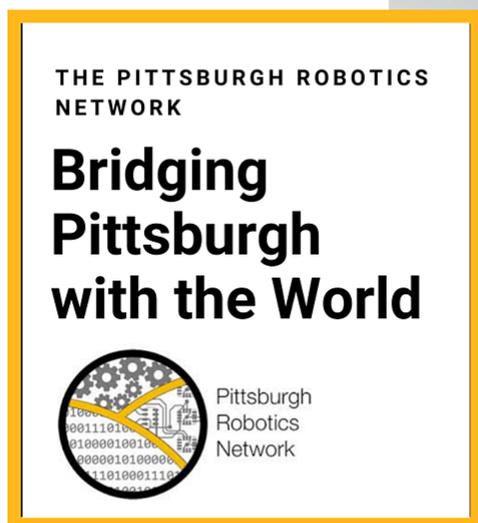




Pittsburgh  
Robotics  
Network



## We Are Growing!

The PRN was formed by Pittsburgh robotics leaders in 2016 for the purpose of building a connected community and leveraging shared resources. With rising support from member companies, regional leaders, and strategic sponsors, we are working to create a more visible, outward-facing, and influential organization representative of Pittsburgh's standing in the worldwide robotics community.

As such, we are growing. Please welcome Jennifer Apicella who joins us as our Program Director. Recently, Jenn founded and operated Build412 Tech, Pittsburgh's collaborative, cooperative, and interactive community of technology professionals and leaders. Jenn is developing a host of new events (see below) and strategic initiatives to better connect us as a worldwide community. Together, we will accelerate the development and adoption of autonomous solutions.

Thank you for your support and involvement. Looking forward to new ventures ahead.

Sincerely,

Joel Reed  
Executive Director

## PRN April Webinar: Best Laid Plans - Product Engineering & Design Strategies for Field Robotics

**Best Laid Plans - Product Engineering & Design Strategies For Field Robotics**

			
<b>JORGEN PEDERSEN</b> President & CEO RE2 Robotics	<b>JEREMY SEAROCK</b> President & Co-Founder Advanced Construction Robotics	<b>VAIBHAV VOHRA</b> SVP of Product Gecko Robotics	<b>SPENCER KRAUSE</b> (Moderator) Director of Product Development SKA   Custom Robots and Machines

Event Host  Pittsburgh Robotics Network

**Tues, April 27**  
12pm EDT

 **SKA** Event Sponsor  
Custom Robots & Machines

Join us on Tues, April 27th at 12pm for an exciting and informative panel discussion with leading robotics industry experts! In this discussion, we will explore some of the unique challenges encountered with product engineering and design for Field Robotics. Our panel of industry experts will share interesting stories, various development and design approaches, commercialization strategies, what 'not' to do and lessons learned. Thank you to our event sponsor [SKA Custom Robots & Machines](#).

[REGISTER HERE](#)

---

## Pitch Event: The Future of Robotics for Manufacturing & Logistics



ONEVALLEY Present

**Pitch Event:**  
**The Future of Robotics for  
Manufacturing & Logistics**

APPLY Today!

Featuring a fireside chat with  
**Arnie Kravitz**  
Chief Technology Officer  
ARM Institute

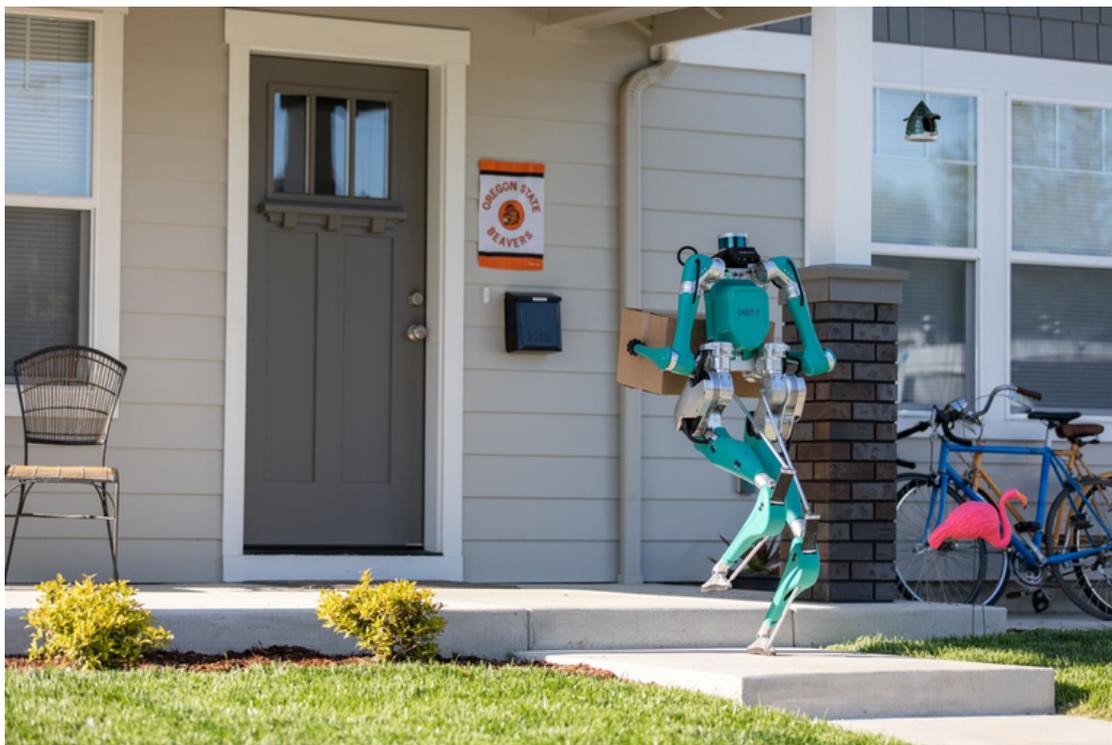
April 29, 2021 | 12p PST / 3p EST

ARM Institute is partnering with OneValley for a robotics-focused pitch event. Apply by Thursday, April 22 to pitch at the live event! Eight cutting-edge robotics start-ups will be selected to pitch from the pool of applicants. The winner will receive \$2,000 in cash and the audience pick will win \$500. [Apply here.](#)

