



# JOHN COCOCCIA

VP, Strategic Marketing and Investor Relations  
Plug Power

John has spent the last 17 years working with early and growth stage companies as an investor, board member, advisor, and advocate. He gets deeply involved with each of the companies he has worked with, and focuses on issues such as strategy development and execution, C-level recruiting and coaching, venture and growth financings, strategic positioning, partnerships, restructurings, exits and turn-arounds. John is a trusted advisor to his companies, and has extensive board-level experience spanning several high-tech industry categories, with active participation on compensation, audit, recruitment, and M&A board committees. He has completed over 30 M&A and financing transactions.

John is currently vice president of strategic marketing and investor relations at Plug Power, a leader in the commercialization of fuel cell products and technologies. At Plug, he is responsible for identifying new growth initiatives, strategic partnerships, and M&A opportunities, as well as growing the company's institutional investor base. John is also a co-founder and managing partner of Arista Strategy Group, a strategic consulting firm serving high-growth technology companies, and is a venture partner with Armory Square Ventures, an early stage venture capital fund. Previously, he was COO at DHA Energy, a growth stage specialty manufacturer of precision components for the global energy industry, and prior to DHA, John was a co-founder and partner at FA Technology Ventures, a \$100 million early stage venture capital fund, where he was responsible for nine early stage investments covering the software, internet, and cleantech sectors. Earlier in his career, John held operations positions at Amphenol Corporation and Ford Motor Company.

John is on the board of Ener-G-Rotors, is a board observer for Auterra Inc. and the Paper Battery Company, and an advisor to ActaSys Inc. He teaches "Entrepreneurship" and "Growing an Entrepreneurial Venture" as an adjunct professor at Union Graduate College of Business, a position he previously held at University at Albany and Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.



# GLENN DOELL

Sr Manager, Advanced Technology and Business Development  
Greene, Tweed & Co.

Mr. Doell's background includes more than 30 years of experience in business marketing and product management, research management, technology commercialization, venture capital, and private equity, and all aspects of technology commercialization and technology business start-up and growth.

Mr. Doell is currently senior manager of advanced technology and business development at Greene, Tweed & Co., a leading manufacturer of custom engineered components from advanced materials for critical applications in the aerospace, semiconductor, oilfield, petrochemical, and power generation equipment markets. He is responsible for corporate research and development at Greene Tweed as well as external technology collaborations and acquisitions.

Prior to Greene Tweed, Mr. Doell was director of Lehigh University's Office of Technology Transfer, Entrepreneurial Research, and Education. His department was responsible for the management of intellectual property related to Lehigh's research programs, including managing patenting, licensing, technology marketing and transfer, and intellectual property educational programs for Lehigh faculty, staff, and students.

Previously, Mr. Doell was executive vice president of marketing and business development at Dais-Analytic Corporation. He was part of the founding management team of this venture-backed energy technology company. He led the company's sales and marketing programs and was instrumental in the formation of the company's international joint ventures and strategic alliances, licensing agreements, venture capital, and private equity financing.

Mr. Doell has been a director, volunteer, or advisor for a number of private companies and non-profit and economic development groups and has consulted extensively in the U.S. and internationally on small business and business incubation issues. He earned his B.S. in materials engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and was later awarded the Spafford Prize as the top MBA graduate at Rensselaer.



# NANCY EASTERBROOK

Strategic Marketing Manager, Eastman Chemical

Nancy C. Easterbrook is Strategic Marketing Manager at Eastman Chemical within the Corporate Innovation organization. She is responsible for the Strategic Foresight and Trend Sensing team as well as innovation projects. Prior to Eastman, Nancy was Differentiated Innovation Manager for Industrial Gases, Americas at Air Products, Inc. Nancy joined Air Products in 1988, starting out as an R&D engineer. Nancy then advanced through positions including process development, marketing, commercial development, applications development, new business development, and industry management. Her positions have all been aligned with new growth ventures from the product, market, P&L, and/or enterprise level. In 2017, Nancy joined Eastman Chemical to become part of Eastman's growth strategy as they make the transition to being primarily a specialty chemical company.

