



SILICON OASIS

MAGAZINE

JUNE 2026
EDITION

FOUNDER-LED. ARIZONA-BUILT.

Uniting Arizona's Tech Ecosystem

A founder-led movement
unifying Arizona's tech
ecosystem to make Arizona
a **top 5 tech hub by 2035.**

COVER STORY

\$100 MILLION SERIES E

GT Medical Technologies

Arizona-based medtech leader closes
oversubscribed Series E, advancing
innovative radiation therapy solutions.



GT MEDICAL
TECHNOLOGIES



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A MESSAGE FROM OUR EDITOR



**Editor-in-Chief,
Silicon Oasis**

As we publish our June 2026 issue, Arizona's technology ecosystem continues to evolve. More companies are raising capital, expanding into new markets, and building products across industries ranging from healthcare and semiconductors to aerospace, AI, and enterprise software.

This month, GT Medical Technologies' \$100 million Series E reflects the progress being made by Arizona companies as they continue to attract national investment. Throughout this issue, you'll also find stories highlighting founders, ecosystem leaders, funding rounds, acquisitions, and organizations contributing to the state's growing innovation economy.

At Silicon Oasis, we believe a stronger ecosystem starts with better connections and better storytelling. Our goal is to help founders, investors, operators, and community leaders stay informed, discover opportunities, and build relationships that strengthen Arizona over the long term.

Thank you for being part of this community and for supporting the people building Arizona's future.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kyle Macdonald". The signature is stylized with large, flowing letters.

Kyle Macdonald
Co-Founder & COO, Silicon Oasis



VISION & IMPACT

Transforming Arizona into a global tech hub led by local founders, built for the future.

Silicon Oasis is a nonprofit dedicated to uniting Arizona's tech ecosystem. Our mission is to strengthen the local innovation economy by bringing together founders, investors, and entrepreneurs—and by creating spaces where collaboration can thrive.

We do this in three key ways:

- Centralizing the Ecosystem through startup-focused events and practical workshops led by experienced builders and funders.
- Cultivating Community by fostering authentic, expectation-free connections that go beyond traditional networking.
- Spotlighting Talent with dynamic video podcasts and media that highlight Arizona's most promising innovators.



ARIZONA BUILDS GLOBAL BRIDGES AT INNOVEX 2026

Arizona's technology ecosystem has spent the past decade building momentum through startup growth, research commercialization, semiconductor investment, and an increasingly collaborative innovation community. At InnoVEX 2026 in Taipei, Taiwan, that progress was showcased on one of the world's largest stages for startups and emerging technologies.

Held alongside COMPUTEX, one of the world's premier technology exhibitions, InnoVEX attracts entrepreneurs, investors, corporations, accelerators, and government leaders from across Asia and beyond. This year's conference provided Arizona with an opportunity to demonstrate not only the companies being built within the state, but also the broader ecosystem supporting innovation from idea to scale.

Leading Arizona's delegation was Arizona Commerce Authority President and CEO Sandra Watson, who helped present The Innovation Oasis – Arizona, an event designed to introduce international audiences to Arizona's expanding technology landscape. Throughout the showcase, attendees learned about the state's startup ecosystem, venture capital initiatives, workforce development programs, university research, and rapidly growing technology sectors.



Arizona's story has changed dramatically over the past several years. Once known primarily for affordable business costs and favorable weather, the state is increasingly recognized for advanced manufacturing, semiconductor production, aerospace and defense, artificial intelligence, life sciences, and software innovation. Billions of dollars in public and private investment have accelerated this transformation, while entrepreneurs continue launching companies across industries that are attracting national and international attention.

The presentations at InnoVEX reflected this broader evolution. Arizona leaders highlighted programs designed to support founders at every stage of company building, including the Arizona Innovation Challenge, Venture Start, and Arizona Tech Week.

Event Recap

Together, these initiatives represent an ecosystem that continues to mature by combining access to capital, mentorship, commercialization resources, and community. Perhaps the most significant outcome of Arizona's presence came through an agreement focused on the future rather than the present.

During the conference, Arizona and Taiwan formalized a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) aimed at strengthening collaboration between their respective startup ecosystems. While MOUs often serve as symbolic milestones, this partnership outlines practical opportunities that could benefit entrepreneurs on both sides of the Pacific.

The agreement seeks to expand cross-border investment opportunities, strengthen technology commercialization efforts, encourage talent exchange, support startup expansion into international markets, and foster deeper relationships between founders, investors, universities, and corporate partners.

For Arizona startups, these types of international partnerships are becoming increasingly valuable. Building a successful technology company today often requires thinking beyond state or national borders. Whether pursuing manufacturing partnerships, raising international investment, accessing specialized supply chains, or expanding into overseas markets, global relationships can significantly influence a company's long-term trajectory. Taiwan represents a particularly meaningful partner.



As one of the world's leading technology and semiconductor hubs, Taiwan possesses decades of expertise in manufacturing, electronics, hardware development, and global supply chains. Arizona's own rise as a semiconductor destination—driven by investments from companies like TSMC and the broader semiconductor ecosystem—creates natural alignment between the two regions.

