



## PROGRAM

ATCE Startup Village is a partnership between SPE and the Rice Alliance for Technology and Entrepreneurship at Rice University.

This year, the 2022 ATCE Startup Village competition will be held virtually over 2 days.

- The Startup Village Energy Startup Competition occurs on Tuesday, 20 September, from 0900-1200 CDT.
- The Competition Award Announcements and the Meet the Experts program occurs on Wednesday, 21 September, from 0800-1145 CDT.

Additionally, join the Competition winners and incoming SPE President, Med Kamal, at the SPE Pavilion in the Exhibition Hall for the in-person award ceremony at ATCE on Monday, 3 October, 1300-1330 CDT.

## Schedule at a Glance and How to Join Virtually

**All times CDT, Houston time**

Join by clicking on the “Join Here” links below, then:

- new attendees: register for the event
- already registered: click on the same links and log in. You may join both live events at least 30 minutes before the start time.
- the events will be recorded and available on-demand until 23 December 2021.

### **Tuesday, 20 September**

**0900-1210 CDT | Energy Startup Competition**

[Join Here](#)

*This session will be available on-demand until 23 December 2022.*

### **Tuesday, 14 September**

**0800-1145 CDT | Competition Award Announcements and Meet the Experts Program (Fireside Chats and Table Topics)**

[Join Here](#)

*This session will be available on-demand until 23 December 2022.*



**Tuesday, 20 September 2022**

**Energy Startup Competition**

**0900–0815**    **Opening Remarks for the Energy Startup Competition**

**0915**            **People’s Choice voting begins**

**0915–1200**    **The Energy Startup Competition with 10 Competitors**

0915–0930	Ai Exploration Ltd
0930–0945	Qube Technologies
0945–1000	LongPath Technologies Inc.
1000–1015	Saher Flow Solutions
1015–1030	DrillDocs
<b>1030–1045</b>	<b>Break</b>
1045–1100	Criterion Energy Partners
1100–1115	Arolytics
1115–1130	Seebeckcell Technologies
1130–1145	Geolumina Corporation
1145–1200	Vidya

**1200–1210**    **Closing Remarks**

**1230**            **People’s Choice voting ends**

**[Use This Link to Vote for the People’s Choice](#)**  
**from 0915-1200 CDT, on Tuesday, 20 September 2022, during the live event.**  
**You make one choice and have one vote.**

## Competition Award Announcements and Meet the Experts Program

- 0800–0805**      **Energy Startup Competition Award Announcements**
- 0805–0810**      **Welcome, and Introduction of the Meet the Experts Program**
- 0810–0855**      **Fireside Chat 1** – Armand Paradis, CEO of ComboCurve  
**Hosted by** Bryant Mueller, AspenTech
- 0855–0905**      **Break**
- 0905–1045**      **Table Topic Discussions**  
*5 rounds of 20 minutes each. You have 10-12 minutes for the table topic lead to discuss a topic, and 8-10 minutes of Q&A with the participants.*

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Led By</b>
How do you define a company's strategy to align with profitability and potential for growth?	Todd Bush, Decarbonfuse
How to execute a startup's strategy to align with resources and the organization's infrastructure	Preshit Gawade, Baker Hughes
Energy Emerging Technologies—from Ideation to Creation	Katie Perry Fischer, ConocoPhillips
How to take advantage of the startup ecosystem to launch a product	Joey Sanchez, The Ion
Leveraging oil and gas expertise to build a cleantech startup	Deanna Zhang, EtechMonkey

- 1045–1055**      **Break**
- 1055–1140**      **Fireside Chat 2** – Gaurav Khandelwal, CEO of Velostics  
**Hosted by** Nii Ahele Nunoo, PwC
- 1140 – 1145**      **Closing Remarks**

SPE sincerely appreciates your participation in the 22ATCE Virtual Startup Village program. Please take a few minutes to complete this survey about your experience. Your answers are especially important to us.

[\*\*Attendee Survey\*\*](#)

## Biographies

### *Fireside Chats*

**Armand Paradis** is the CEO and Co-Founder of ComboCurve, a 2021 Disruptive Technology of the Year winner, who is focused on consolidating energy industry workflows into one cloud-based, collaborative, and easy-to-use platform.

Armand, who has nearly a decade of experience in reservoir engineering, programming, and data analysis, chose to explore new ideas and start ComboCurve after being disappointed with the current methods of well performance analysis as he found those methods slow, inefficient, biased, and inconsistent.

Armand holds a bachelor's degree from the Sharif University of Technology and a master's degree from the University of Louisiana, where he was recruited as a reservoir engineer for Metairie Energy in Lafayette, Louisiana. After working as a reservoir engineer for Metairie for nearly five years, Armand joined Statoil's Houston office as a Well Performance Manager, where he worked on major lower 48 unconventional resource plays.

**Gaurav Khandelwal** is founder and CEO of Velostics, an innovative logistics software provider for the H2, CNG and gasoline industries. Khandelwal is a serial entrepreneur having previously founded ChaiOne, a leading software developer for the industrial Fortune 500. He has been an active member of the Houston startup ecosystem as board member of Houston Exponential, founder of Start Houston and an angel investor.

**Bryant Mueller** is Director of Sales at Aspen Technology, which delivers software that helps the world's largest oil and gas, chemical and engineering companies achieve their goals in safety, sustainability, and operational performance. Bryant has spent his entire career developing, marketing, selling, and deploying digital solutions in the energy industry. He has been an SPE volunteer for more than 2 decades and has held various leadership positions, including serving on the International Board of Directors. He holds a degree in Mechanical Engineering from The University of Tulsa where he played varsity soccer and met his wife. They have 3 daughters and live in Sugar Land, Texas.

