

# The Future of Business in Pittsburgh

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## NVIDIA's AI Tech Community Launch Positions Pittsburgh as a Leader in AI Revolution

Pittsburgh's role as a global AI powerhouse has been reinforced with NVIDIA's announcement that it is launching their first-ever AI Tech Community in the city. NVIDIA, a tech titan that is among the most valuable and influential companies in the world, is at the forefront of artificial intelligence and GPU chip development, powering the AI revolution across industries worldwide. By partnering with Carnegie Mellon University (CMU) and the University of Pittsburgh (Pitt), two world-renowned institutions, NVIDIA is positioning the city to become a critical hub for next-generation AI innovation.

Carnegie Mellon, often regarded as the world's top AI and robotics university, has consistently pushed the boundaries of technology. Its Robotics Institute is the largest university-affiliated robotics research group globally, and it continues to lead advancements in autonomous vehicles, robotics, and natural language processing. CMU's collaboration with NVIDIA will fuel breakthroughs in robotics and AI that could reshape industries and redefine the role of AI and automation in our work and daily lives.

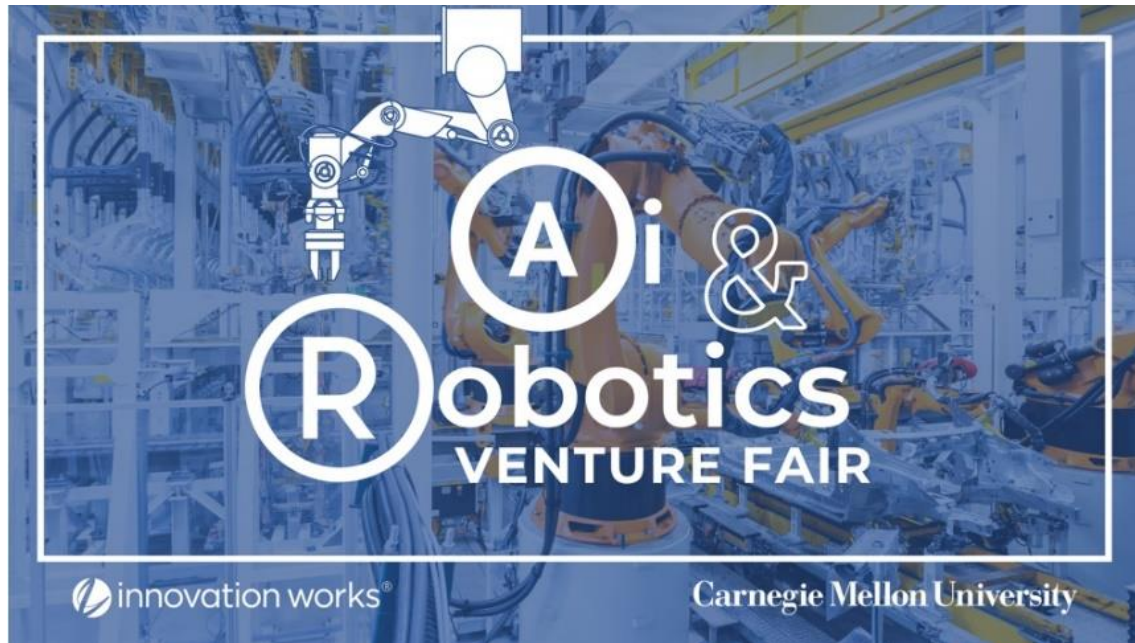


Pennsylvania Governor Josh Shapiro, Carnegie Mellon University President Farnam Jahanian, University of Pittsburgh Chancellor Joan Gabel, and NVIDIA's Anthony Robbins sign a Memorandum of Understanding at the AI Horizons Summit in Pittsburgh. (Ryan O'Shea)

At the University of Pittsburgh, a leading institution in health sciences, the focus will be on using AI to transform healthcare. From clinical medicine to biomanufacturing, Pitt is exploring the potential of AI to revolutionize the way we approach health and medicine. With over \$1 billion in research expenditures, Pitt's cutting-edge work in the life sciences makes it an ideal partner for this initiative.

This bold move by NVIDIA signals Pittsburgh's growing prominence in the global AI landscape, attracting startups, research, and investment. For Japanese businesses and investors, Pittsburgh offers a fertile ground for collaboration in robotics, healthcare, and AI-driven industries—sectors that align with Japan's own cutting-edge technological advancements. The future of AI is being shaped in Pittsburgh, and the city is capturing global attention.

## Investment Opportunities Abound at Pittsburgh's AI & Robotics Showcase



The AI & Robotics Venture Fair, an annual event hosted by Carnegie Mellon University and Innovation Works, showcased cutting-edge advancements in AI and robotics technology.

Pittsburgh recently hosted the AI & Robotics Venture Fair at Carnegie Mellon University (CMU), attracting 40 investors from across the country. Organized by CMU and Innovation Works, this event, now in its seventh year, highlighted 18 pioneering companies in AI and robotics.

Among the featured companies was Velo.AI, founded by autonomous vehicle industry veteran Clark Haynes, which developed a product called Copilot to enhance cyclist safety by providing audio and visual alerts to both the cyclists and passing motorists. The device also collects data that helps city planners improve urban bike routes. This technology is now being tested in Pittsburgh in partnership with the local bike share program POGOH.

Fluid Reality, led by Joe Mullenbach, is another company gaining attention. Mullenbach has developed a revolutionary haptic glove that enables users to feel virtual objects, an innovation that earned him a spot as a Fast Company Innovation Honoree. He is now seeking to raise \$3.5 million in seed funding.

X-Hab3D, founded by Bruce Kraselsky, has built a mobile concrete 3D printing technology that promises to transform construction by enabling faster, more efficient, and cost-effective building solutions, even in harsh environments. Their system reduces labor and material costs by 40-60% while offering energy efficiency and design freedom, addressing key challenges in traditional construction.

This AI and robotics showcase illustrates Pittsburgh's role as a leader in cutting-edge innovation, providing fertile ground for investors from around the world to explore partnerships and expand technological advancements.

## Pittsburgh Business News and Updates

- Woolpert opens AI & Technology Hub in Pittsburgh  
(<https://technical.ly/professional-development/woolpert-ai-hub-pittsburgh-power-moves/>)
- Elon Musk discusses interest in investing in Pittsburgh during visit to the city  
([https://x.com/elon\\_docs/status/1848218383323730068](https://x.com/elon_docs/status/1848218383323730068))
- Fujitsu and Carnegie Mellon University develop AI-powered social digital twin technology  
(<https://www.fujitsu.com/global/about/resources/news/press-releases/2024/0307-01.html>)
- Ambassador Mikio Mori talks “A New Frontier of Japan-US Relationship” in Pittsburgh  
(<https://www.ucis.pitt.edu/main/events/4504>)
- Why the Pittsburgh region is a distribution and logistics hub  
(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-9H6tp6t2W0>)



### About Ryan

Ryan O'Shea is a JETRO Investment Advisor focused on connecting Japanese companies to opportunities in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He is the host of Future Grind, a podcast that explores the ethics and impact of emerging science and technology, and also works with the Pittsburgh Robotics Network. In 2017, Ryan co-founded an artificial intelligence startup that was named a Top 10 team in the IBM Watson AI XPRIZE. Ryan has represented NASA and CalTech's Jet Propulsion Laboratory as a Solar System Ambassador and serves both as a World Economic Forum Global Shaper and an ambassador for Pittsburgh AI. He is a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh & serves on the boards of multiple non-profit organizations.