Those shared strengths provide opportunities that extend beyond individual companies. Universities, research institutions, venture funds, accelerators, and corporate innovation teams all stand to benefit from stronger collaboration and more frequent exchanges of ideas and talent. Arizona's participation at InnoVEX also reflects an important shift in how the state's innovation ecosystem is positioning itself globally. Increasingly, Arizona is participating in international conversations not simply as a location seeking investment, but as a contributor to the global innovation economy.

That evolution matters because ecosystems are built through relationships as much as infrastructure. Conferences like InnoVEX create opportunities to establish partnerships that may eventually lead to startup expansions, investment activity, research collaborations, and new business opportunities that benefit entrepreneurs back home.

PRENDA'S ONE-ROOM SCHOOLHOUSE, REBOOTED

From Code Club To Kitchen Table

Kelly Smith did not set out to run an education company. In 2013, freshly back in his hometown of Mesa after selling a small clean-energy software business, the MIT-trained engineer began volunteering at a public library, teaching kids to write computer code. His résumé was an odd fit for the work — degrees in physics from Brigham Young and nuclear science from MIT, and a lifelong habit of starting things, from a boyhood baseball-card business to a line of cleaning products. He has estimated he worked with roughly 2,000 children through those library clubs, and he kept noticing the same pattern: kids learned fastest when chasing their own curiosity rather than a lesson plan. In January 2018, he tested the idea at home, gathering his son and a handful of friends' children around his kitchen table for a self-directed school day.

That experiment became the public face of Prenda, the company Smith had incorporated a few years earlier. Today it supplies the software, curriculum, and back-office tools that let ordinary adults run small schools of their own.

How A Microschool Works

A Prenda microschool is deliberately small,



usually five to ten students in grades K-8, meeting in a home, church, library, or rented room. The adult in charge is called a "guide," not a teacher, and by the company's own count, about half hold no teaching certificate.

Prenda describes them as parents, retired teachers, coaches, and community members. The approach reflects what Smith calls the "empowered learner," his premise that motivation, not instruction, is the scarce resource in most classrooms.

The day runs through four phases the company brands as Connect, Conquer, Collaborate, and Create: a morning check-in, independent work in reading and math, group projects, and time to build something of their own. Academic coaches and on-demand math tutors back up the platform. Sessions last four to five hours, four days a week.

Founder Spotlight

The Money Behind "Free"

Prenda's pitch to families leans on one word: free. The mechanics are distinctly Arizonan. Since the state made its Empowerment Scholarship Account program universal in 2022, every K–12 student qualifies for roughly \$7,000 a year in public funds parents can spend on approved education services. ESA enrollment jumped from about 11,000 students before the expansion to more than 95,000 by 2025, and Prenda rode the wave.

The company charges \$2,199 per student a year for its platform, less for kindergarten, an amount ESA funds usually cover with room to spare. Guides set their own fee on top. For families not using an ESA, Prenda offers a \$219.90 monthly subscription or enrollment through charter partners such as Sequoia Choice and Freedom Prep Academy. In many of those cases Prenda is not the school but a vendor to one, a structure policy analysts have flagged when tracing how the model is funded.

Scale, Capital, And Scrutiny

Prenda grew alongside the pandemic's disruption of traditional classrooms, with enrollment peaking near 4,000 students; the company says it has since helped more than 1,000 people launch microschools. In June 2022, Smith raised a \$20 million Series B round led by Alexis Ohanian's venture firm Seven Seven Six, with Learn Capital and others participating — money aimed at exporting the Arizona playbook to other states. Expansion has not been frictionless. The universal ESA program

that fuels Prenda is now among the most contested education policies in the country, faulted by public-school advocates over cost and oversight and praised by supporters as an overdue expansion of choice. When families pay through an ESA, Prenda operates with almost no testing, grade, or attendance requirements, placing it squarely inside that fight. Smith tends to frame the flexibility as the point, arguing that rigid mandates are what drive families out of conventional schools to begin with.

An Arizona Export

For Silicon Oasis, Prenda is a clean case study in what the state's policy climate makes possible. A physicist with no education background built a company from a library code club and a kitchen table, then scaled it on Arizona's willingness to route public dollars through parents.

