



For Immediate Release

Eight Teams of Social Impact Inventors Selected as Finalists for Premiere Global Competition in Washington, D.C., June 13

*Neo-Natal Health, Clean Drinking Water, Clean Energy, and Rural Economic Development
Among Causes Tackled by 2019 ASME ISHOW Regional Finalists*

NEW YORK, June 3, 2019 – The American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) has announced the regional finalists of the 2019 ASME Innovation Showcase ([ISHOW](#)), the premiere international competition of hardware-led social innovation. Eight socially minded teams of inventors from throughout the Americas will present their design prototypes in Washington, D.C., on June 13.

[The finalists](#), whose innovations address issues including neo-natal health, clean drinking water, clean energy, and rural economic development will pitch their prototypes from **9 a.m. to 10 a.m. on Thursday, June 13 at the [District Architecture Center](#)** in Washington, D.C.’s Penn Quarter District. An esteemed panel of judges will choose three hardware innovations as grand prize winners and announce them at a reception later that evening, where they will showcase their ventures.

The ISHOW USA finalists will vie for a share of \$30,000 in seed grants and technical support to help bring their design innovations to market. Each winner will also receive an opportunity to participate in the ISHOW Bootcamp in New York City in October 2019, where they’ll join six other regional winners of competitions held in Bengaluru, India (April 4), and Nairobi, Kenya (May 9). This year, ASME received 160 applications for ISHOW.

The finalists are:

- [Caminos de Agua](#) “Aguadapt” (San Miguel de Allende, Guanajuato, Mexico) – a low-cost, family-sized drinking water filter system that removes organic chemicals and 99.9999% of pathogens, and can be quickly installed in all common containers to provide safe drinking water for at least three years;
- **Fabrico Technology** “Aedna” (Austin, Texas, USA) – a versatile, affordable, and convenient molecular assay platform for genetic analysis of organic matter, providing critical information to a variety of facilities from water treatment plants to household

kitchens;

- [Institutional Energy Solutions](#) “Institutional Cookstove” (Corvallis, Ore., USA) – community-scale, biomass-powered cookstoves that replace the inefficient, smoky open fires and basic stoves used for most institutional cooking in low income countries, reduce fuel use by about 75% and emissions by 90%, and protect human health by venting all remaining smoke outdoors, away from cooks;
- [Kukua Labs](#) “Kukua” (San Francisco, Calif., USA) – an affordable, clean energy, at-home artificial chicken egg incubation appliance that reduces volatility for the roughly 70% of families in Tanzania who raise chickens for supplemental income and nutrition;
- **NeMo** “NeMo Assessment System” (Baltimore, Md., USA) – aids in the identification of seven signs of neonatal illness and empowers mothers in low-resource settings to accurately and frequently assess newborn health from home during the first week of life;
- [Noble Thermodynamic Systems, Inc.](#) “Argon Power Cycle” (Berkeley, Calif., USA) – a zero emission, flexible, and efficient power generation system that retrofits onto currently operating internal combustion engines while increasing their efficiency up to 10% and capturing 100% of the generated carbon dioxide;
- [Takachar](#) “Small-scale, portable system for biomass processing” (Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada) – decentralized biomass conversion that cuts crop/forest residue transportation costs by 30%, brings additional sources of income to rural areas, and eliminates air pollution and CO2 emissions from open burning;
- [WETech](#) “WERLWind” (Toronto, Ontario, Canada) – a wind-powered pond aeration system to help the more than 20 million farmers in the Asia-Pacific region who rely on small-scale aquaculture for food security and income, but whose yields are less than industrial ponds due to low dissolved oxygen (DO) levels in the water.

“We are proud to offer a forum for engineering problem-solving that truly improves lives,” said ASME Executive Director/CEO Tom Costabile. “We are continually impressed by the creative talent of ASME ISHOW participants and their passion for helping underserved communities around the world.”

The 2019 ASME ISHOW features a range of devices that promise to make a transformational economic, environmental, and social impact in underserved communities around the world. During the competition, the finalists will pitch their product prototypes to a panel of judges that includes successful entrepreneurs, academics, and founders of venture-funded startup companies. The pitches will outline the engineering design attributes of the prototypes and include a discussion of plans for manufacturing, marketing, and financing.

In addition, the product with the most votes in social media will be named the “Fan Favorite,” and that finalist will receive \$1,000. Voting closes June 13 at midnight, Eastern Standard Time.

The fan favorite prize is made possible and in memory of Byron G. Schieber Jr. M.S., PE, Professor Emeritus QCCNY and Ruth L. Schieber.

“ASME congratulates and thanks all ISHOW winners and finalists for serving as catalysts of progress and social good,” Costabile said. “Through their determination to innovate and disrupt the status quo, they are helping to improve the quality of life for people in need and inspiring others to think about what’s possible.”

ASME is grateful to [The Lemelson Foundation](#) for its continued support of the ISHOW, as the Impact Inventing sponsor.

For more information about the finalists and the ISHOW, please visit: asmeishow.org
Follow the journeys of ISHOW alumni on [Medium](#).

   @ASMEISHOW #ISHOW19 #ThisIsHardware

About ASME

ASME helps the global engineering community develop solutions to real world challenges. Founded in 1880 as the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, ASME is a not-for-profit professional organization that enables collaboration, knowledge sharing and skill development across all engineering disciplines, while promoting the vital role of the engineer in society. ASME codes and standards, publications, conferences, continuing education and professional development programs provide a foundation for advancing technical knowledge and a safer world.
www.asme.org

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MEDIA CONTACTS:

Monica Shovlin
MCShovlin Communications LLC (for ASME)
monica@mcs hovlin.com
541-554-3796

James Creel
Senior Program Manager - Engineering for Global Development, ASME
CreelJ@asme.org
202-577-9891