



NY SMART I-CORRIDOR
**SEMICONDUCTOR
 SUMMIT**

June 1-2, 2026
 RIT Inn and Conference Center
 Rochester, NY

REGISTER: [NY SMART I-Corridor Semiconductor Summit 2026](#)
 EVENT WEBSITE: <https://nysmarticorridor.com/inside-the-ny-smart-i-corridor-semiconductor-summit/>

June 1 – Innovation Expo

Time & Location	Event
8:00-8:30 a.m. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Iroquois Ballroom & Lobby Area</i> 	Check in and Breakfast
8:30—9:30 a.m. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Iroquois Ballroom</i> 	Welcome Remarks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Duncan Brown, Vice President of Research, Syracuse University Shannon Ealy, Vice President for Innovation, OneRoc Opening Remarks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chris Zeltmann, Regional Director at U.S. Senator Charles E. Schumer Jorn Smeets, Managing Director North America, PhotonDelta Daniel Broom, Director, US Government Affairs, GlobalFoundries Moderator: Duncan Brown
9:30-11:30 a.m. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Iroquois Ballroom</i> 	Lightning Talks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Click here to see the full list of Lightning Round Presenters and their Capability Statements
11:30-1:00 p.m. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Iroquois Ballroom</i> 	Networking Lunch
11:30 – 4:00 p.m. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Henrietta Ballroom</i> 	One on One Match-Making Meetings

<p>1:00-1:45 p.m.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Iroquois Ballroom</i> 	<p>IP Essentials: Patents, Protection, and Partnering with Universities</p> <p>Crash course on U.S. IP law, IP management, funding mechanisms, and collaboration considerations. Ideal for entrepreneurs, startup founders, and companies considering or engaged in university partnerships for technology development.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brian Gerling, Executive Director, Syracuse University – Innovation Law Center James Eilertson, Director, Intellectual Property Management Office, Rochester Institute of Technology Denis Charlesworth, Executive Director of the Sponsored Research Services, Rochester Institute of Technology
<p>1:45-2:15 p.m.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Iroquois Ballroom</i> 	<p>Accelerating Innovation: Partnerships That Move Technology Forward</p> <p>In today's rapidly evolving semiconductor landscape, no single company or institution can drive innovation alone — the most impactful breakthroughs happen at the intersection of entrepreneurial agility, deep industry expertise, and world-class shared infrastructure. This session examines how strategic partnerships between global industry leaders, startups, academic collaborators, and public-private research ecosystems are compressing the timeline from promising idea to deployed product.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Christian Riesch, Senior Director of Research, INFICON INFICON's innovation process starts with a discipline we take seriously: fall in love with the problem, not the solution. Once the problem is identified, the right solution may come from a startup — in semi or an unrelated field. But in semi, startups rarely fail at the technology — they fail at scaling globally. As a global leader in smart manufacturing solutions for the semiconductor industry, INFICON partners with startups, faculty, and industry collaborators to pair startup speed with five decades of process expertise, global footprint, and qualification infrastructure — illustrated with real examples of deals that turned promising ideas into deployed products. Erin Lavigne, Senior Director, NY Creates Within the Albany NanoTech Complex, an ecosystem of sophisticated tools and infrastructures is already propelling scientific progress. Now, with the addition of High NA EUV lithography, researchers gain access to an elite, collaborative environment equipped for the demands of modern discovery. The impact is unmistakable: rapid screening and prototyping for everything from custom materials to next-generation architectures will become faster, more efficient, and more adaptable than ever before. Barriers to experimentation are removed, enabling bolder ideas to move from concept to reality at unprecedented speed. This talk will explore not only the technologies and roadmaps, including next-gen light sources, that are propelling this capability