Nancy is a chemical engineer from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute who has maintained a career focus on growth and business building both on the job and through programs such as the Venture Series at Lehigh and Business Building at Wharton, as well as leading organizations dedicated to growth within the industrial B2B sector. She served terms as president of the Commercial Development and Marketing Association and Chair of the Product Development and Management Association Educational Foundation. Currently she is pleased to serve on the board for RPI's TC&E Graduate Program.



# DR. DAVID GLASSCOCK

Technology Director, Portfolio and Project Management  
DuPont

Dr. Glasscock is the technology director for portfolio and project management for DuPont. He is responsible for the characterization and improvement of the science and technology portfolio across all DuPont businesses.

In his prior roles, Dr. Glasscock has served as the technology director for the performance polymers business, as well as the DuPont global automotive technology leader, and the business development leader for the thermoplastics composites initiative. He has held numerous additional roles including sales, marketing, product management, manufacturing technology, application development, and process R&D.

Dr. Glasscock joined DuPont in 1990. He earned a Ph.D. in chemical engineering from The University of Texas at Austin.



# CARA JONES-HARRIES

Co-Founder and COO, Marinus Analytics

Mrs. Cara Jones-Harries is co-founder and chief operating officer of Marinus Analytics, a company which provides technology to combat human trafficking in the United States and Canada. She has 15 years of industry experience with high technology implementations. Early in her career, Mrs. Jones-Harries worked as an engineer with the local robotics company, Aethon Inc.

More recently, she served as technology consultant at Deloitte. Prior to launching Marinus Analytics, she worked as research staff at the Auton Lab within The Robotics Institute at Carnegie Mellon University. Mrs. Jones-Harries holds a B.S. in computer and systems engineering and an MBA from the Lally School of Management at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute where she was a Herman Family Fellowship recipient.



# AVIN JOSHI

Board Member, Self Array, Inc.

Avin is currently the Board Member of Self Array, Inc.; a company founded at RPI to commercialize research done by RPI's faculty. He is also an active Angel Investor with investments in NY, Silicon Valley, and India.

Prior to that, Avin was part of the founding team and COO/CTO at Etransmedia, one of the largest providers of information products and services to the healthcare industry. The company was founded at RPI in 1999 and won the Rensselaer Business Plan Competition in 2000. Prior to its exit to private equity in 2017, the company grew from a RPI startup to twelve offices, 500+ employees and clients in over 40 states.

Avin holds master's degrees from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in mechanical engineering and physics.



# NATE MIRANDA

Director of Technical Services and Development  
MonoSol, LLC

Nate Miranda is currently director of technical services and development at MonoSol, LLC, a manufacturer of water-soluble film used to package materials like laundry detergent, dishwashing soap, and agricultural chemicals. His team is responsible for providing technical service and support to current users of water-soluble film and qualifying water-soluble film in new applications.

Prior to MonoSol, Nate served as senior director of packaging research for PepsiCo from 2012 to 2015. During his tenure at PepsiCo, his team identified and vetted new technologies that provided competitive advantages to PepsiCo beverages such as Pepsi Cola, Gatorade, and Tropicana orange juice.

Prior to PepsiCo, Nate worked at Sealed Air Corporation for almost 20 years. He began his career as a senior product development engineer and left Sealed Air as a director of R&D. During his tenure at Sealed Air, he commercialized an oxygen scavenging package for Nestle Foods, improved the profitability of a struggling business unit, and initiated a technology scouting group.

Nate holds a B.S. in chemical engineering and B.A. in English from Stanford University. He earned a Ph.D. in chemical engineering from North Carolina State University and he wrote his thesis on the permeation of small molecules through plastic films. He is also an inventor on 16 U.S. patents.



# BILL MORRIS

Corporate Innovation Manager, Corning Inc.

