

# SOUTHERN ARIZONA TECH + BUSINESS EXPO 2022

SOUTHERN ARIZONA

TECH +  
BUSINESS  
EXPO

TENTH  
ANNUAL



ARIZONA  
TECHNOLOGY  
COUNCIL  

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a place to connect and grow

# Southern Arizona: Where innovators turn for what's next.



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## **Bold and exciting advancements are happening in Southern Arizona.**

The Arizona Commerce Authority is proud to present the 9th Annual Southern Arizona Tech + Business Expo in partnership with the Arizona Technology Council and celebrate the region's industry leaders that are developing emerging technologies of the future. Arizona's top talent, commitment to keeping taxes low and regulation light, and strategic geographic location have earned the state a reputation as a leading technology hotbed. Plus, Tucson ranked in the top 10 U.S. Tech Markets according to CBRE and was selected as a premier growth center for high tech innovation by the Brookings Institution. With a lifestyle that allows talent to achieve their personal goals with endless outdoor activities, vibrant arts and culture, easy commutes, and affordable housing, Southern Arizona offers the perfect balance that makes life better here.

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# Welcome and Thank You for Attending the **2022 Southern Arizona Tech + Business Expo** Showcasing Technology and Innovation!

**This year marks our tenth annual Southern Arizona Tech + Business Expo.** Thanks for joining us for the largest tech event in Southern Arizona! We are deeply grateful to our sponsors, supporters, exhibitors, company innovator presenters, Expo organizing committee and to you! We hope you enjoy this year's program, that you create valuable connections and discover opportunities to grow your personal and professional circles of influence.

The Arizona Technology Council strongly supports the technology sector of our state's economy and hosts over 100 events each year. **Our vision is to be the driving force behind making Arizona the fastest growing technology hub in the nation!**

The best way to enjoy your membership and to create opportunities for your business is to get involved!

Here is a partial list events coming up in 2023:

- Monthly after5 Tech Mixers
- Arizona Photonics Days - January 25-27
- 13th Annual Southern Arizona Golf Tournament
- Women in the Workforce Presentations
- Cybersecurity Summit
- MedTech Conference
- Smart City & IoT Conference
- Aerospace, Aviation, Defense and Manufacturing Conference
- Governor's Celebration of Innovation

Our members know that active engagement in AZTC committees lead to connections on an even higher level. There are many specialized committees. We'd love you to get involved and create even more value from your membership.

The Tech Council is committed to supporting you! Please contact me if we can help.

Again, welcome and thank you for your involvement. We hope you enjoy the 2022 Southern Arizona Tech + Business Expo.

Sincerely,



**Karla Morales**

Vice President,  
Southern Arizona Regional Office  
Arizona Technology Council

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## ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- Be an AZTC member with a business headquartered in Arizona.
- Have two or more employees with at least one common law (W-2) employee who is not a spouse or child enrolling in the plan.

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# AGENDA



12:00pm — Registration & Networking

1:00pm – 1:20pm — Welcome & Opening Remarks

1:20pm – 2:20pm — Keynote Fireside Panel Chat: *"Southern AZ: The Next Space Frontier"*

- Stephen Fleming (*Moderator*) - University of Arizona
- Grant Anderson - Paragon Space Development Corporation
- Greg Autry - Thunderbird School of Global Management
- Benjamin Hernandez - Arizona Spaceport Alliance
- Cat Merrill - Ruda-Cardinal

2:20pm – 2:45pm — Company Innovator Presentations

- Penguin Solutions - Todd Wynia *"Optimizing Retail Operations with AI Video Analytics"*
- UA Steward Observatory - Marcia Rieke, *"NIRCam for the James Webb Space Telescope"*

2:45pm – 3:00pm — Annual Awards Presentation

3:00pm – 6:00pm — Expo, Networking, and Cocktail Reception

THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO MADE THE  
2022 TECH + BUSINESS EXPO POSSIBLE