	<p>forward, but also the unique engagement models to work within this highly collaborative ecosystem.</p>
<p>2:15—3:00 p.m.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Iroquois Ballroom</i> 	<p>Advanced Packaging: The Next Frontier in Heterogeneous Integration</p> <p>As system performance increasingly depends on how components are integrated—not just fabricated—advanced packaging has emerged as a critical innovation layer across semiconductors, photonics, and microsystems. This panel will explore emerging packaging paradigms, including heterogeneous integration, co-packaged optics, MEMS, and novel substrates.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moderator: John Taylor, Director, International Supply Chain Development, GO-SEMI • Aric Shorey, VP Government Affairs and Market Development, Menlo Micro • Chris Striemer, Director of TAP Operations, AIM Photonics • Stefan Preble, Bausch and Lomb Professor, RIT
<p>3:00-3:15</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Iroquois Ballroom & Lobby Area</i> 	<p>Networking Break</p>
<p>3:15-4:15</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Iroquois Ballroom</i> 	<p>Capital Pathways for Startups: <i>Navigating the Funding Ecosystem</i></p> <p>Securing appropriate capital at the right time is a challenge for founders everywhere. This panel unites experts from across New York’s ecosystem to clarify the many enigmatic facets of the fundraising journey. We will explore strategic transitions from non-dilutive federal grants (SBIR/STTR) to the nuances of Angel networks and cover the scaling power of early and later stage venture capital.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anna Vulaj Fitzsimmons CCAS, CPP, Program Director, Monroe County – Upstate NY APEX Accelerator, NAPEX Region 2 Director • Will Heptig, Program Manager, Interior Northeast I-Corps Hub and SBIR/STTR Assistance Program • Jack McGowan, Consultant, Insyte Consulting and Executive Director, Western New York Venture Association & Buffalo Angels • Paul Tolley, Chief Technology Officer, Excell Partners • Joshua Nelson, Senior Director, NY Ventures • Zachary Mizener, Investment Manager, Launch NY • Moderator: Jim Senall, President, NextCorps
<p>4:15-5:00</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Iroquois Ballroom</i> 	<p>Panel Discussion with THRIVE Awardees: <i>Leveraging World-Class Resources in Your Own Backyard</i></p>

	<p>This panel features NY THRIVE (NY Tech Hub Resources & Innovation Vouchers for Enterprises) awardee company leaders sharing how the program supports technology development through access to specialized facilities and academic expertise across New York’s leading universities, while highlighting the role of industry–academia partnerships in accelerating innovation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alejandro Cortese, PhD, Co-Founder and CEO, <u>OWiC Technologies</u> (CU) • Aric Shorey, PhD, Government Affairs, <u>Menlo Microsystems</u> (CU) • Wanliang Shan, PhD, Co-Founder and CEO, <u>TunaBotics</u> (SU & CU) • Messac Che Neba, Founder and Managing Director, <u>Era73 Technologies</u> (UR) • Juniyali Nauriyal, CEO, <u>Photonect</u> (RIT) • Moderator: Kenneth J. Reed, Ph.D.CEO, CSO, Founder, Zero Valent NanoMetals.com
<p>5:15—7:00</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Henrietta Ballroom & Lobby Area</i> 	<p>Networking reception</p>

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June 2 – Supply Chain Exchange