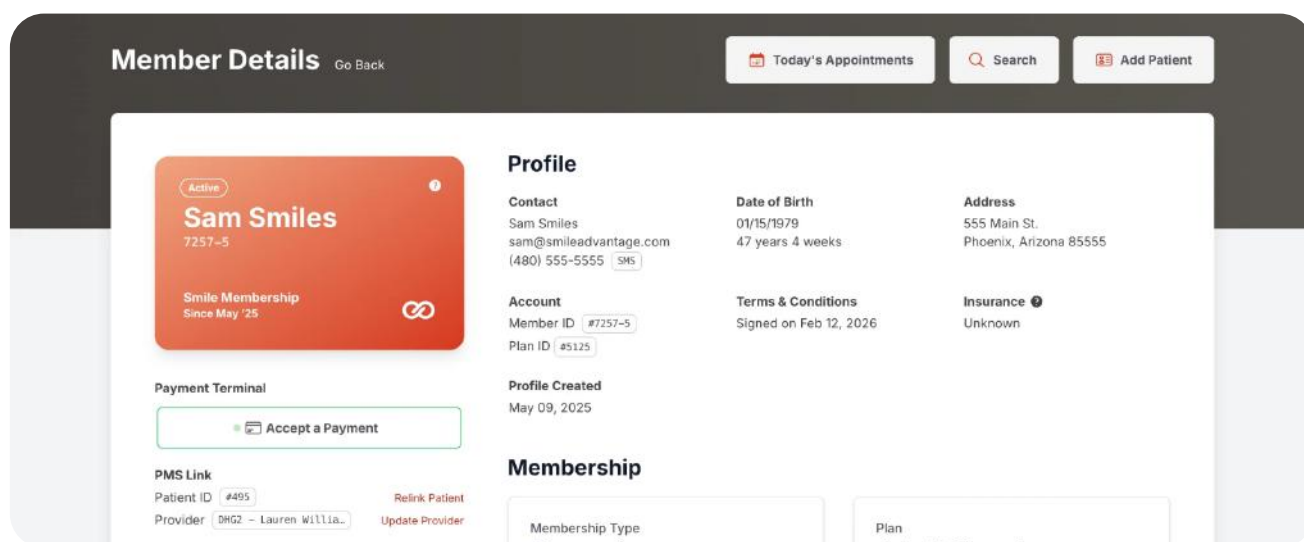
Smith, who has written a book on the empowered-learner idea and lives in Mesa with his wife and four children, is now wagering the model travels. Whether microschooling proves a durable fixture or a policy-dependent moment, much of that answer is being worked out here first.



Founder Spotlight

BETTING AGAINST DENTAL INSURANCE

Smile Advantage: A Phoenix-run software company is selling dentists a way off the insurance treadmill.



From Two Dental Chairs

Smile Advantage did not start as a software company. It started in two dental offices. Around 2014, dentists Jeffrey Sindelar and Matthew Kraner began running their own in-house membership plans — flat monthly or annual fees that gave patients cleanings, exams, and treatment discounts without an insurer in the middle. The plans worked, and other practices wanted in. What began as a consulting effort needed a way to scale, which is where Ryan Corby came in.

Corby, a Phoenix-based marketer who had worked in dental since 2013, ran a boutique agency that

handled marketing for Sindelar's and Kraner's practices. An Arizona State University graduate who had been building marketing-automation systems since 2010, he was brought on in 2019 and, after several years of building out the platform, formally named CEO. His automation background is what turned a manual membership model into shippable software. Today Smile Advantage runs its operation out of Phoenix and sells to dental practices across the country.

Why Practices Are Ditching Insurance

The company is riding a real shift in how dentists get paid. Roughly 74 million Americans have no dental insurance, and many practices are tired of

Founder Spotlight

shrinking reimbursements from the ones that do. In-house membership plans are the workaround: patients pay the office directly, the office keeps the revenue, and the paperwork of claims, denials, and networks largely disappears. For patients, an in-house plan often runs around \$37 a month, against the \$100-plus many pay for private dental coverage. Fee-for-service practices that have dropped insurance networks lean on these plans to keep price-sensitive patients from walking.

Dr. Holly Ellis of Ellis Dental, a Smile Advantage customer, put it bluntly in a testimonial on the company's site: "We were in-network with five insurance groups and the reimbursements kept going down." The membership plan, she said, gave patients a reason to stay.

The Pricing Wedge

Smile Advantage is not first to this market. Kleer and Membersy, which merged in 2024 under private-equity owner Charlesbank and now operate as Clerri, are the dominant players, with BrushPay and others fighting for the rest. Most charge practices a platform fee that scales with the number of members enrolled.

That per-member pricing is exactly what Smile Advantage attacks. Its pitch is one flat monthly fee with no per-member charge — a structure it frames as refusing to penalize a practice for signing up more patients. For a large membership base, the math can favor a flat fee, and it gives the company a clean line to sell against the incumbents.

What's Under The Hood

The product itself is unglamorous by design: recurring billing, automatic renewals, failed-card retries, text-to-pay and QR-code payments, family-group plans, and self-service links that let patients update a card or renew without calling the front desk. It plugs into the practice-management systems dentists already run — Dentrix, Eaglesoft, Open Dental and others — and recently added installment payment plans for larger treatment bills. Distribution partners include Henry Schein, one of the biggest names in dental supply. The point of all of it, per the company, is to take membership administration off the front desk so staff can spend time on patients instead of chasing lapsed cards.

The Numbers, And The Fine Print

Smile Advantage now supports more than 100,000 active memberships and has processed north of \$38 million in membership revenue — figures that come from the company and aren't independently audited. Kleer, for comparison, reports members generate an average of about \$372 a year, which hints at the recurring revenue these plans can throw off at scale.

In-house membership plans are legal in all 50 states, but they have to be structured so they don't count as insurance — no pooling risk across patients, no deductibles or co-insurance — or they trigger state insurance regulation. Some states pile on extra disclosure rules. It's a line every platform in this space, Smile Advantage included, has to stay on the right side of. For Silicon Oasis, the takeaway is a familiar Arizona pattern in a less-hyped corner of tech: not a splashy AI raise, but a Phoenix-run SaaS company quietly digging into one industry's plumbing.

