Sustainability R&D Forum

Date: Monday, 16 June 2025

Time: 10.00 – 18.00 BST (UK)

Venue: CISL, The Entopia Building, 1 Regent Street, Cambridge, CB2 1GG

Organisers:

Cambridge Institute for Sustainability Leadership (CISL) Innovation CANOPY

National Institutes of Applied Research (NIAR), Taiwan

Agenda (16 June 10.00 – 18.00 BST)

10.00 – 10.15	**Opening remarks** • Sam Laakkonen, Senior Director of Sustainability Innovation and Entrepreneurship, Cambridge Institute for Sustainability Leadership • Mei-Yu Chang, Ph.D., Director, International Affairs Office, National Institutes of Applied Research, Taiwan	15’
10.15 – 11.00	**Keynote Address** • Prof. Jonathan Cullen, Sustainable Engineering, University of Cambridge • Prof. Konrad Young, Ph.D., CEO of Industry-Academia Innovation College, NTUST; Director & Fellow, Arculus Lab	45’
11.00 – 11.45	**Panel 1** **From research to commerce: optimizing research-industry collaboration in sustainable innovation** • Mei-Yu Chang, Ph.D., Director, International Affairs Office, National Institutes of Applied Research, Taiwan • Radek Holý, Ph.D., Director, The Advanced Chip Design Research Centre, Czeck Republic • Chen-Ta Sung, Research Officer, London School of Economics and Political Science • Ivan Lopez, Director Innovation, Contango, UAE Moderator: Viola Jardon, Head of Innovation Programmes, CISL	45’
11.45 – 12.30	**Panel 2** **Overcoming the hurdles: challenges for commercializing research for a sustainable economy** • Yu-Hsueh (Simon) Hsu, COO, National Institutes of Applied Research, Taiwan • Wendy Niu, Sustainability Innovation Lab Manager, British Standards Institution, UK • Agnieszka Iwasiewicz-Wabnig, Director of Maxwell Centre, Cambridge Zero Industrial Strategy Lead, University of Cambridge • Peter Bachmann, Managing Director, Gresham House Moderator: Viola Jardon, Head of Innovation Programmes, CISL	45’
12.30 – 13.30	**Lunch break**	60’

13.30 – 13.40	**Introduction to breakout room discussions** Viola Jardon, Head of Innovation Programmes, CISL	10’
13.40 – 14.40	**Group Discussions in Breakout rooms** **Track 1: Net Zero** • Wen-Yi Chang, Ph.D., Research Fellow, National Center for High-performance Computing, National Institutes of Applied Research: *Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) in Taiwan and HPC Support from NCHC* • Richard Tamblyn, VP Technology, Origen Carbon Facilitator: Prerna Jain, Founder, CEO Lotus Matter **Track 2: Built environment** • Juin-Fu Chai, Ph.D., Deputy Director General, National Center for Research on Earthquake Engineering, National Institutes of Applied Research, Taiwan: *Disaster Mitigation Strategies and Advanced Technologies for Community Sustainability and Resilience* • Tom Somers, Director UK&I, SkenarioLabs Facilitator: Mei-Yu Chang, Ph.D., Director, International Affairs Office, National Institutes of Applied Research, Taiwan **Track 3: Semiconductor** • Jiunn-Yih Chyan, COO, DEUVtek Co., Ltd.: *Advancing sustainable semiconductor fabrication with a revolutionary technology* • Guan-Rong (GR) Chen, CTO, Light Momentum Technology Corp.: *Low-Power Semiconductor Designs and AI-Driven Energy Efficiency; Advancing Sustainable Computing and Power Management* Facilitator: Filippo Spiga, Senior Technical Product Manager, Accelerated Compute Workloads and Performance, NVIDIA	60’
14.40 – 15.00	**Group feedback in the plenary**	20’
15.00 – 15.30	**Refreshment break**	30’
15.30 – 16.30	**Pitches** • Jiunn-Yih Chyan, COO, DEUVtek Co., Ltd.: *DEUV - Driving Efficiency with Unique Value* • Allen Cheng, CEO, Light Momentum Technology Corp.: *Chip-based intelligence*	60’

