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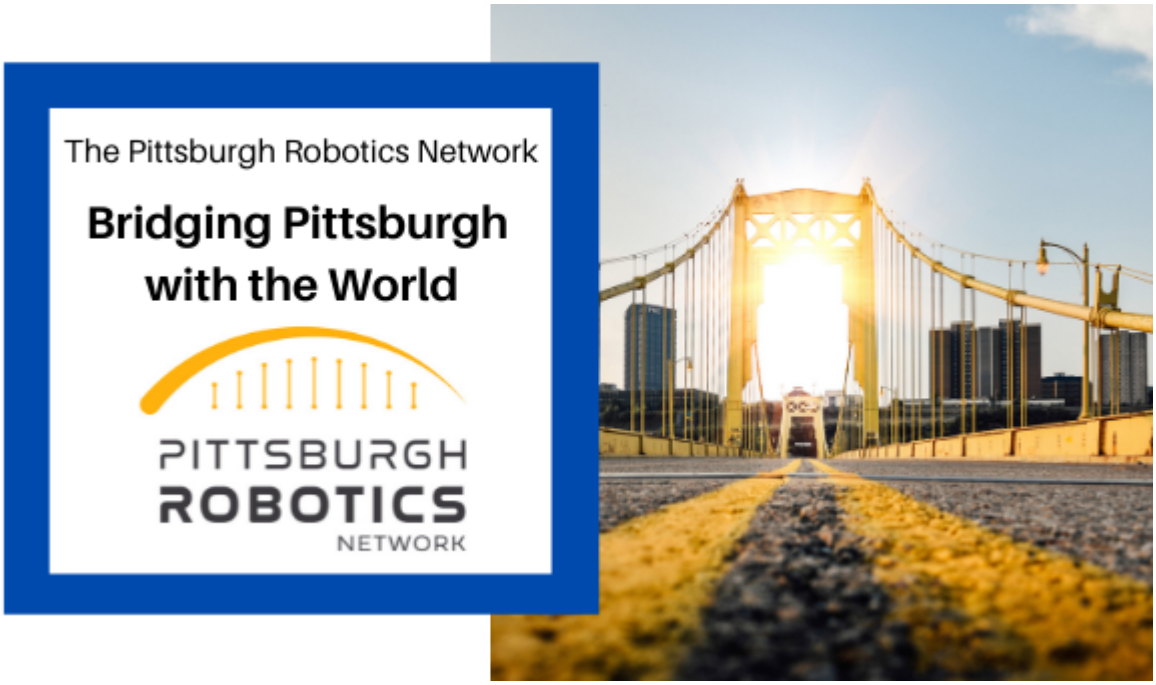


February Newsletter

Pittsburgh's Robotics Ecosystem Takes Center Stage As In-Person Events Return Across the Country

The majority of conferences and large-scale in-person events have been postponed for the past two years as the world dealt with with the COVID-19 pandemic, but now these events are returning - and Pittsburgh is taking the stage. Fresh off of the Pittsburgh Robotics Network's (PRN) attendance at the A3 Business Forum in Orlando, which served as the kickoff for a newly announced A3/PRN partnership, we're is gearing up to represent the Robotics Capital of the World at events across the country and to highlight it at noteworthy events right here in the heart of Pittsburgh. Look forward to hearing more about the Robotics Summit and Expo in Boston (May 10-11), Automate in Detroit (June 6-9), the Smart Manufacturing Experience in Pittsburgh (June 7-9), and exciting PRN-led events that we'll be announcing soon! For now, it's been a busy month in our community. Here are some of the updates from February.

Robotics Talent Spotlight: Aurora

Join us on **Tuesday, March 8th, 12:00PM EST** for a virtual discussion featuring prominent talent from Aurora, a Pittsburgh-based company on a mission to deliver the benefits of self-driving safely, quickly, and broadly. This virtual event will enable you to hear first-hand from the people who are doing this exciting work every day.

