To enable those with ideas for physical products, to create and recognize their dreams, to help them build businesses, make things and put people to work right here in Michigan!

MARCH 2021

Dan Rdomski, Executive Director

In 2021, Centrepolis plans to double down on its support for nurturing cleantech to support both innovative high-tech growth businesses while also having a positive impact to reducing our emissions, energy and material waste.

Thanks to the support of the Michigan Department of Environment Great Lakes & Energy (EGLE), Centrepolis has launched a new C3 Accelerator that is designed to globally attract and develop Cleantech, Climatech, and Circular Economy technologies in Michigan. The commitment includes funding from EGLE, New Economy Initiative and Wells Fargo Innovation Incubator (IN²) to support ventures led by women, people of color, veterans and other underrepresented entrepreneurs.

Again thanks to EGLE, Centrepolis is also serving as a partner on the NextCycle Michigan program, led by Resource Recycling Systems (RRS), also in collaboration with the Michigan Recycling Coalition. NextCycle Michigan provides an opportunity for businesses, investors, NGOs, trade organizations, and others to contribute significantly to the growth of recycling and the circular economy in Michigan. The program offers grants for projects that divert waste streams from landfills in Michigan.

We welcome in 2021 with a renewed commitment to developing more cleantech products and manufacturing technologies right here in Michigan!

Wells Fargo Innovation Incubator (IN²)

Centrepolis Accelerator @ LTU has been named a Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Channel Partner Award winner by the Wells Fargo Innovation Incubator (IN²).

IN² is a $50M clean technology program funded by the Wells Fargo Foundation and co-administered by the U.S. Department of Energy’s (DOE) National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL). The program has distributed funds to Centrepolis Accelerator and other accelerators to support diversity initiatives that provide entrepreneurial opportunities for historically underrepresented individuals in the cleantech industry. Click here for Press Release.

FEATURED CLIENT

Celcius One has created natural, sustainable products for consumer applications as pure as Mountains and Mother Ganges!

The product formulations are developed by experienced nanotechnology scientists that have ensured that the solution is bio-degradable and eco-friendly.

FEATURED PARTNER
Treetown Tech likes making disruptive and challenging systems that integrate software, electronics, and hardware. We have a diverse team of business-savvy engineers, and our workshop is constantly buzzing with a mix of product development, automation development, IOT applications, smart factory systems, system engineering, and testing.

EVENTS & INDUSTRY SUPPORT

**Informational Webinar**
Mar 16 | 12:00-1:00 p.m.

**NextCycle Michigan - Collaboration to Drive a New Recycling Economy**
Mar 11 | Virtual
Join recycling and recovery leaders to explore how enhanced collaboration in Regions 4 & 5 can make the case for recycling, build new recycling markets and advance existing recycling systems.

**RISE Resilience Challenge**
Deadline to Apply: Mar 15
The 12-month challenge will help support founders who are solving problems that are enhancing the resilience of coastal communities.

**US Angels Venture Summit Connect West**
Mar 16-18 | Virtual
The summit will showcase more than 100 of the hottest early-stage and emerging-growth technology, fintech, clean-tech, life sciences/healthcare, medical devices, ed-tech, healthcare IT, and mobile innovators. If you are a startup seeking capital and/or partnerships, submit your plan for the opportunity to present.

**NASA's Watt on the Moon Challenge**
Phase 1 Registration and Submission Deadline: Mar 25, 2021
Support NASA's efforts to explore the solar system. This Challenge seeks solutions to distribute, store and manage power in space.

**Michigan EIBC 9th Annual Energy Innovators Conference**
Apr 7 | Virtual
Featuring prominent speakers and panelists who will discuss the latest energy-related topics and innovations.

**Virtual Healthcare Summit**
Apr 13 | Virtual
Hosted by PMBC and other healthcare organizations, to increase supplier diversity, the summit will include buyers from HFHS, BCBS of M1, Cardinal Health, AAA, Spectrum, and Accidental Fund, for 1:1 meetings with Michigan suppliers. Supplier application is open now.

**InvestMidwest Venture Capital Forum**
Apr 27-28 | Virtual
Highlighting industry trends, expert insights, and growing Midwest companies seeking venture capital investments in the agriculture/food, life sciences, medical device, and technology industries.

**DOE American-Made Buildings Prize**
Deadline to Apply: May 12

**RVC UnDemo Day™**
May 18 | Virtual
Hosted by Renaissance Venture Capital, the event will bring together some of Michigan's top startups and technologies with venture capital investors from around the country. Early-stage companies interested in meeting with investors at UnDemo can apply here.

**ARPA-E 2021 Energy Innovation Summit**
May 24-26 | Gaylord National Convention Center | National Harbor, MD
An annual conference and technology showcase that brings together experts from different technical disciplines and professional communities to think about America’s energy challenges in new and innovative ways.