	• Dr Liz Zijing Li, Co-founder & COO, MimiCrete Ltd • Dr Spencer Brennan, Founder and CEO, Neutreeno: *Cost-effective Decarbonisation* Facilitator: Viola Jardon, Head of Innovation Programmes, CISL	
16.30 – 16.40	**Final remarks** Viola Jardon, Head of Innovation Programmes, CISL	10’
16.40 – 18.00	**Networking**	80’

Speakers' and Presenter's bios

Sam Laakkonen

Senior Director of Sustainability Innovation and Entrepreneurship, CISL

LinkedIn profile

Sam started his career as a management consultant in the City of London. He was headhunted to his first startup, FirstMark Communications Europe, which raised one of the largest Series A rounds in European history, over $1 billion.

He has since been an early employee at Spotify, privately invested in 25+ startups, had 3 further exits from his own companies, helped 250+ startups accelerate growth, and works as an expert for the European Commission to distribute EIC equity and grant funding.

Sam has been active in the Techstars ecosystem for a number of years, having been an Entrepreneur-In-Residence for Techstars Amsterdam, and a Lead Mentor on a number of programmes including Techstars Lisbon, Techstars Korea, Techstars Boulder and Techstars Energy in Oslo.

Mei-Yu Chang

Director, International Affairs Office, National Institutes of Applied Research, Taiwan

LinkedIn Profile

Mei-Yu Chang is the Director of the International Affairs Office at Taiwan's National Institutes of Applied Research (NIAR), where she leads strategic international collaborations across Europe. With over 15 years of experience in oceanography, environmental science, and science diplomacy, Meiyu brings a unique blend of scientific expertise and policy acumen to her role.

Her career spans key positions in Taiwan's Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST), where she managed interdisciplinary programs on marine ecology, air pollution, and offshore wind energy. She has represented Taiwan at the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) since 2013, contributing to global discussions on climate and ocean science.

Mei-Yu holds a Ph.D. in Fisheries Science from National Taiwan University and has conducted postdoctoral research in Germany and Norway under EU FP7 projects such as CalMarO and FishPopTrace. These experiences deepened her expertise in marine biodiversity and geochemical oceanography while honing her cross-cultural communication skills.

At NIAR, Mei-Yu designs and coordinates international research initiatives that span Earth sciences, ICT, biomedical innovation, and science policy. She also

oversees the NIAR International Internship Program, fostering global talent exchange. Driven by a passion for sustainability and scientific collaboration, Mei-Yu continues to bridge research and policy to address pressing environmental challenges on a global scale.

Viola Jardon

Head of Innovation Programmes, CISL Innovation (CANOPY)

LinkedIn profile

Professional profile

Viola Jardon is the Director of Innovation Programmes at the University of Cambridge Institute for Sustainability Leadership (CISL), where she leads strategic partnerships with corporates to drive sustainability transformation through startup-led solutions. She designs and delivers tailored innovation programmes that bridge corporates, investors, and early-stage ventures, supporting over 400 startups to date.

Previously, Viola was a founding member of the London Fashion Fund and has over 15 years of experience in the tech sector across the UK and Asia. A 2023 finalist for the UK Asian Women of Achievement Award, she is also a regular speaker and judge at global sustainability and innovation forums, championing the intersection of corporate partnerships and sustainable innovation.

Prof. Jonathan Cullen

Sustainable Engineering, University of Cambridge

LinkedIn profile

Professional profile

Professor Jonathan Cullen is the University Lecturer in Energy, Transport and Urban Infrastructure at the University of Cambridge. He leads the Resource Efficiency Collective (www.refficiency.org) and has a reputation for top-down studies of resource systems, bringing skills in developing new metrics to reflect both energy and material consequences of materials production.