## Chair

**Kevin Gullette**

Arizona Commerce  
Authority



## Committee

**Brett Dooley**

In-Position Technologies

**Art Geiger**

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**Ana Greif**

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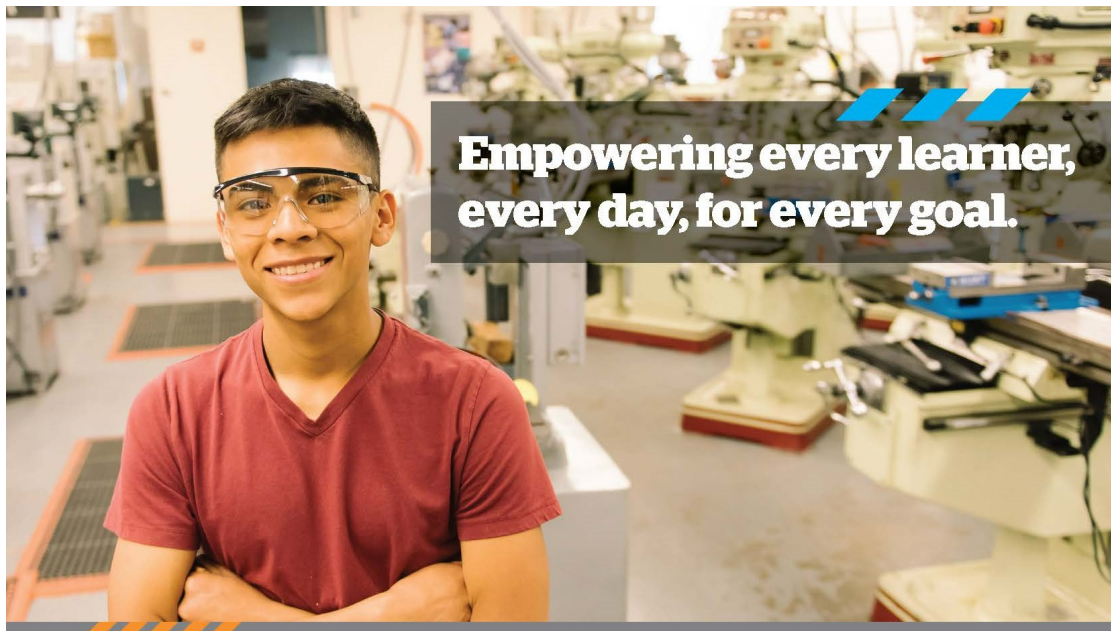


**Stephen Fleming**

**Technology Executive and Advisor**

Stephen trained as a physicist and spent 15 years in operations roles at AT&T Bell Laboratories, Nortel Networks, and a venture-funded startup.

He has 25 years of experience as a technology-focused venture capitalist and angel investor. Stephen moved to Tucson in 2017 to develop the University of Arizona's engagement with the private sector, where he is now focused on the NSF-funded Center for Quantum Networks. He is an investor in over a dozen private aerospace startups, a founding member of the Space Angels Network, and is the founder and chair of the Arizona Space Business Roundtable.



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# Connect with the Global Optics Industry at our 6th Arizona Photonics Days, January 25-27, Tucson

## 6 Conference Sessions:

- Biomedical Technology
- Astronomy
- Sensing and Metrology
- Laser Technology
- Quantum Information Science
- Glass and Ceramics

Register: [opticsvalleyaz.org](http://opticsvalleyaz.org)



Optics Valley is a committee of the Arizona Technology Council.

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Keynote

## PANELIST



### Grant Anderson

**President and CEO**

Mr. Anderson co-founded Paragon in 1993. Now President/CEO, he has held diverse positions at Paragon including Chief Engineer, VP of Engineering, Treasurer/Secretary, CFO, Sr. VP

of Operations, Chief Operating Officer and Director of Manufacturing.

Mr. Anderson has led the systems and conceptual design of multiple human spacecraft and the design of the International Space Station Solar Arrays. He has been on multiple non-profit boards including schools, charity organizations and the Tucson Metro Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Anderson holds a Bachelor and Master of Science from Stanford University and is a registered Professional Engineer. He is married with 3 children.

Keynote

## PANELIST



### Greg Autry

**Clinical Professor of Space Leadership, Policy & Business**

Dr. Greg Autry is a Clinical Professor of Space Leadership, Policy and Business in the Thunderbird School of Global Management and an Affiliate Professor with the Interplanetary Initiative at Arizona State University. He also holds an

appointment as Visiting Professor at Imperial College London. Dr. Autry previously taught technology entrepreneurship at the University of Southern California, strategy, macroeconomics at the University of California at Irvine, and space entrepreneurship in an International Space University program at the Florida Institute of Technology.

Dr. Autry served on the 2016 NASA Agency Review Team and as the White House Liaison at NASA in 2017. He was nominated by the president to serve as Chief Financial Officer of NASA in 2020. Dr. Autry served as Chair of the Safety Working Group on the Commercial Space Transportation Advisory Committee (COMSTAC) at the FAA and is Vice President for Space Development at the National Space Society. His writings are frequently published in major news outlets including Foreign Policy, Forbes and Space News. Dr. Autry appears frequently in major media outlets including the BBC, CNN and NPR. He is the author of The New Entrepreneurial Dynamic (Flatworld 2022). He serves on the editorial review boards of: The New Space Journal and The Journal Space Safety Engineering.

Dr. Autry holds an MBA and PhD from the University of California, Irvine.