ACCELERATOR PROGRAMS
FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

NEW: FY21 Build to Scale Program - The Venture Challenge grants have two funding levels – up to $750K to build programs and up to $1.5M to scale programs. The Capital Challenge offers grants up to $400K.

NEW: Clean Energy Trust-501vc Seed Fund - Clean Energy Trust makes seed investments on a rolling basis through its revolving 501vc® Seed Fund, which is capitalized by corporate and philanthropic contributions.

Business Accelerator Fund Grant (BAF) - For business accelerators in Michigan’s statewide SmartZone network.

Clean Energy Trust Member Circle - Stay current on the Mid-Continent’s innovation ecosystem and Clean Energy Trust’s domain expertise in clean energy and sustainable technologies. Contact Susie Spigelman to learn more.

Cleantech Open Accelerator - Applications now open to early stage entrepreneurs.

EGLE Energy Storage Roadmap - The roadmap will aid in achieving adaptable, affordable, reliable energy and environmentally protective actions for Michigan’s future.

EGLE Small Manufacturers Energy Waste Reduction - Matching grants up to $15K per applicant for energy efficiency projects.

Elemental Excelerator - Seeking 15-20 startups from any country in the world focused on addressing challenges in energy, mobility, agriculture, water or the circular economy.

Emerging Technologies Fund - Provides matching dollars to support commercialization of SBIR/STTR projects.

First Capital Fund - Provides early-stage investment capital to high-tech startups.

Invest Detroit - Funding Michigan-based high-growth tech startups throughout the early stages of development to find product-market fit and prepare for scale.

Michigan Angels - A new initiative to accelerate the growth of the angel investor population in Michigan as well as investment into Michigan companies.

Michigan Pre-Seed Fund III - Michigan Rise - This $3M fund is designed to support entrepreneurs and tech startups across MI through capital support, coaching, assistance with grant funding and more.

MI SBIR/STTR Assistance Program - Helps qualified early-stage MI technology companies to be more competitive in this national proposal and award process.

MEDC Export & International Trade Office - Supporting MI businesses that want to start or expand export activities.

The Michigan Match Assistance Pilot Program (MMAPP) - Provides cost share support to eligible MI businesses that were awarded a federal clean energy technology development grant.

SBDC Tech Team - Provides consulting, training and research to assist small business to launch, grow, transition and innovate.

Shell Game Changer Program - Works with start-ups who have an early-stage technology solution that tackles a challenge relevant to our business and the energy industry. In turn, seed funding, professional coaching, and access to markets is provided.

TCNewTech - Pitch, Network, Win $500! TCNewTech is looking for pitches every first Tuesday of the month.

UM Economic Growth Institute Trade Adjustment Assistance for Firms (TAFF) - A federal program specifically designed to help American manufacturers that have been hurt by foreign competition.
MEMBER OPTIONS

Co-Working
Starting @ $225 p/month

Dedicated Workspace
Starting @ $325 p/month

Dedicated Office
Starting @ $425 p/month

NETWORK PARTNER SERVICES AVAILABLE TO MEMBERS

Centrepolis Accelerator members benefit from the expertise of our extensive Partner Network—offering free and discounted services will help take your business ideas to the next level. View our full list here.

RESOURCES

Centrepolis Smartzone
Now through June 30, Centrepolis is offering a limited number of grants (up to $1,000) to City of Southfield businesses & residents in the form of product design and prototyping services. If you have a start-up, new product idea or have invented a physical product and need help with design and prototyping, please reach out to us. If interested, complete the application and a team member will reach out to see where Centrepolis can be of help. Questions? Contact, Riley Lenhard rlenhard@ltu.edu

SBIR/STTR Training Series
Join the monthly series featuring SBIR/STTR program managers as they guide you through what you need to know to have success with tie! The series is for technology-based entrepreneurs, startups and small businesses familiar with the SBIR/STTR programs who want to learn more.

DOE OTT Lab Partnering Service (LPS)
The premier tool to connect your entrepreneurs and businesses with National Lab resources. Hosted by Department of Energy’s Office of Technology Transitions (OTT)

DOE Launches New Pilot Program to Validate Emerging Industrial Technologies
DOE recently launched a new initiative designed to help manufacturing plants and water/wastewater treatment facilities evaluate cost-effective, innovative technologies with the opportunity for large energy savings and widespread adoption.

MichiganEIBC
Growing Michigan’s advanced energy economy by fostering opportunities for innovation and business growth and offering a unified voice in creating a business-friendly environment for the advanced energy industry in Michigan.

SUPPORT OUR MISSION

Show your support to Centrepolis Accelerator. What sets us apart is the way we aggregate the many parts of acceleration into a unique package, then include mentoring. Your gift will directly support early-stage cleantech innovation. We put 100% of your gift to work! >>Give online