Jonathan currently leads C-THRU: carbon clarity in the global petrochemical supply chain (VKRF, US$4m). He is currently a co-investigator on: S2uPPlant: Smart Sustainable Plastic Packaging from Plants (UKRI, £1m), UK FIRES: Locating Resource Efficiency at the heart of Future Industrial Strategy (EPSRC, £5.2m), and CirPlas: Circular Economy Approaches to Eliminate Plastic Waste (UKRI, £1.25m). He is a Lead Author for the IPCC AR6 Industry Chapter, an Expert Adviser to the IEA Technology Roadmaps, and co-authored the book Sustainable Materials: with both eyes open, which pioneered the concept of

material efficiency for energy-intensive industries.

Dr Konrad Young

CEO of Industry-Academia Innovation College, NTUST; Director & Fellow, Arculus Lab; former R&D Director at TSMC

LinkedIn profile

Dr. Konrad Young obtained his doctoral degree in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science from the University of California, Berkeley. When in the United States, he served as a researcher at the Lincoln Laboratory of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and as a senior technologist at HP.

After leaving the United States, he successively worked at Chartered Semiconductor, Winbond Electronics, and Worldwide Semiconductor. From 1998 to 2005, he served as the R&D Director at TSMC, responsible for developing advanced processes at 0.18-micron, 0.13-micron, and 65-nanometer. In 2005, he went to the United States to oversee TSMC's research and development program and advanced technology customer collaboration projects. In 2012, he transferred to TSMC's Basic Engineering Department and the Office of Advanced Technology Management.

In 2001, TSMC began mass production of the 0.13-micron process, laying the foundation for TSMC's later significant lead over its competitors. Several key figures involved in the development efforts were later hailed as the "Six Knights of TSMC's R&D," with Dr. Young being one of them responsible for integrating the overall logic process.

After retiring from TSMC, Dr. Young served as an independent SMIC director and technical advisor to Intel. He is currently a CEO in the College of Industry - Academia Innovation at National Taiwan University of Science and Technology and is deeply passionate about talent development issues.

Radek Holý, Ph.D.

Director, The Advanced Chip Design Research Centre, Czechia

Vice-Rector for Quality Management - Czech University of Technology in Prague; President and Board Member of ECCA - European Campus Card Association

LinkedIn profile

Radek Holý, Ph.D., is a leading figure in Europe's semiconductor and digital identity landscape. He serves as Director of the Advanced Chip Design Research Centre (ACDRC) in Czechia and is the President and Board Member of the European Campus Card Association (ECCA). With a career spanning academia, cybersecurity, and international collaboration, Radek is at the

forefront of shaping Europe's technological sovereignty.

At ACDRC, Radek leads initiatives that bridge Czech and Taiwanese expertise in chip design and semiconductor innovation. The Centre plays a pivotal role in implementing the EU Chips Act and Czech National Semiconductor Strategy, aiming to reduce Europe's dependency on foreign semiconductor supply chains. His leadership fosters cross-border research, talent development, and industry-academic partnerships.

Radek's academic background includes roles at the Czech Technical University in Prague, where he has served as Vice-Rector for Quality Management and contributed to engineering pedagogy and information security. His research interests span authentication technologies, smart cities, and mining engineering.

As President of ECCA, Radek champions the development of secure, interoperable digital identity systems across European campuses, promoting innovation in student services and data protection. A frequent keynote speaker and committee member at international conferences, Radek is recognized for his strategic vision and commitment to advancing Europe's digital infrastructure. His work continues to shape the future of secure, sustainable, and sovereign technology ecosystems.

Chen-Ta (Damian) Sung

Head of Research, Research Consultant & Mixed Method Researcher in Social Affairs, Geopolitics, Market Research and Behavioural Science, London School of Economics and Political Science

LinkedIn profile

Professional profile

Chen-Ta Sung is a Research Officer at the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), where he also pursues doctoral research in the Department of Psychological and Behavioural Science. His work explores the intersection of political psychology, digital technologies, and geopolitics, with a focus on how individuals interpret and respond to political information in an age of digital saturation.

Chen-Ta's PhD project, titled "Sociocultural Turn: Investigating the Complexities of Political Ideologies and Belief in Political Information," employs mixed methods to examine how moral values, emotional responses, and identity shape belief formation and misinformation consumption.