Not interested in pitching? Join the live event on April 29th at 3 PM EST to watch the top applicants pitch their startups on a global virtual stage of 500+ investors, industry leaders, and entrepreneurs. [Register here.](#)

---

## PRN Featured in IndustryWeek



The Pittsburgh Robotics Network recently partnered with IndustryWeek to take a look at the regional robotics ecosystem. "Our ecosystem is multi-faceted and incredibly interconnected – from the leading-edge R&D happening at institutions like CMU to exploring the gamut of policy and regulatory matters that ensure responsible development. As we move more autonomy into our communities and daily lives, responsible development cannot be an afterthought. We've got to lead with it, and Pittsburgh's ecosystem is set up to support such a commitment." - Joel Reed, PRN Executive Director. [Read the feature here.](#)

---

## Annual Pittsburgh Technology Investment Report



In spite of a difficult year, Innovation Works and Ernst & Young Global Consulting Services' annual report on Pittsburgh Technology Investments found notable

progress. [Read the full report here.](#) A few highlights from the report include:

- 2020's \$993 million was the second-highest total since the report began. Number 3 was 2017 with \$688 million.
- Approximately 300 firms from around the world invested in Pittsburgh companies in the last five years, including 42 making their first investment in our region in 2020
- 171 unique companies received capital, a 23% increase from 139 the prior year.
- The region was 11th nationally in deals per million residents in 2020 and ranked 20th in venture investment dollars per capital.

---

## IAM Robotics Featured in Forbes



"It has been challenging to manufacture our robots fast enough," said Tom Galluzzo, founder and CEO of IAM Robotics. Forbes examines how the pandemic has resulted in the increased use of robots in warehouses where robots like Stretch, IAM Robotics' new robot, can automate unsafe tasks while humans take on higher-value roles. This trend is also being seen on a larger scale with the sales of robotic units in general rising. [Read the full article here.](#)

---

## Argo AI Partners on New Bootcamp



A recent study found that the autonomous vehicle industry is expected to create more than 100,000 mobility industry jobs over the next 10 years. The same report concluded that demand for engineering graduates with autonomous vehicle system skills will likely be about six times higher than the expected supply. Argo AI is working with SAE International and Clemson University to create a stronger talent pipeline for this need through a new 12-week Robotics for Autonomous Vehicle Systems bootcamp. [Learn more here.](#)

---

## RE2 Robotics Unveils New Robotic Arm Brand



RE2 Robotics has unveiled their new robotic arm brand: RE2 Sapien. RE2 Sapien arms can operate in both structured and unstructured environments, including in constrained indoor settings like operating rooms and outdoors in harsh weather. The arms feature high strength-to-weight ratios, precise control, and dexterity that matches or exceeds the performance of human arms. [Learn more here.](#)

---

## CMU's Snakebot Goes for a Swim



Carnegie Mellon University's Snakebot can now perform underwater tasks through

funding provided by the ARM Institute. The project, led by PRN Boardmember Howie Choset, will enable the snakebot to inspect ships, submarines, and infrastructure for the U.S. Navy. Work on the project has been rapid, even through COVID-19. The team started working on the underwater robot snake in July 2020 and by March 2021, had it swimming in the CMU pool. CMU's snakebot has already made an impact; in 2017 the snakebot was used as a search-and-rescue tool following the Mexico City earthquake. [Learn more here.](#)

---

## NEW Robotics Technician Pre-Apprenticeship Program



Is your company looking for skilled talent? [BotsIQ's Robotics Technician Pre-Apprenticeship](#) is a Pennsylvania State Registered Pre-Apprenticeship that offers high school students an opportunity to gain real-world technical skills needed for employment in advanced manufacturing and robotics. The pre-apprenticeship is divided into six skills-based competencies: safety, math and measurement, manufacturing, electronics, robotics, and career readiness. Open your doors and invite students in to learn more about your company, career opportunities, and manufacturing through company tours, career interviews, job shadowing experiences, internships, and employment. If your company is interested in learning more, please contact Michel Conklin at [conklin@botsiqpa.com](mailto:conklin@botsiqpa.com).

---

## Special Thanks to PRN Sponsors

Special thanks to all of our organization sponsors!

Have an idea for 2021? Contact us at [info@robopgh.org](mailto:info@robopgh.org) to learn about sponsorship opportunities.

## PRN FOUNDING SPONSORS



## SUSTAINING SPONSORS

大成 DENTONS

## ANNUAL SPONSORS



### ABOUT THE PITTSBURGH ROBOTICS NETWORK:

The Pittsburgh Robotics Network (PRN) is dedicated to empowering and strengthening robotics companies in the Pittsburgh region and positioning the ecosystem as an internationally recognized powerhouse. Structured as a membership-based consortium, PRN Members have access to member only events centered on knowledge-sharing and collaboration. Interested in joining or sponsorship opportunities? Email [info@robopgh.org](mailto:info@robopgh.org).

Pittsburgh Robotics Network (PRN), PO Box 90128, 5182 Liberty Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15224

[Unsubscribe](#) [Manage preferences](#)