

KEYNOTE SPEAKER



Mr KEITH BLAKELY
Chief Executive Officer

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Keith Blakely is the CEO of NanoDynamics, Inc., the global leader in the commercialisation of nanomaterials and nanotechnology-enabled components and systems. The company was formed in 2002 and has already introduced commercial products for the microelectronics, biomedical, chemical, semiconductor, defense, and alternative energy (fuel cell) markets. NanoDynamics has been featured in the USA Today, Business Week, and on CNBC's Squawk Box and the CBS Evening News.

Mr Blakely is a serial entrepreneur, having started his first company, Advanced Refractory Technologies, Inc. (ART), in Buffalo, NY in 1981 at the age of 24. For the next twenty years, he served as ART's President and CEO, overseeing its growth from a two person operation to over 300 people with two international joint ventures and three domestic facilities. During his tenure, he established relationships with General Motors, Bekaert, Mitsubishi, Westinghouse, McDermott International, United Defense, and many others. The company was recognised as a worldwide leader in advanced materials when it was acquired by a subsidiary of Tyco International in June 2001.

Following the sale of ART, Mr Blakely established a technology management consulting organisation – The InVentures Group – which has provided technology assessments, business planning, and technology commercialization to several organisations, from start-ups to multi-billion dollar firms. The InVentures Group was instrumental in helping the University of Buffalo establish STOR (the Office of Science, Technology, and Economic Outreach) in 2001 and served as the interim Director of Commercialization. More recently, he founded First Wave Technologies, one of the first private-sector companies in WNY focused on the development and commercialization of pre-incubator technology projects.

Mr Blakely served as the President and COO of TechSys, Inc., a NASDAQ listed company which developed new technologies for portable electric power generation, including solid oxide fuel cells, in collaboration with NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory and Adelan Ltd., in Birmingham, England. He also assisted as the President and CEO in the commercial transition of another development stage nanomaterials company, AP Materials, Inc.

Mr Blakely, who was elected a Fellow of the American Ceramic Society in 2001, received the R&D 100 Award in 1979 and 1985, was NYS Entrepreneur of the Year in 1995, has served on the boards of several public and private organisations, including the Buffalo-Niagara International Trade Council, the Western New York Technology Development Corporation, and the Buffalo Economic Renaissance Corporation. Keith is a native of Western New York and a graduate of SUNY Buffalo.