ARIZONA'S SIXTH C

A new report wants to add "Compute" to the state's founding Five Cs — arguing Arizona's real AI edge isn't its chip fabs, but how well the whole stack connects.

From Five Cs To Six

For most of the last century, Arizona sold itself on the Five Cs: cattle, copper, citrus, cotton, and climate. A new report argues the state needs a sixth, and that the sixth is compute.

The framework comes from "The State of AI in Arizona 2026," released by AI48, and laid out in a Silicon Oasis essay by the report's author, Brian McCarthy. His argument is that Arizona's next economic chapter will be defined by the systems that make artificial intelligence run at scale — and that "compute" is a better shorthand for that than the usual talk of chips and servers.

More Than The Fabs

The hardware case for Arizona is easy to make, because the numbers are enormous. TSMC has committed roughly \$165 billion to its operations near Phoenix, the largest foreign investment in a U.S. greenfield project on record, with plans for six fabrication plants, advanced packaging, and an R&D center. Its first Arizona fab has been producing 4-nanometer chips since late 2024 for customers that include Apple and Nvidia. Intel and Amkor add to the base, and Tucson's optics and photonics cluster supplies the high-bandwidth interconnects that AI hardware increasingly needs.



Data centers form the next layer. Greater Phoenix is now the second-largest data-center market in the country behind Northern Virginia, with several gigawatts of capacity deployed and far more in the pipeline. Operators are drawn by cheap land, ten-year tax exemptions, and electricity that runs well below California's.

But McCarthy's point is that none of that is the whole story. In his telling, compute is the entire stack: power, land, and water strategy; university research and workforce pipelines; economic-development policy; and the actual industries — manufacturing, logistics, healthcare, aerospace, defense — where AI gets deployed.

The Data-Center Problem

The report doesn't pretend the picture is clean.

Ecosystem Analysis

Data centers, McCarthy notes, "sometimes invite controversy," and in Arizona that has become an understatement. In late 2025, Tucson's council killed a \$3.6 billion, 600-megawatt project linked to Amazon, and Chandler rejected a \$2.5 billion AI facility on a unanimous vote. Utilities are straining: Arizona Public Service has said it is turning data-center customers away because it cannot supply the power they want, and has estimated that if every interested project were built, its data-center demand alone could approach 19,000 megawatts.

Water is the other pressure point, in a state where nearly every county is in some level of drought. Arizona's 1980 Groundwater Management Act gives it stricter planning tools than most states, and operators are shifting toward waterless and refrigerant-based cooling, but the tension between growth and resources is real and unresolved. That tension is arguably the strongest evidence for McCarthy's larger claim: compute is not just hardware, and Arizona's edge will be decided by things like grid capacity and water policy as much as by fab count.

The Connection Thesis

The heart of the argument is that Arizona's advantage comes from combination rather than any single asset. Plenty of states have a fab or a data-center cluster; the report's bet is that few have the full set — silicon, infrastructure, universities, policy, and end-user industries — sitting in one place. The unfinished work, McCarthy writes, is connection: turning separate strengths into applied companies, retained

talent, and AI actually deployed across the economy, rather than hosting isolated pieces of someone else's supply chain. It's a framing with obvious appeal to the state's boosters, and it lands at a moment when Arizona's leaders are eager for a story bigger than "we make the chips."

Whose Framework Is It

Worth noting: this is an argument with an author and a business behind it. AI48 is a research initiative of McCarthy's advisory firm, Stride Group, and the reports it feeds — a 26-page state-of-AI report and a companion directory of 35-plus Arizona AI leaders — sell for \$149 each. McCarthy says the research draws on more than 50 interviews with founders, investors, university leaders, and economic-development officials, plus public data.

That doesn't make the Sixth C wrong. The Five Cs were always a marketing device as much as an economic one, a way to tell Arizona's story in a single breath. McCarthy is proposing the next line of that story and betting the state is ready to claim it. The essay is the first of a three-part series; the next installment takes up the harder question of how Arizona actually connects the pieces.



AXON VETERAN LAUNCHES TEMPE DRONE STARTUP

Arizona's aerospace and defense ecosystem continues to accelerate, and this month brings another major signal of that momentum: the launch of **DeusXDefense**, a Tempe-based security technology company founded by former Axon executive **Pat Madden**. The company is building an integrated security platform that combines autonomous drone operations, physical security personnel, advanced sensors, and centralized monitoring. This is a full-stack approach designed for critical infrastructure, industrial facilities, government agencies, and large-scale events.

As Arizona experiences rapid growth in semiconductors, advanced manufacturing, data centers, energy infrastructure, and defense-related industries, demand for scalable monitoring and rapid-response systems is rising. DeusXDefense is positioning itself at the center of that transformation.

Headquartered in downtown Tempe, the company is establishing a global security operations center that will provide 24/7 monitoring.



Through strategic acquisitions, DeusXDefense has already scaled to 500+ employees across 17 states, giving it national reach from day one. The team is now preparing for additional customer deployments and an upcoming capital raise to support further expansion.

Beyond its operational footprint, DeusXDefense is also investing heavily in research and development, partnering with Arizona State University and regional defense contractors to advance autonomous flight safety, sensor fusion, and AI-driven threat detection.