**Nii Ahele Nunoo** is a Manager in the Deal Delivery Value Mergers & Acquisition Group at PricewaterhouseCoopers (PWC) in Houston, focusing on Energy transactions and advising clients on all aspects of the deal lifecycle, including acquisitions, divestitures, separations, joint ventures, financial planning and analysis, and business/operational process improvement.

Nii's previous roles include a Senior Associate in the Energy Core Group at KPMG, and various roles in the technology commercialization group at National Oilwell Varco.

Nii holds a Bachelor of Science in Electronic Engineering from the Minnesota State University, Mankato, and an MBA from Duke University-Fuqua School of Business with a concentration in Energy Finance. He is an active member of Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE), Association of Corporate Growth (ACG), and United Way of Greater Houston and an honoree of Harts Energy E&P 2020 Energy innovators and Oil and Gas Investor's 40 under 40 class 2021.

## **Table Topic Discussions**

### **Todd Bush, Managing Director with Decarbonfuse**

*As the Managing Director of Fuse Markets, Todd works closely with companies to identify and commercialize energy transition opportunities in Energy & Mining. This year's projects have included feasibility studies for carbon capture, commercial due diligence for equipment suppliers, carbon offset buyer analysis, and other benchmarking services. He founded Fuse Markets and <https://decarbonfuse.com> to deliver data and insights for industrial decarbonization in energy, chemicals, mining, and materials. Todd was previously Head of North America for Westwood Global Energy focusing on onshore energy supply and demand. Prior to that, he founded Energent Group in 2012 to deliver market insights to underserved water, sand, chemical, and oilfield markets with new technology and unique data. The company was first to market with satellite observation of completion crews and sand mines while providing deep market expertise on the electrification of North America hydraulic horsepower. He joined Chevron in 2007 following graduate school at Rice University. Todd is an alum of Texas A&M University and Rice University.*

### **Preshit Gawade, Executive Director – New Energies with Baker Hughes**

*Dr. Preshit Gawade enjoys connecting the dots which enable him to recognize business potential and bridge the gap. He has expertise in catalysis, chemicals, hydrogen, CCS, decarbonization, renewables, sustainability, oil and gas, water treatment and emission control. He is currently an Executive Director – New Energies with Baker Hughes which focuses on energy transition strategy.*

*Currently, Preshit is a board member for “Big Brother Sisters,” focused on youth mentoring and building future leaders. He serves on the Frost & Sullivan, Growth and Innovation Leadership Council and the Strategic Leadership Committee of Ekona Power. He is also a graduate of the United Way – Project Blueprint Leadership Program that helps improve Houston community living. He has held various roles in the SPE Gulf Coast Section. In addition, Preshit is actively involved in Baker Hughes leadership programs to mentor next-generation leaders and promote entry transition. Lastly, he has worked with non-profits in children's education, scientific programs, and immigration services to build a stronger community. Preshit holds an MBA from the University of Texas, Austin, and a PhD in Chemical Engineering from the Ohio State University.*

### **Katie Perry Fischer, Global Emerging Digital Technology Program Lead with ConocoPhillips**

*After graduating from the University of Arkansas with a degree in Business Administration Management Information Systems, Katie Perry Fischer launched her career through ConocoPhillips where she quickly grew through the ranks from Internal Audit, Commercial Applications, and Upstream IT Operational Excellence to establishing the startup organization, Lower 48 Integrated Operations (IO). Katie transitioned from the IO org to Corporate Cloud Transformation to her current role as Program Lead for the Emerging Digital Technology group where she identifies, trials, and implements emerging solutions focused on improving business performance and energy market competitiveness. Katie is also a Certified SAFe Scrum Master, an AWS Cloud Practitioner, and a Certified Change Management Professional (CCMP). Katie is passionate about coaching and mentoring on the job and in the community with Girls Talk Tech, Young Women's Preparatory Mentoring Program. She also leads the Lean In Circle of The Women's Network.*

**Joey Sanchez, Senior Director of Ecosystems with The Ion**

Joey Sanchez is the Senior Director of Ecosystems for The Ion Houston, and Founder of Cup of Joey. Joey works in the Houston early-stage investing and startup community to further establish The Ion’s role as a destination for entrepreneurship and startup opportunities. He delivers program activations that position the Ion as a destination for founders, early-stage startups, scaled startups, early-stage angel investors, venture capital investors, and corporate partners.

Joey’s previous roles include Director of Corporate Engagement at Houston Exponential; Director of Sales at Greater Houston Partnership; and AR Manager with NOV. Joey holds a BBA and MBA in Business Administration and Management from Jacksonville University.

**Deanna Zhang, Advisor and Blogger with EtechMonkey**

Deanna is the creator of EtechMonkey, a climatetech blog, and ETM Advisors, a climatetech consulting practice. She is passionate about helping startups and others in the innovation ecosystem navigate energy transition.

Before starting ETM, she led the Energy Technology Banking division at Tudor, Pickering, Holt & Co., covering clients in areas such as energy software, industrial technology, environmental infrastructure, and alternative energy. She was responsible for deal origination and execution, performing industry and company research, and providing thought leadership in the energy technology space. She has advised dozens of companies on their capital and exit strategies, spoken at a variety of events and conferences, and written 100+ articles on the topics of energy transition and technology.

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