REGISTER

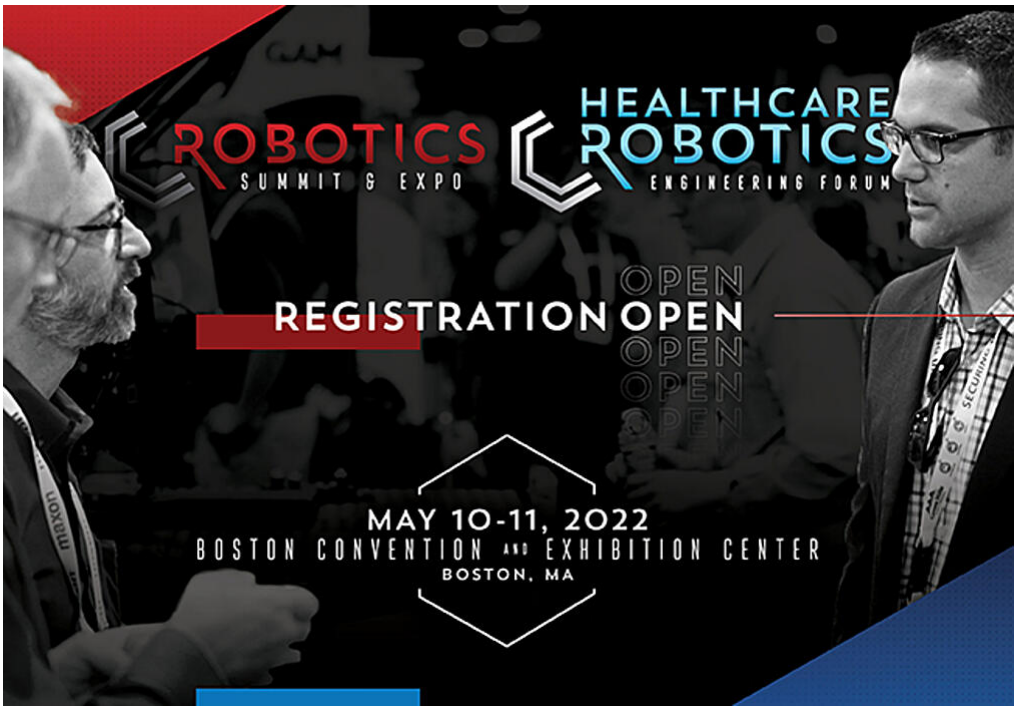
Sponsor Spotlight:

Argo AI

Argo AI is a global self-driving products and services company headquartered in Pittsburgh, with engineering centers located in Detroit, Cranbury, NJ, Los Angeles, Palo

Alto, and Munich, Germany. Since 2016, the company has been on a mission to make the world's streets and roadways safe, accessible, and useful for all. With a team of more than 1,700 people across the U.S. and Europe, the Argo Autonomy Platform and Solutions are designed to support autonomous ridesharing and goods delivery at scale to benefit communities around the world. **To learn more about Argo, please visit their Sponsor Spotlight!**

Save 25% on Robotics Summit & Expo Registration!



The Robotics Summit and Expo, taking place in Boston on May 10-11, brings together in one place, at one time, technical and business professionals from across the globe to share knowledge, experience and insights with the goal of driving robotics development and innovation forward. Robotics Summit keynotes are delivered by robotics thought leaders from leading companies and agencies on topics that are timely, compelling, educational and inspiring. Featured speakers include Dave Rollinson of HEBI Robotics and Amanda Sgroi of RE2. **PRN members can save 25% off of registration for a limited time by registering using this link and the code PRN25!**

PRN's A3 Partnership Featured by The Pittsburgh Business Times

"The [A3 Business Forum] allowed PRN to showcase all that Pittsburgh has to offer, from its autonomous vehicle companies that call the region home to warehousing and logistics-based robotics companies operating throughout western Pennsylvania, and all of those in-between." Get the full story from the Business Times here and read our A3 partnership announcement on our website!

BotsIQ Seeks Volunteers

Want to make a difference? Want to close the skills gap? BotsIQ is engaging manufacturing's next generation. Help ensure that their competitions provide a safe environment for students to participate in full contact innovation. Both technical & non-technical volunteers needed! Learn more and volunteer here.