Founder Spotlight

The company's early customers include energy providers, logistics hubs, and municipal agencies seeking to modernize perimeter security and emergency response. Its drones can be deployed within seconds of an alert, streaming encrypted video to command centers and coordinating with on-site personnel. Over time, DeusXDefense plans to integrate predictive analytics, enabling its systems to anticipate incidents before they occur — a capability that could redefine how large organizations manage risk.

For Arizona's innovation economy, the launch represents a familiar and powerful pattern: experienced operators leaving established technology companies to build the next generation of venture-backed businesses. As the state's aerospace and defense sectors continue to grow, companies like DeusXDefense are helping position Arizona as a leading hub for autonomous systems, public-safety technology, and critical-infrastructure innovation.



And for Madden, it's personal. "Arizona gave me my start in technology," he says. "Now we're building something here that can protect communities everywhere." With a mix of seasoned engineers, former military personnel, and startup veterans, DeusXDefense embodies the region's evolving identity — where frontier innovation meets mission-critical purpose.



As Arizona's innovation landscape continues to mature, DeusXDefense stands as a clear example of how the state's talent base, industrial growth, and defense-tech heritage are converging to produce companies with national impact. The firm's blend of autonomous systems, human expertise, and real-time intelligence mirrors the direction of modern security itself. It is faster, smarter, and increasingly integrated.

With a rapidly expanding workforce, a global operations center underway, and a founder who has already helped shape one of the country's most influential public-safety technology companies, DeusXDefense is positioned to become a defining force in the next era of critical-infrastructure protection.

ASU AND TSMC FAST-TRACK SEMICONDUCTOR TALENT

Arizona's semiconductor ecosystem continues to scale at a pace few regions in the country can match. This week, Arizona State University and TSMC Arizona unveiled a major workforce initiative designed to fast-track talent into one of the state's most critical and fastest-growing industries: advanced semiconductor manufacturing.

The new ASU Foundations for Equipment Technician Program prepares participants for high-impact technician roles in weeks or months, not years. These positions are essential inside fabrication facilities, where technicians maintain and operate the ultra-precise machinery that powers modern chip production. And with TSMC Arizona expanding aggressively, the need is urgent: the company expects to hire thousands of technicians, including more than 100 equipment technicians by year's end.

The program is offered **at no cost**, removing one of the biggest barriers to entering the semiconductor industry. Participants can choose **full-time, part-time, or weekend tracks**, making the program accessible to career-changers, recent graduates, and anyone seeking a pathway into advanced manufacturing.



Graduates earn industry-recognized credentials and receive a guaranteed interview with TSMC Arizona, giving them a direct on-ramp into one of the most important sectors shaping Arizona's economic future.

Beyond meeting TSMC's immediate workforce needs, the initiative strengthens the broader semiconductor ecosystem by building a scalable, local talent pipeline. As billions in semiconductor investment continue flowing into the state, programs like this ensure Arizona remains competitive. Not just in attracting world-class companies, but in supplying the skilled workforce required to sustain long-term innovation and manufacturing leadership.

RYNIANT - \$300K FOR MOLECULAR INNOVATION

Ryniant's pre-seed round fuels its push to modernize synthesis planning for CROs worldwide.

Arizona's frontier-tech ecosystem continues to produce founders tackling some of the world's most complex scientific challenges.

This month, Phoenix-based Ryniant announced a \$300,000 pre-seed round led by Verdict Capital's Niko Bonatsos and Michael Fertik, marking a major milestone for one of the region's most ambitious deep-tech startups.

Founded by Arnav Simha, Naitik Mohanty, and Akarsh Jain, Ryniant is building an AI-powered synthesis planning platform for pharmaceutical contract research organizations (CROs). Today, senior chemists often spend hours evaluating reaction pathways, cross-referencing databases, assessing feasibility, estimating costs, and preparing quotes.

Ryniant compresses that entire workflow into minutes, giving researchers a faster, more accurate way to determine how a target molecule should be synthesized.



But the team's vision extends far beyond pharma. Ryniant describes itself as a research-driven organization building AI-native platforms for molecular innovation across human health, advanced materials, and environmental resilience. This is all rooted in a bold belief: molecules are infrastructure. By transforming how molecules are discovered, engineered, and deployed, Ryniant aims to reshape industries from medicine to manufacturing to sustainability.

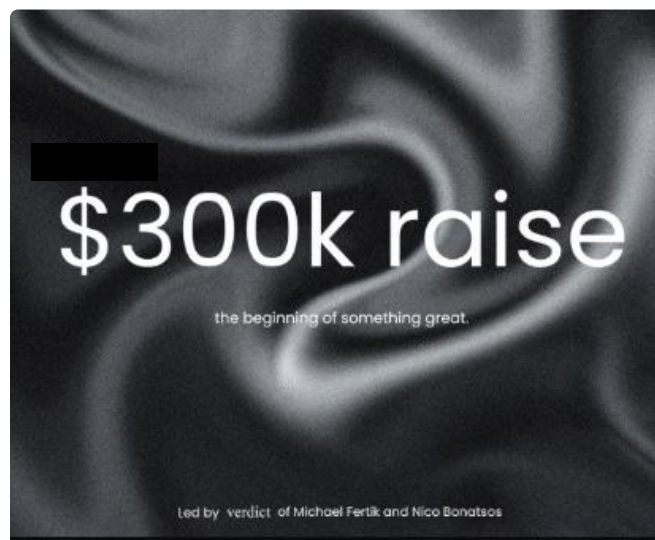
And as the world moves toward increasingly complex materials, therapeutics, and climate-driven engineering challenges, the founders see an opportunity to build foundational tools that accelerate molecular progress everywhere.

