



SPEAKERS



Amit Kumar Pandey

President, Hanson Robotics, France

Dr. Amit Kumar Pandey is the President and the Chief Technology Officer (CTO) and Chief Science Officer (CSO) at Hanson Robotics, the creator of world's most advanced human-like expressive humanoid robot, Sophia. Earlier he has served as the Head Principal Scientist (Chief Scientist) at SoftBank Robotics Europe (formerly Aldebaran Robotics), Paris, France, the creator of world's first mass produced humanoid robot Pepper, also serving as the scientific coordinator (R&D) of the collaborative projects of the company. In the past for 6 years he also worked as researcher in Robotics and AI at LAAS-CNRS (French National Center for Scientific Research), Toulouse, France. His research interest includes Socially Intelligent Robots and Societal Impact of robotics & AI technologies, Human Robot Interaction, Robot's Cognitive Architecture & Learning. On these aspects, he has been actively contributing as principal investigator, researcher, and industrial scientific coordinator in more than 13 large scale national, international and European Union (EU) projects, as well as involved in their design and proposal, has published 60+ scientific research papers, and delivered 100+ invited talks/keynotes/lecture in international venues.



Amitava Ghosh

VP, India Engineering, Bidgley

As VP Engineering, Amitava is responsible for the Engineering and Delivery functions across Bidgley's international locations and heads our India office. Amitava is a seasoned engineering

leader with 20+ years of experience in building highly scalable web-based AI driven products and platforms for consumer internet and enterprises, both in US and India. After his stint at Yahoo, TaxiForSure, Snapdeal, he cofounded Fratics (acquired), which provided AI driven actionable business insights that drives growth and contains risks to e-Commerce and offline Retail enterprises. Amitava, a graduate from IIT Delhi and an ardent fan of cricket, travel and food, is a very much “get things done” person and draws a good balance between delivering against immediate business needs and envisioning “tomorrow’s scale and technology innovation”.



Ashutosh Natraj
Founder and CEO, Vidrona

Ashutosh is an Oxford University researcher turned Entrepreneur with specialisation in Computer Vision with AI and Robotics engineering. He has actively been into Electrical Transmission and Distribution sector and Renewable Energies (Solar and Wind) to understand and solve challenging industrial problems as part of Vidrona Team. He worked in the past on Robotics and Computer Vision research with drone/UAV implementation on Oxford University’s EPSRC project on multi-UAVs along with their industrial partners and consortium members such as BAE systems, Sellafields Ltd, National Nuclear Laboratory, Network Rail and Schlumberger. His PhD is in Robotics and Computer Vision for Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs). He has several international journal and conference papers in the areas of Computer Vision, Machine Learning and AI with Robotics. He closely collaborates with several leading industrial and academic research labs. He has varied work and research experience with the industry, research labs and universities.



Shishir Shekhar
Senior Global Market Manager
MathWorks Inc.

With over a decade of engineering and management experience in the Power & Energy industry, Shishir Shekhar is responsible for Worldwide Utilities & Energy business segment at MathWorks Inc. Shishir leads the global Market & Strategy functions supporting the breadth of the MathWorks product line from Artificial Intelligence, Advanced Simulations, Cloud Computing, IoT, Big Data, etc. Shishir advises leading Electric Utilities, Renewable Energy and Power Systems Automation organizations globally on

adopting and implementing Digital Technologies and Solutions for their Grid Modernization and Digitization Initiatives.



Sumit Gupta

Founder and CEO, Assetplus Consulting.

Sumit has been a solution evangelist for Smart Grid, Renewable Energy and Power Management in past. He brings in over 20 years of industry experience spanning over Domain of Energy & Utility, currently provide direction to assetplus consulting as Founder and CEO, a startup, focusing on strategic decision making support to Utilities. Within Power, Renewable Sector, Oil & Gas, Water, Infra, Sumit has created offering addressing the core areas like Energy Forensic analysis controlling power revenue assurance and theft, Load forecasting & Power procurement solution, Demand Response for distribution utilities and Energy Sales on ABT regime, landing cost analysis for bilateral contracts, UI analysis, maintenance mgt, operation mgt on fuel cost mgt, auxiliary mgt, controlling coal GCV and SHR for the generation utilities and Energy Analysis for Renewables. Sumit has been associated with AT Kearney , PricewaterhouseCoopers in the past.

