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Abstract: Practicing and succeeding at startup culture within an established company

A history of innovation begins with an adventurous and nimble approach and such a mindset typically forms the cornerstone of successful startup companies throughout history. Iterating and sorting through ideas and moving through setbacks without loss of enthusiasm at a rapid pace has come to define the startup culture. However, as a company grows, the appetite for risk can decrease leading to a stagnation in innovation when it is most needed. This talk focusses on how this spirit of innovation can continue to thrive as a company grows and the critical aspects within the culture that have made and can continue to make this possible.

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Bio: Parikshith Kumar got his Ph.D. from Texas A&M University in 2009 and has worked extensively with shape memory alloys for the actuator industry from 2001-2012. Since 2012 he transitioned to the medical products division at W. L Gore and Associates as a Metallurgical associate on the Metals platform. His work involves front end research to develop new material and processes and has helped new product development teams in the launch on several life saving devices in the company's portfolio.