Funding Rounds

Their momentum is already earning national attention. Ryniant was selected for Launch Founders University Cohort 11, joining just 300 startups chosen from more than 3,000 applicants nationwide. It's another signal of Arizona's growing strength in deep-tech, biotech, and AI-driven industrial innovation.

Behind that ambition is a founding team built for frontier-tech. Arnav Simha, Naitik Mohanty, and Akarsh Jain bring a rare combination of computational chemistry, AI systems engineering, and deep-tech product development; operators who understand both the scientific complexity and the commercial realities of building tools for CROs and advanced-materials companies. Their backgrounds span molecular modeling, large-scale AI workflows, and applied research, giving Ryniant the technical depth required to tackle one of the hardest problems in modern science: accelerating how the world invents new molecules. Together, they're building not just a product, but a long-term platform designed to power the next century of molecular breakthroughs.

With fresh capital, active pilots, and early customers already using the platform, Ryniant is positioned to accelerate product development and expand its impact across the molecular sciences. For Arizona's startup community, it's yet another example of founders building **globally relevant frontier technology from the desert**, and they're just getting started.



The Bottom Line

Molecular innovation is entering a new era. One defined not by manual experimentation, but by intelligent systems that accelerate discovery. Ryniant is betting that the next generation of breakthroughs will be built on AI-native infrastructure, and their early traction suggests they're right.

The \$300K raise is more than a milestone for the company; it's a signal that Arizona's deep-tech ecosystem is producing founders capable of tackling some of science's hardest problems. As industries from pharma to advanced materials race toward faster, more precise molecular design, Ryniant's platform offers a way to compress timelines, reduce cost, and unlock entirely new classes of innovation.

And investors are paying attention. And with a founding team that blends computational chemistry, AI engineering, and applied research, Ryniant could become one of the companies that quietly rewires how molecular innovation happens.

Funding Rounds

GT MEDICAL TECHNOLOGIES RAISES \$100M SERIES E

This is GT Medical Technologies' Largest Raise Yet, And It Oversubscribed

Arizona's health-tech sector just landed one of its biggest wins of the year. Tempe-based GT Medical Technologies has closed an oversubscribed \$100 million Series E, the largest round in the company's history and a major milestone for the state's growing life-sciences ecosystem. The financing was led by Viking Global Investors, a \$52 billion generalist investment firm whose involvement signals rising crossover interest in clinical-stage medtech backed by strong randomized-trial data

Existing investors including MVM Partners, Gilde Healthcare, Evidity Health Capital, Medtech Venture Partners, and FemHealth Ventures also participated, bringing GT Medical's total capital raised to more than \$240 million since its founding in 2017.

The raise will accelerate commercial and operational expansion behind GammaTile, the company's FDA-cleared radiation therapy implant designed for operable brain tumors. GammaTile is a bioresorbable collagen implant embedded with radiation sources.



It is placed directly into the surgical cavity during tumor-removal procedures to deliver immediate, targeted radiation at the moment residual cancer cells are at their lowest levels. The raise will accelerate commercial and operational expansion behind GammaTile, the company's FDA-cleared radiation therapy implant designed for operable brain tumors.

GammaTile is a bioresorbable collagen implant embedded with radiation sources, placed directly into the surgical cavity during tumor-removal procedures to deliver immediate, targeted radiation at the moment residual cancer cells are at their lowest levels.

Funding Round



Why Investors Are Paying Attention

The device first earned FDA clearance in 2018 for recurrent tumors, with an expanded label in 2020 for newly diagnosed malignant tumors.

Their model aligns with three major industry shifts:

The timing of the round follows the release of final results from the **ROADS randomized controlled trial**, presented at the 2026 ASCO conference .

The data is striking:

GammaTile reduced the risk of tumor recurrence by **93%**, cut the risk of death at 12 months by **41%**, and delivered a 12-month surgical-bed recurrence rate of **1.3%** compared to **15.4%** with standard care. At 24 months, overall survival reached **61.7%** versus **35.7%** for standard treatment .

CEO **Per Langoe** called the financing “validation of GammaTile’s potential to be a standard-of-care treatment for operable brain tumors” and a catalyst for expanding access to the therapy nationwide.

Challenges remain — including surgeon adoption, training, and consistent insurance coverage across health systems

but with fresh capital and compelling trial data, GT Medical is positioning GammaTile as a strong contender for standard-of-care status in operable brain tumors . For Arizona, the raise marks another defining moment: a Tempe-based medtech company attracting nine-figure investment from one of the world’s most influential firms, reinforcing the state’s emergence as a national leader in life-sciences innovation



With the Series E secured, GT Medical is also preparing for broader clinical adoption and deeper integration across major health systems. The company is expanding surgeon-training programs, accelerating manufacturing capacity, and building partnerships with leading cancer centers to ensure GammaTile can scale to meet rising national demand.