Bill Morris (BSME, '80) is Corporate Innovation Manager at Corning Incorporated. He has over 38 years of business experience in customer account management, applications engineering, and new product development management. In his current role, Bill is using his deep experience to provide Innovation coaching to new product teams, as well as, responsible for improvement of Innovation methods such as applying Lean Start-up practices in a large corporation. Bill also provides Innovation Workshops for Rensselaer's Professional Leadership Program with the Archer Center for Student Leadership Development.



# RAUL PALM

President and Director  
Patterson-Palm Builders Hardware Inc. and Citilock Inc.

Raul Lopez-Palm '77 is a member of the Rensselaer Alumni Association board of trustees and the president and director of Patterson-Palm Builders Hardware Inc. and Citilock Inc. His career started developing mathematical models for transportation in the paper industry. He then founded and ran a manufacturing company of CP/M based microcomputers and also developed their application software.

An entrepreneur for thirty years, Raul has been involved in trading agricultural commodities, hardwood door and stain glass manufacturing, and import/export of building materials. He has also participated financially and in logistics in various start-ups. Raul currently runs and owns a contract hardware company that specializes in large mix-used projects with applications in frames, doors, hardware, and controlled openings (electronics).



# JEFF PETERSON

Senior Advisor for Entrepreneurship  
NYS Energy Research and Development Authority

Currently serving as the senior advisor for entrepreneurship, Jeff's primary focus has been on building the foundation for a customer-focused entrepreneurial ecosystem to catalyze and facilitate the transition of ideas/inventions around the clean energy market into scalable business enterprises. Recently, that focus has been on the design of initiatives to partner with universities to bring to market innovative clean energy technologies and business models. Examples of programs in our portfolio include: Proof-of-Concept Centers to bring clean energy technology inventions out of the laboratory and turn academic teams into businesses; business incubators to mentor young companies to become investible business enterprises; and, executive transition and Entrepreneurs-in-Residence programs to provide quality leadership and counsel to early-stage companies and move them on a faster growth trajectory. Extracurricular activities over the past few years include: Member of the Advisory Board for the RPI Technology Commercialization and Entrepreneurship program, past member of the Board of Directors of the American Solar Energy Society; and, peer review of manuscripts submitted to Elsevier publication: "Energy Policy – International Journal of the Political, Economic, Planning, Environmental and Social Aspects of Energy". Jeff was also a member of the National Academy of Engineering Committee on U.S.- Chinese Cooperation on Electricity from Renewable Resources and a member of the National Research Council Panel on Electricity from Renewables, serving as the lead for the chapter on the deployment challenges to deliver technologies to the market. He received a BS/MS from the University of Massachusetts and a MS in Industrial Administration from Union Graduate College.



# ULRIKE REHN

Innovation Manager and Independent Consultant

Dr. Ulrike Rehn is an innovation manager and independent consultant with 10 years of experience at the interface of business and R&D with a solid strategic marketing tool set and technology evaluation skills to assess new market opportunities, technology requirements, and address innovation process optimization.

Previously, she worked in corporate and business innovation functions at Air Products and Chemicals. Ulrike led the exploration of growth opportunities for existing industrial gas technologies into new global markets as well as the evaluation of emerging technologies.

Prior to joining Air Products, Ulrike was head of business development of biotech/pharma at IP Bewertungs AG in Germany, a fast-growing start-up company and service provider for early-stage technology commercialization. During this time, she gained extensive experience in commercialization strategies for patent protected technologies, managing external R&D partners and related contract negotiations as well as speaking and presenting at international intellectual property (IP) conferences.

Ulrike holds a M.S. degree in biophysics from Humboldt University Berlin, Germany; a Ph.D. from Max Planck Institute of Microstructure Physics, Halle, Germany; and an MBA from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, N.Y.



# JACK RUDNICK

Director of New York Science and Technology Law Center  
Professor of Practice, Syracuse University

Jack Rudnick is director of the New York State Science and Technology Law Center and a professor of practice at Syracuse University College of Law. He is an experienced corporate and intellectual property attorney who has been providing legal counsel for 40 years. He has extensive experience in commercializing new technologies and advising emerging technology companies. His interests are in IP strategy development to maximize protection and return on investment and managing technology commercialization programs and ventures.

