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!

MAY 2021

Dan Radomski, Executive Director

A Way Forward for Waste!
The State of Michigan, through the Michigan Department of Environment Great Lakes & Energy (EGLE), has quite possibly made the most important commitments to recycling since the bottle deposit law. EGLE has launched several recycling programs designed to improve the material recovery rate from 18% today to a 45% goal that is targeting 2.7M more tons of waste to be recycled or upcycled. Read more.

Meet our newest team member!
Join us in welcoming Samantha Freedman as Program Manager. Samantha is a Wayne State University alum and passionate about education, sustainability, and innovation. She will focus on the C3 Accelerator and NextCycle Michigan collaborations and is looking forward to using her experience in community engagement and expertise in project management to further Centropolis' strategic initiatives.

 FEATURED
CLIENT

Pivot utilizes sustainable materials by incorporating natural fibers, such as bamboo and rice hulls, turning it into traditional plastics. Successful product development starts with design and material selection. Learn more about how Pivot can help you navigate your way through the selection process!

 FEATURED
PARTNER

POCO Labs provides design, research and commercialization services to clients ranging from startups to Fortune 50 clients. Our approach leverages the creative POwer found in COnnecting ideas and resources from diverse industries and stakeholders to help breakthrough new ideas see the light of day. Learn more>}

C3 is a growth stage Accelerator with a $275K funding pool -- offering grants, equity-free interest-free investments, and services to support product development and scaling of Cleantech, Climatech, and Circular Economy technologies.
If you have an innovative product or idea that supports lowering our carbon footprint, we want to help you make it happen!

Application Deadline: May 31
Apply here!

EVENTS & INDUSTRY SUPPORT

**NextCycle Michigan-Innovation Challenge**
Michigan is looking for big ideas in material reuse, recovery, and recycling to help grow the state’s recycled materials supply chains and end markets. If you’ve attended the webinars, read the articles, reviewed the resources—you’re ready to participate! Track-specific instructions to better understand the process and information needed for the current open applications are below. Submit your application today
- **Micro Scale 3Rs (MICROS)**
- **Food Liquids and Organic Waste Systems (FLAWS)**

**STEM Forward (Internship Program)**
Ann Arbor SPARK and the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) are launching Michigan STEM Forward, a statewide program that matches students attending Michigan colleges and universities with internship opportunities at the state’s leading innovative companies. Learn more.

**Clean Energy Smart Manufacturing Innovation Institute (CESMII)**
The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) announced a new request for proposals (RFP) and $4M in selections for projects that will accelerate the adoption of Smart Manufacturing practices. Smart Manufacturing describes a variety of measures involving digitization, automation, and artificial intelligence—all of which improve the efficiency, productivity, and environmental sustainability of the manufacturing sector. DOE’s Clean Energy Smart Manufacturing Innovation Institute (CESMII), which supports advances in smart sensors and digital process controls, will manage these projects.

**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.

**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.

**Michigan Sustainability Conference**
Jun 2-4 | Virtual
Hosted by EGLE, in partnership with Michigan Green Communities and Michigan Health and Hospital Association, will allow attendees to network with hundreds of business and community leaders to learn from, collaborate with, and together drive meaningful change.

**HardwareCon**
Jun 8 | Virtual
Meet virtually with innovative hardware companies, disruptors, investors, and decision-makers from the leading hardware and software companies.

**“From the Sources’ Mouth” with DOE**
Jul 22 | Virtual
DOE’s mission is to ensure America’s security and prosperity by addressing its energy, environmental and nuclear challenges through transformative science and technology solutions.

**C3 Accelerator Pitch Event**
Save the Date - Aug 26 | Details to Follow
**ACCELERATOR PROGRAMS**

- **Industry 4.0 Accelerator**
- **Cleantech, Climatech, Circular Economy - C3 Accelerator**
- **Manu-Tech Virtual Incubator**
- **Design for Manufacturing**
- **Supply Chain**
- **NextCycle Michigan**

---

**RECENTLY AWARDED**

**Centrepolis Accelerator and Partner Lean Rocket Lab Receive Federal EDA SPRINT Grant, for Manu-Tech COVID-19 Response**
U.S. Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo announced this week that a total of $29M would be awarded to 44 organizations as part of the Economic Development Administration’s (EDA) Scaling Pandemic Resilience Through Innovation and Technology (SPRINT) Challenge. This includes a $569,300 federal grant from the Department of Treasury’s Community Development Financial Institutions Fund (CDFI Fund) for Lean Rocket Lab and Centrepolis Accelerator -- Michigan based business incubators that support and invest in high-growth, high-impact companies across Michigan.