As more institutions evaluate the ROADS data, GT Medical is positioning itself not just as a medtech innovator, but as a long-term anchor in Arizona’s growing oncology and neuro-oncology ecosystem.

PHOENIX STEPS TOWARD QUANTUM LEADERSHIP

New initiative aims to establish Phoenix as a national center for quantum technology.

Phoenix is making one of its most ambitious moves yet in advanced technology, announcing the Phoenix Quantum Strategy. It is a city-wide initiative unveiled by Mayor Kate Gallego during her 2026 State of the City address. The plan positions Phoenix to become a national hub for quantum computing, quantum communications, and quantum sensing, three sectors expected to reshape global industries over the coming decades.

To lead the effort, the city has appointed Dr. Sethuraman “Panch” Panchanathan, former Director of the National Science Foundation and longtime ASU leader. He is a heavyweight operator with deep experience in research, innovation, and national-level science strategy.

His appointment signals that Phoenix isn’t just experimenting with emerging technology; it’s building a leadership framework designed to compete at the highest levels of scientific and industrial development. Quantum technology is poised to transform fields ranging from healthcare and bioscience to national security, advanced manufacturing, and artificial intelligence.



The city’s plan includes establishing a Quantum Innovation Council, composed of leaders from academia, industry, and government, tasked with shaping policy, funding research, and attracting private investment.

Early discussions have centered on creating a Quantum Corridor — a network of research facilities and startups stretching from downtown Phoenix to Tempe and Mesa — designed to accelerate collaboration and commercialization. ASU and local partners are expected to play a major role in developing talent pipelines and research programs that feed directly into this ecosystem.

Acquisitions

Phoenix's move comes at a time when global competition for quantum leadership is intensifying. Nations and cities worldwide are racing to secure expertise, infrastructure, and intellectual property in quantum technologies that could redefine computing power and data security.

By acting now, Phoenix aims to position itself as a strategic node in the national quantum network, capable of supporting both public-sector research and private-sector innovation. The announcement builds on Phoenix's momentum in more ways than one.

The Valley is now attracting major technology investments and strengthening its position as a national center for advanced industries. With collaboration across government, higher education, and the private sector, the Phoenix Quantum Strategy represents a significant step toward diversifying Arizona's economy and building industries designed for the future.

For Arizona's innovation ecosystem, the message is unmistakable: the future is being built here and WE intend to lead it.



HOW THE REAL ESTATE OLD GUARD IS NAVIGATING THE TECH FRONTIER

By Dean Simms, Contributing Editor from AZ Proptech Collective

For decades, the real estate industry operated on a simple formula: location, relationships, and "the way it's always been done." It was an ecosystem built on handshakes, paper-heavy contracts, and a healthy skepticism of anything that threatened the status quo.

Today, the traditional developers, asset managers, brokers, and builders who have shaped our built environment are facing an inflection point. The business is no longer defined solely by acquiring land, managing vendors, and brokering deals. Increasingly, success depends on data, operational efficiency, and intelligent systems. For many industry veterans, that means challenging decades of established practices and embracing a future powered by artificial intelligence, robotics, and sustainability.

Historically, the industry's resistance to technology was understandable. When managing physical assets worth millions of dollars, "move fast and break things" is a dangerous philosophy. As a result, institutional knowledge was passed down through experience, operations remained relatively simple, and information often lived in disconnected spreadsheets and static systems. Project and property performance data became trapped in silos, making integration with modern PropTech solutions appear more like a risk than an opportunity.

Today, however, the cost of standing still has become greater than the risk of innovating.

For generations, commercial buildings were viewed primarily as static investments—buy, hold, and minimize operating costs.

Modern real estate has transformed that perspective. High-performance buildings are now dynamic operating platforms that require continuous optimization.

This evolution has elevated facility management from a back-office function to a strategic business priority. Owners and operators are increasingly adopting digital twins and Building Information Modeling (BIM) to simulate operational performance before making major capital decisions.

Rather than reacting when equipment fails, predictive analytics powered by sensors can identify maintenance issues before they become expensive capital expenditures. By viewing buildings as interconnected systems instead of isolated assets, owners are uncovering new revenue opportunities while reducing operational waste and maximizing long-term asset performance.

Perhaps no technology is reshaping real estate more dramatically than artificial intelligence.

Silicon Oasis Community

For an industry where intuition, relationships, and decades of experience traditionally drove decision-making, AI represents more than a technological shift—it challenges long-held professional identities. Yet firms that have embraced AI are discovering that it complements experience rather than replacing it.

Generative AI is already accelerating processes such as contract abstraction, tenant and vendor screening, due diligence, and market analysis. Tasks that once required teams of analysts working for days can now be completed in minutes. The objective is not to eliminate human judgment, but to provide professionals with greater speed, deeper insights, and better-informed decision-making.

The most forward-thinking organizations are going even further. AI-powered predictive models can evaluate market trends, simulate "what-if" scenarios, quantify risk-reward tradeoffs, and identify opportunities that may not be immediately apparent through traditional analysis alone.

