee cognitive wellness is critical to business performance, yet it remains largely overlooked. Each year, impaired cognition contributes to an estimated 100,000 deaths and \$140B in economic losses, even in high-risk industries such as logistics and aviation. Current solutions focus mainly on real-time monitoring, which fails to prevent cognitively unready individuals from entering operational environments and allows little opportunity for meaningful correction once incidents occur. Vocadian addresses this gap by providing predictive insight into employee cognitive readiness before shifts through a 30-second, AI-powered speech assessment integrated into existing compliance processes.

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