- BE in Material Science and Metallurgy (NIT, Rourkela)
- Post Graduation in Supply Chain Management (IMT, Ghaziabad) and;
- Advanced Management Program in Strategy & Leadership from Harvard University



Reji Kumar Pillai

President – India Smart Grid Forum

Chairman – Global Smart Grid Federation

Reji is the President of India Smart Grid Forum (www.indiasmartgrid.org) since its inception in 2011 and is also the Chairman of Global Smart Energy Federation since November 2016. He an internationally renowned expert with nearly four decades of experience in the electricity sector in diverse functions covering the entire value chain and across continents. He is spearheading a mission to leverage technology to transform the electric grid in India and provide clean and reliable electricity to every citizen 24x7 at affordable cost. He is actively advocating for the “Right to Electricity Act” that will ensure lifeline supply of electricity to all citizens in India. Reji has played pivotal role in several ground breaking initiatives related to renewable energy, electric grid modernization, electric mobility, energy

storage and digitalization in India during the past two decades. His current areas of research and work include: Grid Integrated Vehicles, District Cooling, Electric Cooking, Smart Grids as Anchor Infrastructure for Smart Cities, Grid Interactive Buildings and Campuses; Artificial Intelligence, Robotics and Blockchain Applications for Utilities; Urban Air Mobility (UAM) Systems and the Future of Transportation; and Interconnection of Regional Grids in Asia - ASEAN, SAARC and GCC grids. In November 2016, Reji was unanimously elected as Chairman of Global Smart Grid Federation, now renamed as Global Smart Energy Federation (GSEF), a global umbrella organization of smart grid/energy associations and utilities from 16 countries and the European Union; and headquartered in Washington DC, USA. As an entrepreneur, Reji has built successful enterprises in India and overseas and exited them. He has studied Engineering, Finance, Management and Law; worked with NTPC and IBM and has been senior consultant with ADB, World Bank and USAID. A recognized thought leader in clean energy, smart grid technologies, smart cities and electric mobility, Reji is a popular key-note speaker at international symposiums and conferences on these domains. He has also contributed to several articles, books, research reports and white papers on variety of topics.



Reena Suri

Executive Director, India Smart Grid Forum (ISGF)

Reena Suri joined India Smart Grid Forum (ISGF), a PPP initiative of Govt of India, in 2013 and is currently the Executive Director of ISGF. She brings over 20 years of experience in the Energy Sector. She is responsible for the research projects, advisory services, business development, training and capacity building programs, customer outreach activities, members relations and finances of ISGF. Reena has contributed to the various advisory services, whitepapers and research reports of ISGF on key Smart Grid domains such as: Smart Grid Roadmaps for Indian, SAARC and ASEAN Utilities; Electric Vehicles and Charging Infrastructure; Blockchain for Electric Utilities; Energy Storage; Smart Metering Infrastructure; Customer Engagement etc. Reena is the founder-editor of the Smart Grid Bulletin published by ISGF since January 2014 which has online circulation of over 75,000 senior professionals in 120+ countries. She has spoken in multiple Indian and International conferences and workshops on various domains of Smart Grid.



Bindeshwary Rai

Senior Manager – Programs and Partnerships, India Smart Grid Forum, India

Head – Technical Secretariat, Global Smart Energy Federation, USA.

Bindeshwary has 15 years of experience in various domains including Energy, Innovations, Policies and Schemes, Information Technology, Education, Media and Public Outreach with stakeholders from Central and State Governments, International Think Tanks, Development Agencies, Non- Profit Organizations and Industry. She is working with India Smart Grid Forum (ISGF) as Senior Manager - Programs and Partnerships. She is responsible for ISGF initiatives in Smart Grid and Smart Cities domain including research studies and projects, advisory services, training and capacity building programs, advocacy, partnerships and collaborations (national and international). She also heads the Technical Secretariat at Global Smart Energy Federation (GSEF- <http://www.globalsmartenergy.org>), formerly known as Global Smart Grid Federation (GSGF), a global stakeholder organization committed to creating smarter, cleaner electrical systems around the world and is comprised of national smart grid associations, forward-looking utilities, and think tanks from around the globe working in the energy transition and clean transportation.