Artificial intelligence is also transforming the construction industry, accelerating the industrialization of how buildings are delivered. Construction has long struggled with labor shortages, safety concerns, scheduling delays, material waste, and communication breakdowns among subcontractors.

Increasingly, developers are adopting robotics and prefabricated construction techniques that shift complex, variable work into controlled manufacturing environments.

Robotics are beginning to assist with everything from site surveying and layout to drywall installation and quality assurance. At the same time, project managers, owner's representatives, and superintendents are embracing collaborative digital platforms that improve communication, documentation, and accountability across project teams.

The result is greater transparency, improved quality control, and significantly more predictable project schedules and costs.

In an industry where budget overruns and delays have historically been accepted as unavoidable, predictability has become one of the most valuable competitive advantages.

The firms thriving through this transformation share a common mindset. Rather than defining themselves solely by asset class or geographic market, they increasingly view their portfolios as integrated operating platforms. They recognize that investing in clean, structured, and accessible data today creates opportunities that may not even exist yet.

Most importantly, they understand that technology should enhance—not replace—the relationships that have always defined real estate. Digital tools are removing operational friction, allowing professionals to spend more time building trust, negotiating deals, and creating long-term value.



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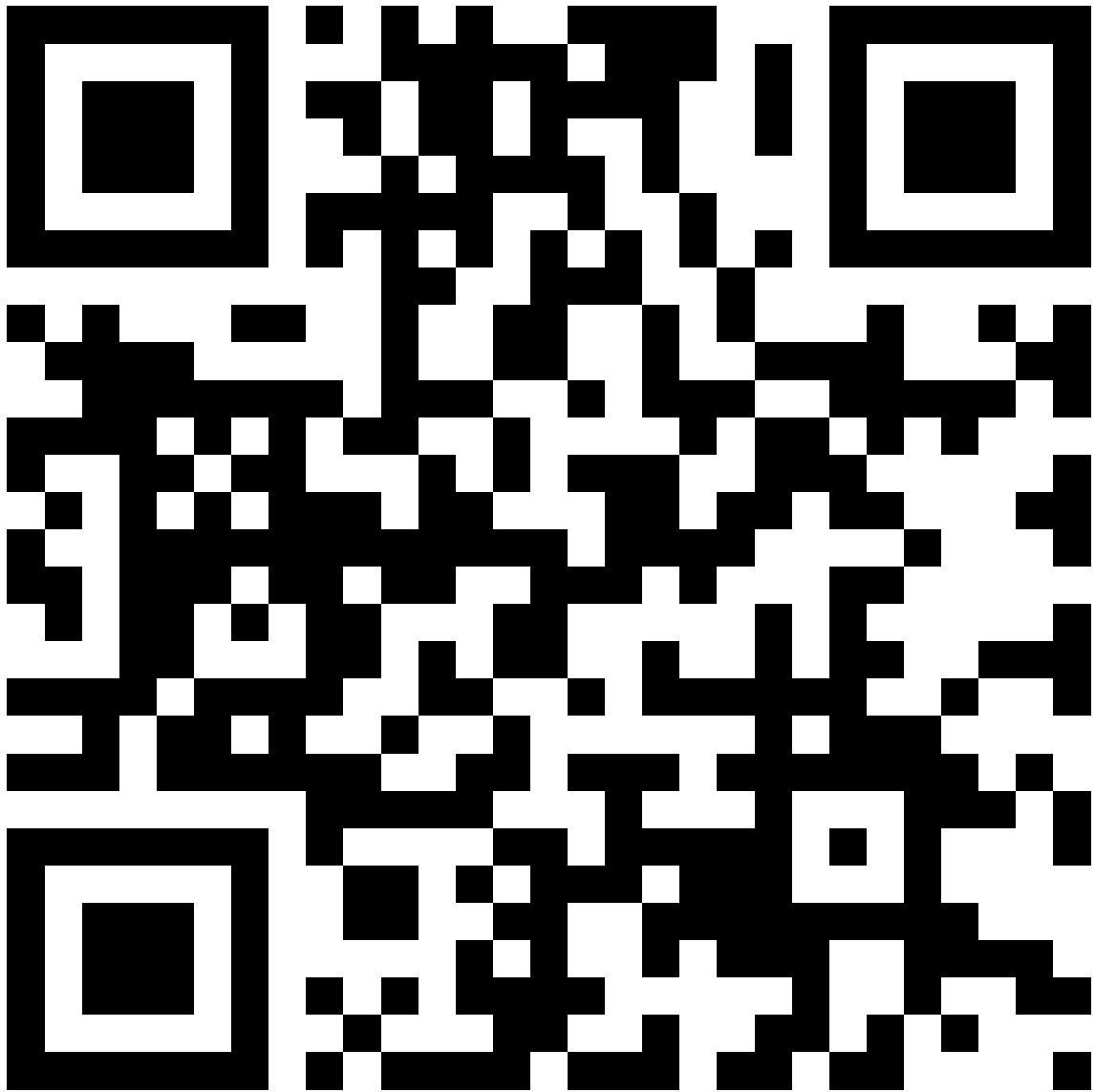
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