In addition to his research, Chen-Ta teaches courses in cognitive and developmental psychology at LSE and contributes to research training at University College London (UCL). He also works with the LSE Eden Centre, supervising interdisciplinary student research aligned with the UN 2030

Sustainable Development Goals.

Before academia, Chen-Ta served as Head of Research at a global financial information firm in London, collaborating with economists and policy experts from institutions such as the World Bank, IMF, and OECD. He has presented his work at institutions across Europe, including the University of Cambridge and EDHEC Business School.

Chen-Ta is a recipient of LSE's Best Class Teaching Award (2024), reflecting his commitment to impactful education and research.

Ivan Lopez

Director Innovation, Contango, UAE

LinkedIn profile

Ivan Lopez is the Director of Innovation and Practice Lead at Contango, a leading strategic advisory firm based in the UAE owned by the sovereign wealth fund, ADQ. With over thirty years of experience in venture capital, technology and innovation strategy, Ivan leads initiatives that drive sustainable growth and operational excellence across diverse sectors.

At Contango, he spearheads the integration of innovation strategy and mechanisms to drive emerging technologies and data-driven solutions to help the ADQ portfolio and other clients navigate disruption that unlocks new value. Ivan is passionate about fostering a culture of innovation and aligning digital capabilities with business goals. His work supports the UAE's broader vision for economic diversification, sustainability, and global competitiveness.

Dr. Yu-Hsueh (Simon) Hsu

Chief Operation Officer, National Institutes of Applied Research (NIAR), Taiwan

LinkedIn profile

Dr. Simon Hsu is the Chief Operating Officer of National Institutes of Applied Research and a General Partner at iDSoftCapital Group, a venture firm spun off from Acer Corporate Venture and part of Stan Shih's Family Office (Founder of the Pan Acer Group). He previously served as General Manager of Acer Communications Inc., Strategic Project Director, and Chief Investment Officer for Acer's New and Cloud Business.

Before joining Acer, Dr. Hsu led the Corporate Development and M&A Team at Foxconn Technology Group, where he was involved in strategic initiatives across semiconductors, automotive, and telecommunications sectors. He holds academic credentials in engineering and finance from National Yang Ming Chiao Tung University, University of Cambridge, and New York

University.

Wendy Niu

Sustainability Innovation Lab Manager, British Standards Institution, UK

LinkedIn profile

Wendy leads BSI's Sustainability Innovation Lab in Cambridge. She started her career at Innovia Technology, a global innovation consultancy, where she specialised in managing complex, multidisciplinary projects across a number of sectors, covering areas such as innovation strategy, product development and prototyping, and consumer-facing communications.

She has also worked at the Royal Society of Chemistry, where she developed and managed activities to advance the chemical sciences, including "Digital Futures", a cross-organisational programme on the role of data and digital technologies in the future of science R&D. Wendy has a background in physics, with a PhD in Nanoscience from the University of Cambridge.

Dr Agnieszka Iwasiewicz-Wabnig

Director of Maxwell Centre, Cambridge Zero Industrial Strategy Lead, University of Cambridge

LinkedIn profile

Professional profile

Dr. Iwasiewicz-Wabnig is a physicist, innovation strategist, and Director of the Maxwell Centre at the University of Cambridge. With a passion for connecting people and ideas, she plays a pivotal role in shaping the university's engagement with industry, particularly in the physical sciences and engineering.

Aga's leadership at the Maxwell Centre focuses on fostering early-stage collaboration between academic researchers and external partners. Under her direction, the Centre has developed strategic focus areas in zero waste and health tech, aligning with broader goals of sustainability and societal resilience. She also serves as Industrial Strategy Lead for the Cambridge Zero initiative and co-founded the Connect: Health Tech University Enterprise Zone, which supports innovation at the intersection of health and technology.

Her academic journey began with undergraduate and master's studies in physics at Adam Mickiewicz University in Poland and Umeå University in Sweden, followed by a PhD in Experimental Physics. She conducted postdoctoral research at the University of Oxford, where she was a Research Fellow at Wolfson College and a Lecturer at St. Catherine's College.

