



Division of
Science, Technology
& Innovation



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NYSTAR, FuzeHub Announce New York State Innovation Summit

*Annual Showcase for New Yorkers Shaping the State's Innovation Economy scheduled for
October 7-8 in Rochester*

*Kevin Surace, CNBC's Inventor of the Decade, and Dr. Mukesh Khare of IBM Research
featured as keynote speakers*

ROCHESTER, N.Y.— [NYSTAR](#), Empire State Development's Division of Science, Technology and Innovation, and [FuzeHub](#), a statewide nonprofit that helps manufacturers grow and become more competitive, will host the [New York State Innovation Summit](#) in Rochester on October 7 and 8. The two-day conference will gather innovators, entrepreneurs and business leaders to showcase leading-edge technologies and build connections that will encourage business growth.

"Supporting New York State's innovation economy is vital to generating diverse and sustainable economic growth," said [Empire State Development](#) Acting Commissioner and President & CEO-designate Eric Gertler. "The New York State Innovation Summit will welcome experts in cutting-edge industries from across the state to discuss their research and encourage new collaborations."

"With its legacy of innovation, Rochester is an excellent location for this year's New York State Innovation Summit," said Pravina Raghavan, Executive Vice President for Small Business Services and Community Economic Development at [Empire State Development](#). "By bringing together the state's brightest minds, this event will build on Rochester's legacy, serving as a catalyst to further accelerate technology-led economic growth across New York State."

Designed to showcase companies and researchers at the forefront of emerging technology and advancements in production capabilities, the New York State Innovation Summit will facilitate discussions about the future of several industries. Attendees will have the opportunity to select one of three technology tracks—disruptive technologies, commercialization, and sustainability and energy—for a deeper focus into specific topics during breakout sessions.

Headlining the summit are two keynote speakers who have built impressive careers rooted in innovation and technology: Kevin Surace, creator of the first smartphone and digital assistant, and Dr. Mukesh Khare, vice president at [IBM Research](#).

Surace is an alumnus of Rochester Institute of Technology and an inductee into its Innovation Hall of Fame. A recognized futurist focused on disruptive innovation, AI and automation, he has been named Inc. Magazine Entrepreneur of the Year, a CNBC top Innovator of the Decade and a World Economic Forum Tech Pioneer. Surace has 85 worldwide patents, has keynoted events including Inc. 5000 and TED, and currently serves as Chairman and CTO of [Appvance.ai](#).

Khare drives IBM's computing hardware research agenda, leading a team of more than 1,000 researchers worldwide to redefine the future of computing for the next generation. His work explores AI, Machine Learning, High-Performance Computing and their delivery through Hybrid Cloud. Khare has been with IBM since 1998, after earning his doctorate in electrical engineering from Yale University.

Beyond the keynotes, the summit will feature speakers and panelists from across New York State. [A full list of speakers is available here.](#)

"In addition to its focus on the advanced technologies that are driving our state's economy, the New York State Innovation Summit will promote the robust network of world-class resources that are available to help manufacturers and technology startups improve productivity and competitiveness," said FuzeHub Executive Director Elena Garuc. "The summit will expose business leaders to ideas and solutions that can unleash their growth."

The summit will feature exhibit space for companies interested in showcasing products, research and innovations in industries such as advanced materials; advanced manufacturing (additive manufacturing, automation and robotics, digital manufacturing & design); cleantech and energy innovations; nanotechnology, electronics and photonics; media and gaming technology; digital technology (AI, big data, IoT); and life sciences and biotechnology.

For more information and registration, visit <https://nysinnovationsummit.com/>

About NYSTAR

Empire State Development's Division of Science, Technology and Innovation (NYSTAR) advances technology innovation and commercialization in New York State. NYSTAR offers programs that assist companies from start-up through maturity, leveraging the state's unparalleled investment in world-class technology assets and expertise. It provides roughly \$55 million annually in funding to support over 70 centers that provide direct assistance to New York State companies—a network of vital assets for enabling technology- and manufacturing-led growth and job creation. NYSTAR and its partners are proud to contribute to New York's leadership in the global innovation economy. For more information, visit esd.ny.gov/nystar.

About FuzeHub

FuzeHub is a nonprofit organization that connects New York's small and mid-sized manufacturing companies to the resources, programs and expertise they need for technology commercialization, innovation and business growth. Through its custom assessment, matching, and referral platform, FuzeHub helps companies navigate New York's robust network of industry experts at Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) centers, universities, economic development organizations, and other providers. FuzeHub is the statewide New York MEP center, supported by Empire State Development's Division of Science, Technology & Innovation. For more information on FuzeHub, visit www.fuzehub.com.

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