<p>8:30am-5:00 pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Henrietta Ballroom 	<p>Exhibitor Tables and Buyer/Supplier Match-Making meetings Click here to see buyer needs from exhibiting companies</p>
<p>8:30-9:00</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Iroquois Ballroom & Lobby Area 	<p>Check in and Breakfast</p>
<p>9:00-9:15</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Iroquois Ballroom 	<p>Welcome Remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ananth Iyer, Dean, University at Buffalo School of Management Merideth Andreucci, SVP & Executive Director, Governor's Office of Semiconductor Expansion Management, and Integration (GO-SEMI)
<p>9:15 – 9:20</p>	<p>Keynote Panel Introduction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Linda Soltis, Trade Commissioner, Advanced Manufacturing & Can-Am Supply Chain, Consulate General of Canada in New York, Platinum Event Sponsor
<p>9:20- 10:30</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Iroquois Ballroom 	<p>Keynote Panel: New York’s Semiconductor Supply Chain: Building Capacity and Securing Supply</p> <p>New York is accelerating its position as a national leader in semiconductor manufacturing and supply chain development, boosting domestic capacity, resilience, and long-term competitiveness. Industry leaders from GlobalFoundries and Edwards Vacuum will share firsthand perspectives on the investments, strategies, and partnerships fueling that growth. Hear the latest about GlobalFoundries’ growth and engagement with regional suppliers, and Edwards Vacuum’s efforts to reshore and fortify critical supply chains. The session will close with a moderated Q&A, offering attendees a forward-looking view of how manufacturing expansion and supply chain localization are unlocking new opportunities across New York’s semiconductor ecosystem.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diane Captein, Director of Global Supply Management, GlobalFoundries Dan Papsidero, General Manager, Edwards Vacuum Moderator: Milind Sohoni, Chair and Professor Operations Management and Strategy, University at Buffalo School of Management
<p>10:30 – 11:00</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Iroquois Ballroom & Lobby Area 	<p>Coffee Break, Networking & Exhibitor Tables</p>
<p>11:00 – 12:00</p>	<p>Unlocking Opportunities in the Semiconductor Supply Chain</p> <p>As the semiconductor industry grows, new opportunities are emerging for manufacturers and service providers to enter or expand within the</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Iroquois Ballroom</i> 	<p>supply chain. This session outlines high potential areas for growth, available technical and operational support, and a new program that helps service providers find entry points into the semiconductor ecosystem. Attendees will leave with a clear sense of where opportunities exist and how to access the resources needed to pursue them.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rob Leteste, Vice President, Talent & Sector Strategy, Invest Buffalo Niagara • Kathleen Martin, Business Advisor, Manufacturing, NextCorps • Sumaila Palla, Senior Manager, NextStreet • Roxanne Neilson, President, RMNeilson Associates, Inc. • Moderator: Victoria Reynolds, District Director, U.S. Small Business Administration
<p>12:00- 1:00</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Iroquois Ballroom</i> 	<p>Networking Lunch</p>
<p>1:00- 2:00</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Iroquois Ballroom</i> 	<p>The Canadian Semiconductor Ecosystem & Cross Border Collaboration</p> <p>This panel brings together leaders from industry and government to discuss Canada’s semiconductor ecosystem and deepening U.S.–Canada supply chain integration. Speakers will examine Canadian sector strengths, such as advanced packaging, photonics, quantum-aligned R&D, as well as support for emerging “hard tech” companies. The panelists will highlight examples of Can-Am collaboration, including the Northeast Semiconductor Manufacturing Corridor, and other supply chain successes that spell mutual benefit and opportunities for both countries.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avinash Persaud, Vice President, Hardware Catalyst Initiative and Semiconductor Initiatives, ventureLAB • Karen Bozynski, Director of Partnerships, Canada’s Semiconductor Council • Adriana Sgabellone, Acting Trade Commissioner, Semiconductors, Consulate General of Canada in NY • Moderator: Linda Soltis, Trade Commissioner, Advanced Manufacturing & Can-Am Supply Chain, Consulate General of Canada in New York
<p>2:00– 3:00</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Iroquois Ballroom</i> 	<p>Expanding the Manufacturing Workforce Panel</p> <p>After a short overview of the NY SMART I-Corridor STEP UP initiative, this panel will highlight how organizations across the corridor are expanding access to manufacturing careers. Panelists will share their strategies in developing new pathways and partnerships to broaden talent pipelines and meet evolving industry needs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alejandro Mendoza, Director of Human Resources, Optimax • Stephen Tucker, President and CEO, Northland Training Center

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • James Mallory, Technical Workforce Development Specialist, RIT National Technical Institute for the Deaf • Amy Stage, Director of Apprenticeship & Workforce Development, Manufacturers Association of Central New York • Moderator: Chris Suozzi, Executive Vice President of Business & Workforce Development, Genesee County Economic Development Center • Introduction: Chelsea McCann, Director of Workforce Innovation, Buffalo Niagara Partnership
3:00– 3:30 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Iroquois Ballroom & Lobby Area</i> 	Coffee Break, Networking & Exhibitor Tables
3:30– 4:45 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Iroquois Ballroom</i> 	Amplifying Success: Federal and State Programs for Growing your Semiconductor Industry Footprint Federal and state resources providers are standing by to assist NY businesses as they explore, pivot, and grow in new markets. Learn from the APEX Accelerator how to secure contracts from federal agencies and primes, hear from Global NY about services for companies exploring exporting to foreign markets, discover the latest insights and supports available from GO-SEMI, and gain awareness of the SBA’s programs and services. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anna Vulaj, Program Director, APEX Accelerator • Ludovic Ortuno, Canadian Trade Director, Empire State Development, Global NY Division • Mick Sicchio, Director of Regional Supply Chain Development, GO-SEMI • Steven Morlock, Lender Relations Specialist, U.S. Small Business Administration • Moderator: Leah George Van Scott, Executive Vice President, Business Development & Strategy, Greater Rochester Enterprise
4:45 – 5:00 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Iroquois Ballroom</i> 	Closing Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ananth Iyer, Dean, University at Buffalo School of Management