Since moving to Cambridge in 2009, Aga has been instrumental in building

interdisciplinary research communities. She helped launch the Cambridge Nanoscience Doctoral Training Centre and later worked at the Cavendish Laboratory, facilitating knowledge transfer and industrial partnerships.

At Hughes Hall, Aga is a Governing Body Fellow and a vibrant member of the college community. She has initiated creative and social programmes and actively contributes to the Bridge initiative, which connects academic research with real-world challenges.

Peter Bachmann

Managing Director, Sustainable Infrastructure, Gresham House

LinkedIn profile

Peter is a proud CISL Senior Associate and the Managing Director of the Sustainable Infrastructure division at Gresham House which has $12bn in AUM. He is also Co-Fund Manager for the British Sustainable Infrastructure Fund (BSIF) strategies and is a member of the Gresham House Asset Management Board and member of the Sustainability Executive Committee. He currently manages the BSIF funds which have over $1.3bn of AUM, where all of his real asset backed investments have a clear environmental and/or social impact.

Peter has over 23 years of experience as an investor, developer and fund manager including two top-decile fund exits (>3x and >4x net returns) and completed over 200 individual infrastructure and company investments with a capital value exceeding £5.5bn. Peter has over 25 personal investments in early stage sustainability focussed companies and he has been working with CISL since 2020.

Dr. Wen-Yi Chang

Research Fellow , National Center for High-performance Computing, National Institutes of Applied Research (NIAR), Taiwan

Professional profile

Dr. Wen-Yi Chang is a researcher specializing in computational fluid dynamics (CFD), with a strong track record of publishing high-quality papers that support advanced engineering design. His work has contributed significantly to the understanding of flow behavior and hydrodynamic forces around structures. In addition to CFD, Dr. Chang has led innovative research in sensing and monitoring technologies, including the development of a laser-positioning system for non-contact crack measurement and flow velocity analysis. This work resulted in a patented technology that has been successfully transferred to a local company for practical application.

In recent years, Dr. Chang has expanded his research to artificial intelligence

(AI), focusing on its integration into hazard mitigation, green energy systems, and net-zero carbon emission strategies. Through the application of AI models and high-performance computing, he aims to support sustainable development and environmental resilience

Richard Tamblyn

VP Technology, Origen Carbon

Professional profile

Richard Tamblyn is a seasoned Chemical Engineer with a PhD and over 12 years of specialized experience in carbonating lime and process development. Before joining Origen, he worked with a leading provider of mineral solutions, where he honed his expertise in process innovation and chemical engineering.

At Origen Carbon, Richard serves as the Vice President of Technology, where he leads the R&D, Modelling, and Engineering teams. He is responsible for shaping and executing the company's technical roadmap, particularly in the development of Direct Air Capture (DAC) contactors—a key component of Origen's carbon removal technology.

Richard has played a pivotal role in transitioning from a large multinational corporation to a dynamic startup environment. This shift has expanded his responsibilities, giving him greater autonomy and strategic influence. He is focused on scaling Origen's technology to the 1,000 tonnes per annum (tpa) level and beyond, using a modular system to enable rapid deployment and optimisation.

Dr Juin-Fu Chai

Deputy Director General, National Center for Research on Earthquake Engineering, National Institutes of Applied Research (NIAR), Taiwan

Professional profile

Dr Juin-Fu Chai is the Deputy Director-General of the National Center for Research on Earthquake Engineering (NCREE), a division of Taiwan's National Institutes of Applied Research (NIAR). He is also a faculty member in the Department of Mechanical Engineering at National Taiwan University (NTU) and the Department of Civil and Construction Engineering at National Taiwan University of Science and Technology (NTUST), where he contributes to research and education in structural dynamics, disaster prevention, and smart infrastructure systems.

With a strong background in earthquake engineering, Dr. Chai plays a pivotal role in advancing Taiwan's national resilience strategies. His work focuses on integrating cutting-edge technologies, such as AI-driven early warning systems and post-earthquake structural safety monitoring, into Taiwan's infrastructure

to mitigate the impact of seismic events.

