

Ag Tech Innovation & Investor Forum 2016

“Cutting-edge Solutions for Sustainable Food, Water & Energy”

Thursday, Jan 7, 2016

Networking: 6-6:30 PM Program: 6:30-8:00PM

[Monterey County Ag Commissioner's Office](#)

1428 Abbott Street, Salinas, CA 93901

WHO ATTENDS: Growers, Investors, AgTech Innovators, service providers and others

ABOUT: This event will present several major innovation themes and investment opportunities at the nexus of water, agriculture, and energy then open the floor for feedback and discussion on these and other relevant issues.

PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED via meetup.com/AgTech

Agenda:

6:00 - 6:15 Arrivals & Registration

6:00 - 6:30 Networking

6:30 - 6:35 Welcome and opening remarks

Moderator: **Daniel Robin**, Managing Partner, In3 Finance ([link](#))

- **Aaron Magenheim** of AgTech Insight

6:35 - 7:00 Water for Agriculture via Solar Power & Distillation



- **Bruce Marlow**, Director, WaterFX & HydroRevolution – waterfx.co
- Q&A

7:00 - 7:25 Modular Hydroponic “Micro-Farms” – Next Gen Urban Farming



- **Nick Halmos JD**, CEO of CityBlooms – cityblooms.com
- Q&A

7:25 - 7:50 Advanced Renewable Fuels from Surprising Sources



- **Kevin Weiss PE**, CEO of Byogy Renewables – byogy.com
- Q&A

7:50 - 8:00 Group Q&A, draw out key themes and next steps; networking; adjourn.

Co-hosts:



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Speaker Biographies

Bruce Marlow has been a leader in the development of innovative energy solutions since 1972. During his career he supported the nuclear power industry by driving technology forward and leading large, integrated projects. In 2006, while working as a Vice President for the French energy technology company, Areva, Bruce was introduced to the environmental and clean water challenges in the California Central Valley. His concern for these challenges led Bruce to the Panoche Water District, ground zero for the sustainable management of agricultural drainage water. Bruce's efforts ultimately led to his involvement in the creation of WaterFX, a solar desalination company that has successfully demonstrated its capabilities as a clean water solution driven by renewable energy. Bruce is a board member and active leader in the growth of WaterFX, HydroRevolution and the Aqua4 technology. [in](#)



Nick Halmos began his career in urban farming as an undergraduate in 2001. Since that time, Nick has been a consistent innovator in the urban agriculture field while also pursuing a variety of entrepreneurial interests. In 2010, Nick moved Cityblooms to Santa Cruz, California and assembled a team to develop the next generation of urban farming technology. Nick holds a JD from Vanderbilt Law School and a BA from Brown University. [in](#)



Kevin R. Weiss, CEO/President of Byogy Renewables, Inc., a biofuels organization headquartered in San Jose, CA that produces advanced “drop-in” biofuels, namely jet fuel, gasoline and diesel, from any source of bioethanol. Byogy's fuels are direct renewable substitutes for petroleum-based fuels, and feedstocks can be purpose-grown agricultural crops, such as sweet potatoes, agave or beets, or waste. Processes can generate fuel, food and fiber using a “biorefinery” model. Mr. Weiss has driven the company since its inception in 2006 and holds the following industry positions:

- Advisory Council to the FAA Center of Excellence For Alternative Jet Fuels & Environment
- Member of ASTM – global platform for developing alternative specifications for aviation fuels
- Chairman of the ASTM task force for Alcohol To Jet Fully Synthetic Fuel global certification
- Member of CAAFI – Commercial Aviation Alternative Fuels Initiative
- Member of Brazilian Bio-Fuel Platform for the development of renewable fuels in Brazil.

Kevin holds BS degrees in Civil Engineering and Physics from the Penn State University. [in](#)