**Centrepolis Accelerator Receives MEDC Industry 4.0 Regional Innovation Grant**
The Michigan Strategic Fund recently approved nearly $2M in grants for 10 nonprofit organizations around the state to provide regional Industry 4.0 programming and services to increase manufacturers’ readiness to adopt Industry 4.0 technologies. The funding is part of an MEDC-led effort to ensure that 50 percent of Michigan manufacturers – or 6,200 businesses – are prepared to adopt Industry 4.0 technologies at some level by 2025.

---

**WE’RE HIRING**

Centrepolis Accelerator is seeking a **Program Director** to lead and manage exciting new Manufacturing Technology and Industry 4.0 Accelerator program focused on manufacturing automation and smart factory systems. Submit credentials and resume [here](#).

---

**FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES**

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

**NEW** - **Chloe Capital providing funding to women-led Cleantech Innovation Companies**
Chloe Capital is a venture capital firm that invests in women-led innovation companies. If you’re a seed stage, women-led technology company with a climate tech solution raising capital, we want to hear from you! In addition to our investment(s), on average Chloe Capital program participants raise $1.5M.

**Clean Energy Trust Member Circle** - Stay current on the development and impact of the Clean Energy Trust Member Circle.

**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.
Mid-Continent’s innovation ecosystem and Clean Energy Trust’s domain expertise in clean energy and sustainable technologies. Contact Susie Spigelman to learn more.

**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.

**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.

**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.

**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.

**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 (TAAF)** - A federal program specifically designed to help American manufacturers that have been hurt by foreign competition.

---

**MEMBER OPTIONS**

Co-Working

Dedicated Workspace

Dedicated Office

**TAKE A VIRTUAL TOUR OF OUR SPACE!**

---

**NETWORK PARTNERS**

**MEET OUR NEWEST NETWORK PARTNER**

Detroit Based Cybersecurity Company AaDya Security is now part of the Centropolis Partner Network. AaDya’s all-in-one cybersecurity platform provides enterprise-level security designed to meet the needs and budgets of small and midsize business customers. The platform features the latest AI and machine learning technology in the form of Judy. Centropolis members and clients receive a 20% discount off the list price!

**VIEW OUR FULL LIST**

---

**RESOURCES**
The Michigan Israel Business Accelerator, in partnership with Startup Nation Central and the C3 Accelerator (cleantech, climatech, circular economy) at LTU's Centropolis, launched the C3 Israel Track. Through our C3 "Innovation Centers of Excellence" arrangement, we were able to create a track within this program specifically for Israeli companies. One-on-one meetings are currently being conducted.

Michigan recycling effort the ‘largest push in state history’
Leaders announced the launch of NextCycle Michigan, which has a mission to “spark” the recycling economy in the state. They also announced that, in conjunction with kicking off the new program, the state’s environment agency will contribute $4.9M in grant funding to recipients supporting recycling throughout the state.

Lawrence Technological University - STEM Scholar Award
LTU students pursuing degrees in a variety of technology and engineering majors are eligible to receive a scholarship worth $78,600 over four years under a new program at LTU. The award is offered through the university's Marburger STEM Center, LTU's clearinghouse for K-12 outreach efforts in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). For further information, email admissions@ltu.edu or call 800.CALL.LTU and press 1 for admissions.

Wells Fargo 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 Centropolis 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.

Centropolis Smartzone
Centropolis is offering a grant (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. If interested, complete the application and a team member will reach out to see where Centropolis 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 tieThe 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.

Michigan EIBC
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.

Shark Tank
The producers of the ABC reality series "Shark Tank" are on a nationwide search to discover the next successful (and possibly wealthy) entrepreneurs, inventors, businesspersons, creators and innovators. In each episode, budding entrepreneurs are given the unprecedented chance to make their businesses grow immediately.

SUPPORT OUR MISSION
Show your support to Centropolis 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>>

SUPPORTING PARTNERS