Dr. Chai has been instrumental in promoting international collaboration, most notably through NIAR participation in global technology forums like the CogX Festival in London. There, he highlighted Taiwan's leadership in disaster prevention technologies and emphasized the importance of integrating seismic resilience into semiconductor manufacturing and other critical industries 1.

A strong advocate for sustainable development, Dr. Chai supports the application of earthquake engineering in achieving ESG and SDG goals. His vision includes embedding seismic protection directly into industrial systems to reduce economic losses and environmental impact. Through his leadership at NCREE and academic contributions at NTU and NTUST, Dr. Chai continues to shape Taiwan's role as a global leader in earthquake engineering and disaster mitigation.

Tom Somers

Director UK&I, SkenarioLabs

LinkedIn profile

Tom is the UK & Ireland Director at SkenarioLabs, a proptech company using advanced data analytics to help local authorities, property owners, and investors make more sustainable and financially responsible decisions. With a career spanning both public and private sectors, Tom brings a unique blend of policy insight, innovation leadership, and commercial strategy to the built environment and technology space.

Tom began his career in 2013 as a UK Government Fast Streamer, developing expertise in financial management. He went on to hold roles across departments including the Department of Health and the Department for Transport, where he advised on funding for High-Speed Rail (HS2). His secondment to Arcadia Group as a Project Manager added private sector experience early in his career.

In 2016, Tom transitioned into innovation and transformation roles, including at Wandle, L Marks, and Centrica Innovations, where he led startup engagement and programme delivery. At Arup, he served as Partnerships and Ecosystem Lead, focusing on collaboration across the built environment sector.

At SkenarioLabs, Tom leads efforts to apply AI and big data to property portfolios, helping clients assess risk, sustainability, and investment potential. He is passionate about using technology to support decarbonisation and improve housing quality across the UK. Tom holds a BA in History from Newcastle University and studied A-Levels in History, Physics, Mathematics, and Politics at Greenhead College.

Dr. Jiunn-Yih Chyan.

COO, DEUVtek Co., Ltd.

LinkedIn profile

Dr. Jiunn Yih Chyan is the Chief Operating Officer of DEUVtek Co., Ltd., bringing over 15 years of experience in the semiconductor and decarbonization industries. A highly accomplished engineer and technical strategist, Dr. Chyan specializes in silicon (Si), silicon carbide (SiC), and gallium nitride (GaN) micro- and nano-fabrication, as well as single crystal growth, wafering, and optical MEMS/NEMS technologies.

Dr. Chyan holds a Ph.D. and M.S. in Nano Engineering and Micro Systems from National Tsing Hua University, and a B.S. in Physics from National Chung Cheng University. His academic foundation has been instrumental in driving innovation across multiple high-tech sectors.

Throughout his career, Dr. Chyan has held key leadership and technical roles, including Chief Engineer at GlobalWafers Co., Ltd., General Manager at KY Solar Co., Ltd., and Technical Consultant at TRIPOD Technology Co., Ltd. He also served as Special Assistant to the Chairman at Cosmo Electronics Co., Ltd., where he contributed to strategic planning and technology integration.

At DEUVtek, Dr. Chyan leads operations and technology development, focusing on sustainable innovation and advanced semiconductor solutions. His expertise in process development, technology implementation, and cross-functional project leadership has made him a trusted figure in the industry.

Driven by a passion for innovation and sustainability, Dr. Chyan continues to shape the future of semiconductor technology through strategic leadership and technical excellence.

Allen Cheng

CEO, Light Momentum Technology Corp. (LMTech)

LinkedIn profile

Allen Cheng brings over 23 years of leadership experience at the intersection of technology and finance, with deep expertise in strategic development, digital transformation, and semiconductor industry innovation. As CEO of Light Momentum Technology Corp., he leads a fast-growing, technically advanced startup specializing in edge AI chip design—particularly with deep domain strength in Arm and RISC-V architectures.