CMU Opens Exhibit On Pittsburgh Robotics History

CMU Libraries presents “Looking Back to Move Forward / A Re:collection of Robotics at Carnegie Mellon,” an exhibition highlighting the history of robotics at CMU and the ongoing work of The Robotics Project, an interdisciplinary approach to preserving the legacy of robotics through a partnership between CMU's Libraries and School of Computer Science. The exhibition runs through Friday, March 18 in the Hunt Library. Take a virtual tour of the exhibition here, and learn more about this project here.

Pittsburgh Flies Into the Future with NEA

"Today's science fiction is tomorrow's future, and that future is being built right here in Pittsburgh. We are grateful to be part of such a diverse, skilled and supportive community. And we're thrilled to be embarking on a journey to elevate our region, the nation, and the world." Sanjiv Singh, CEO, PRN Member company Near Earth Autonomy. Read more on the Pittsburgh Regional Alliance website.

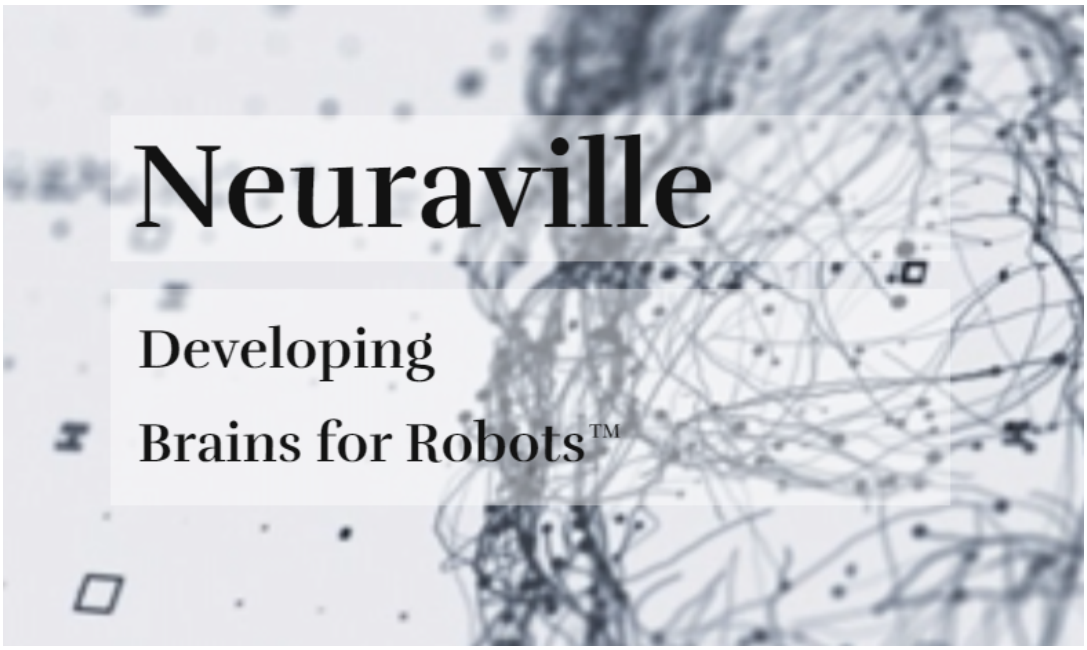
PRN Panel Explores Local AgTech Growth

The PRN's Robotics Industry Insights: Robotics in AgTech event, which took place on February 10, featured local AgTech executives Brac Webb of Fifth Season, Brandon Contino of Four Growers, and Mark DeSantis of Bloomfield Robotics discussing the intersection of Pittsburgh's robotics economy and the future of food. Learn more from the Pittsburgh Business Times.

Agility Robotics Joins TechCrunch Live

Jonathan Hurst, the CTO of Agility Robotics (which has developed a bipedal robot capable of conquering stairs) will be featured on TechCrunch Live on March 2 to discuss the strides the company has made of late.

Why Neuraville Picked Pittsburgh



Proximity to talent matters: The Kansas-born neurorobotics startup company will take over the Craig Street offices that housed one location of InnovatePGH's Avenu coworking space. Read more from Technical.ly.