Rudnick began his career as in-house counsel, first at Oneida Ltd. and then at medical device manufacturer Welch Allyn, Inc. Rudnick co-founded Blue Highway, Inc. while at Welch Allyn to locate and accelerate the development of technologies with medical applications. He continued with Blue Highway after it was transferred to Syracuse University in the role of senior vice president, legal and government affairs. He is currently of counsel with Barclay Damon, LLP's Emerging Technology Team, where he provides business and legal consultation to technology-based companies.

Ruddnick is an active member of several professional organizations and is on the board of trustees for the Everson Museum of Art. In addition, he serves on the board of directors for the MedTech Association and the Central New York Community Foundation, Inc., and the board of advisors of the CNY Biotech Accelerator. He received his J.D. from Syracuse University College of Law and his undergraduate degree from Middlebury College.



# LEO SCHOWALTER

Chief Technical Officer and Founder, Crystal IS, Inc.

After receiving his Ph.D. in physics from the University of Illinois (Urbana-Champaign), Dr. Schowalter was employed by the GE Research and Development Center in Schenectady, N.Y. He joined Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI) in 1987 and was chair of the physics department from 1997 to 2000. He also co-founded Crystal IS in 1997 with Dr. Glen Slack. Dr. Schowalter has more than 30 years of experience in crystal growth and nano-probe technologies for which he has received international recognition. For the last 20 years, he has specialized on AlN crystal growth and UVC LED development. He has published over 160 articles, co-edited four proceedings volumes, given over 65 invited talks, holds 25 US patents (with 16 pending) and many international patents.

Crystal IS, which was acquired by Asahi Kasei in 2011 and is now a wholly-owned subsidiary, introduced Optan™ in 2014 which is a UVC LED intended for the instrumentation market. It was the first commercial product based on single-crystal AlN substrate technology and has been followed by other UVC LED products intended for disinfection.



# THOMAS TONGUE

Sr Product Manager, XOS, Danaher

Thomas Tongue is a co-founder and executive director of the Tech Valley Center of Gravity, a makerspace and business cultivator in downtown Troy, N.Y. He is a serial entrepreneur with an MBA from the Lally School at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI), and previously served as CEO of Zomega Terahertz Corporation, a hardware-focused company that commercialized terahertz technology from RPI for non-destructive testing and inspection. With his technical background and market experience, Thomas advises early stage companies on technology development and commercialization strategies.

Thomas joined Danaher Corporation in 2017 and is currently the Sr. Product Manager for Environmental and Health & Safety products at XOS, a leading manufacturer of X-ray analyzers and optics. At XOS, he is responsible for developing new commercialization opportunities for products differentiated by their core optical technology. Prior to joining Danaher, Thomas co-founded the Tech Valley Center of Gravity, a makerspace and business cultivator in downtown Troy, N.Y., and served as both its first President and Executive Director. As a serial entrepreneur with an MBA from the Lally School at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI), Thomas has been involved in advising early stage companies on technology development and commercialization strategies, and previously served as CEO of Zomega Terahertz Corporation, a hardware-focused company that commercialized terahertz technology from RPI for non-destructive testing and inspection.



# MIKE WALSH

CEO, NYSTEC

Mike Walsh is president and chief executive officer of NYSTEC. Prior to joining NYSTEC in 2003, he served as regional managing director for BearingPoint's Government and Universities system integration practice that covered New York and New England. Prior to that, Mike was a partner at KPMG in charge of the company's state and local government consulting practice for New England and New York.

Mike has more than 30 years of government consulting experience, which includes leading large projects to identify public-sector performance improvement opportunities, plan operations improvements, design information technology strategies, and implement secure network solutions. He has extensive experience in determining organizations' system needs and implementing technology solutions to improve organizational and operational efficiency and effectiveness.

Mike holds a bachelor's degree in business administration and a Master of Science degree in computer modeling and applied statistics from the University of Miami. He serves on the board of the Automobile Association of America (Hudson Valley), Shenendehowa School District audit committee, and St. Edward's Church finance committee.