



BritishAmerican Business Spring Conference 2014

Innovation & Disruptive Technology: Transforming our Business World

Wednesday 14th May 2014, 8.30 am – 1.45 pm, BT Centre, London

The conference featured keynote addresses from **Ed Vaizey MP**, Under Secretary of State for Culture, Communications and WCreative Industries, and **Gerard Grech**, CEO, Tech City UK. Also showcased were companies which have helped to shape innovation and disruptive technology, including: **Songkick** ▪ **McKinsey Global Institute** ▪ **iMakr** ▪ **BAE Systems Applied Intelligence** ▪ **Shell International Petroleum Co Ltd** ▪ **Baker Botts** ▪ **BT Global Services** ▪ **Open Data Institute** ▪ **Dow Jones** ▪ **ARM**



Keynote: What do we mean by disruptive technology?

- The UK has always been at the forefront of innovation. We have seen in recent times that companies which are unable to innovate get left behind.
- The Government's job is not to create ideas for business but to create an environment where ideas can flourish.
- Britain welcomes innovators from around the world: If you want to do business in or with Britain get in touch with UKTI.



Panel 1: Predicting the future: What technologies are truly big and how can business leaders recognize, and harness their potential?

- Future technologies discussed were wearable technology, self-driving cars, and 3D printing, mobile internet, and the internet of things.
- The first wave of disruption put unskilled workers out of jobs but the next wave will see the automation of knowledge-based jobs.
- Future business models need to be agile, which means consumer centric and adaptable.



Panel 2: Managing disruption: Responding effectively to disruptive changes

- Protect your existing business model before delving into a new market.
- Many are still anchored to their old ways, their "inner caveman" holds them back.
- Companies need to educate employees about embracing new technologies.
- Growing world population means we need to have a better approach towards disruption in the energy sectors: this means smart grids. Energy majors need to innovate at scale.



Panel 3: Grounds for innovation: What influences innovation and where will the next mega tech company emerge?

- London is seeing a fast-changing economy as more tech and life science clusters emerge.
- London is good at merging technology and business models, but its start up scene is currently more driven by content creation than actual tech which is elsewhere in the country.
- Mega-tech companies are growing in Tel Aviv, Berlin and Stockholm. Israel's tech advancement driven by military necessity with small teams assembled to solve specific problems.



Keynote: The case for Britain as an innovation centre

- By 2016, digital/tech industry will overtake construction education and healthcare as the percentage of UK GDP. Access to finance, skills and infrastructure are crucial.
- London currently has over 88,000 tech companies, a 76% increase since 2009.
- 80% of young people aged 16-30 think they will start their own company in the next 5 years. The national curriculum will include coding, the UK is the only country in the EU except Estonia which has taken this initiative.

Find out more online! to view the programme and speaker biographies visit innovation2014.babinc.org

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