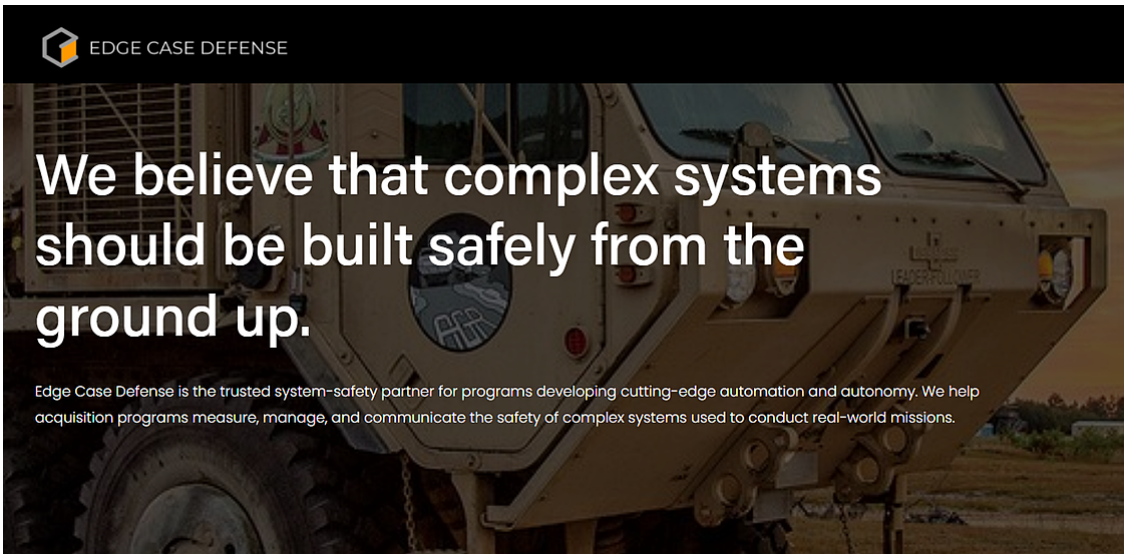
Pittsburgh's Autonomy Economy: A History of Partnerships

"Pittsburgh's autonomy industry did not sprout overnight. It took decades of patient partnerships and investment to grow it, and it will take more of that collaborative spirit to keep us at the forefront." Read more from the RIDC in the Pittsburgh Business Times.

EKTO VR is Tackling VR's "Infinite Walking" Problem

EKTO VR (which was just named to LG Electronics' LG NOVA "First 50" cohort) is making immersive virtual experiences a reality. "It's about the continuity of the experience," said Brad Factor. "It's about maintaining that immersion. It's about ease of use and the learning curve: not needing to teach somebody how to use VR, but just being able to put on the headset and experience the virtual world naturally." Read more from Digital Trends.

Edge Case Selected to Support Safe AI Efforts



PRN member Edge Case Research has been selected to support DoD Joint Artificial Intelligence Center safe AI efforts under a $249 million Blanket Purchase Agreement! See their announcement.

RE2 Announces Partnership with PickNik Robotics

PRN Member RE2 Robotics has announced a strategic partnership with PickNik Robotics to accelerate the development of RE2's autonomous robotic systems using PickNik's MoveIt Studio software. Learn more on the RE2 website.

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Pittsburgh robotics companies are leading the future of robotics - not just locally, but globally. Partnered with 100+ regional robotics organizations, we bring these organizations together for events, networking, and other initiatives. **Sponsorship can: enhance your credibility and visibility within our network, build the business connections that accelerate your market-share, and get you access to new spheres of industry influence.** Our sponsorship programs connect you directly into our ecosystem and support your business goals. We'd love to hear from you and welcome your inquiry.

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ABOUT THE PITTSBURGH ROBOTICS NETWORK

The Pittsburgh Robotics Network (PRN) is dedicated to empowering and strengthening robotics organizations in the Pittsburgh region and positioning the ecosystem as an internationally recognized powerhouse. Please reach out to us here if you have any questions.

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

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