# WHAT'S KEEPING YOU UP AT NIGHT?

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Keynote

## PANELIST



### Benjamin Hernandez

**Founding Member**

Benjamin Hernandez is a founding member of Arizona Spaceport Alliance which is a non-profit, organized effort to support spaceport development and the end users of a spaceport in the State of Arizona. Mr. Hernandez can be found in boardrooms and on panels across Arizona sharing his extensive knowledge on Spaceports and the emerging commercial Space industry helping to develop strategic and sustainable solutions. Mr. Hernandez is a graduate of Arizona State University's Master of Real Estate Development program and began his career in commercial real estate as a land surveyor for six years active in Arizona, Pennsylvania, and Virginia. Mr. Hernandez is currently an advisor at North Star Commercial Real Estate Advisors. Prior to joining North Star Commercial, Benjamin was in the Aerospace Practice Group at Keyser working with clients in Industrial and Office sectors. He utilizes his education and experience in commercial real estate, market research, and development to deliver exceptional results and demonstrating his understanding of the client's business objectives.

Keynote

## PANELIST



### Cat Merrill

**Chief Financial Officer and Co-Owner**

Cat has a B.S. in Physics from NAU and her M.S. in Optical Science from U of A. Before graduation, she was hired at Raytheon Missile Systems and assigned to the sensor team on the Exo-Atmospheric Kill Vehicle. She went on to specialize in the development, delivery, and qualification of space sensors.

Cat left Raytheon to join the U of A in 2012 to serve as the Lead Systems Engineer for the mission-critical OCAMS instrument on the OSIRIS-REx asteroid sample return mission. Ultimately, Cat served as both the Lead Systems Engineer and Deputy Program Manager for OCAMS. Cat worked as program manager for the Community Science and Data Center at the National Optical Astronomy Observatory where she managed several software development programs. Cat used her experience in agile development to develop an agile curriculum for Engineering Senior Design (ENGR 498) at the University of Arizona's College of Engineering. It was during her time in ENGR 498 that she was introduced to Dr. Kate Medicus, the CEO of Ruda-Cardinal Inc. Cat became Director of Programs at Ruda-Cardinal in June 2020. In April 2022, Cat partnered with Dr. Medicus to purchase Ruda-Cardinal. She now serves as Chief Financial Officer as well as Director of Programs.

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Innovator

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**Todd Wynia**

**Vice President Product Management**

Todd Wynia is vice president of product management and marketing for the Penguin Edge portfolio of Penguin Solutions, where is responsible for strategic, solution and product management as well as marketing for the company's presence in IoT, AI and edge computing.

Todd was previously vice president of planning and development for Artesyn Embedded Computing, where he led corporate planning, business development and acquisition analysis.

He has participated extensively in industry associations and standards bodies, chaired Emerson Network Power's Intellectual Property Committee and sat on the company's Innovation Advisory Board. Todd has written a number of white papers and published articles.

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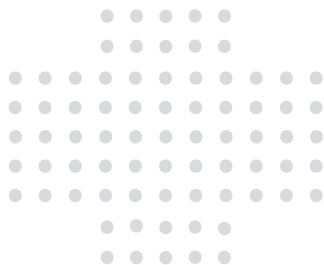


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# **AWARDS**

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## **Innovation Leader of the Year - Sponsored by UA Tech Launch AZ**

### **Delta Development Team**

The company has made a significant contribution to the Southern Arizona tech community and/or significant contribution to advancing or transforming an industry sector. The company is a recognized technical or innovation leader in Southern Arizona.

## **Manufacturer of the Year - Sponsored by UA RII**

### **Lucid Motors**

The company demonstrates leadership as a manufacturer in the region with a new process or product, and involvement with the business and wider community of Southern Arizona.

## **StartUp of the Year - Sponsored by UA Center for Innovation**

### **CarbeniumTec**

A company in a technology industry that has achieved significant business success and technical innovation or scientific achievement and has been created and/or funded within the past 24 months.

## **Sustainability Award - Sponsored by UA BIO5 Institute**

### **City of Tucson - Plan Tucson Initiative**

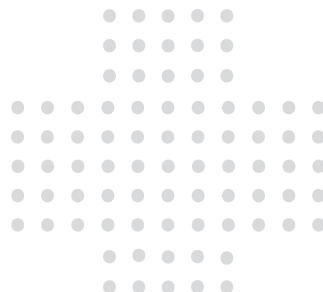
The company seeks to highlight sustainable practices, initiatives or programs by adopting practices without compromising people, the planet, or the economy. Company can demonstrate how their programs serve as good examples for other institutions.

## **Southern AZ Member Organization of the Year - Sponsored by**

### **AGM Container Controls**

### **UA Tech Parks Arizona**

The organization has demonstrated support and alignment with AZTC's vision statement: The Arizona Technology Council is the driving force behind making Arizona the fastest growing technology hub in the nation; connecting and empowering Arizona's technology community.





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