Under his leadership, the company plays a pivotal role in driving Taiwan's semiconductor capabilities onto the global stage. Allen actively supports the internationalization of Taiwan's tech industry, advising the Taiwan Ministry of Economic Affairs and collaborating with key players such as TOPCO SCIENTIFIC Co., Ltd. and the Taiwan Chamber of Commerce in the Czech Republic. He also

serves as Secretary-General of the Taiwan Eastbound Alliance – Landing America, a platform dedicated to cross-border industrial cooperation.

Allen is currently a Ph.D. candidate in Business Administration at National Taipei University, where his research focuses on innovation strategy and international industrial development.

Guan-Rong (GR) Chen

CTO, Light Momentum Technology Corp. (LMTech)

GR Chen is a seasoned engineering leader with over 20 years of experience in the semiconductor industry, having held pivotal roles at companies such as Arm, Ambarella, SiEngine, and LMT. With deep expertise in CPU architecture, IP development, and system-on-chip (SoC) design for imaging, vision, and automotive applications, GR has consistently delivered high-impact projects across global teams.

Currently leading R&D at LMT in Taipei, GR oversees reliability computing services, optimizing custom chip performance through system-level architecture and implementation. His work spans automotive-grade design, including EEA, AUTOSAR, and EVITA standards, and he has played a key role in developing Arm CPU IP cores such as M33, M55, and M52.

GR's achievements include architecting 7nm automotive SoCs and MCUs, leading IC tape-outs across multiple process nodes, and advancing high-speed SerDes for in-car video links. He is also deeply involved in functional safety (FuSa), security, and design-for-test (DFT) methodologies.

Previously, GR served as Director of Engineering at Anshingtek, developing Arm v9a/v8m cores, and as Senior Director at SiEngine, where he helped launch SoC products and engaged with customers and investors. At Arm, he established a local CPU design center, and at Ambarella, he led imaging and automotive IC innovation.

GR holds both BS and MS degrees in Electrical Engineering from National Chiao Tung University (NCTU), Taiwan. Known for his startup spirit and engineering excellence, he continues to shape the future of semiconductor innovation.

Dr Liz Zijing Li

Co-Founder and COO, MimiCrete Ltd.; CISL Canopy member

LinkedIn profile

Zijing Li is co-founder and COO of Mimicrete Ltd, a company that is developing sustainable and resilient construction materials for the future. With a PhD in Civil and Environmental Engineering from the University of Cambridge, Liz's passion for sustainability led her from academic research to

entrepreneurship.

Her research in biomimetic materials and vascular self-healing concrete forms the core technology of Mimicrete Ltd. As a self-monitoring system for concrete in the built environment, Zijing's system will be capable of diagnosing degradation, healing damage, improving safety and reducing carbon emissions as well as informing engineers about the need for remote operations and long-term maintenance.

Liz has been recognized as one of the UK's top women entrepreneurs by the Women in Innovation Awards which celebrates women entrepreneurs who have innovative ideas and ambitious plans that inspire others.

Dr Spencer Brennan

Founder and CEO, Neutreeno;

LinkedIn profile

Dr. Spencer Brennan is the Founder and CEO of Neutreeno, a climate tech company pioneering advanced emissions data analytics and supply chain decarbonisation. With a background in physics and energy engineering, Spencer leads Neutreeno's mission to democratise decarbonisation through scientifically rigorous, data-driven tools that empower companies to reduce their environmental impact.

Before founding Neutreeno in 2020, Spencer was an Entrepreneur at Entrepreneur First, a global talent investor. He holds a PhD in Physics from the University of Cambridge, where his research focused on energy systems and emissions flows, and a Bachelor of Engineering in Chemical Engineering with a minor in Honours Physics from McGill University.

At Neutreeno, Spencer combines deep technical expertise with a visionary approach to sustainability. The company's platform leverages uncertainty algorithms and process engineering to deliver high-confidence emissions insights, enabling businesses to make informed, low-carbon procurement decisions. Neutreeno is backed by decades of Cambridge research and is recognized for its innovative approach to circularity, material flow analysis, and real-time emissions tracking.