The O.U.R 2024 Fall Conference

GUEST SPEAKER

Levi Snowden, PMP

R&D Project Manager -
Atmospheric Plasma Solutions

4:00 to 4:40 pm – November 15, 2024
Archer – Physics bldg. – Archer 108

SHORT BIOGRAPHY:

Levi Snowden is the Research and Development Laboratory Manager at Atmospheric Plasma Solutions, where he manages plasma research, business development, and sustainability projects. A proud alumnus of Lamar University, Mr. Snowden earned a B.S. in both Chemical Engineering and Physics and has since earned a Project Management Professional (PMP) certification from the Project Management Institute. During his time at Lamar University, Mr. Snowden participated in tribology research with Dr. de la Madrid, served as a teaching assistant for the physics department, was a Smith-Hutson scholar, and played in the marching band, jazz band, and pep band. Since graduating in 2019, he has helped develop Atmospheric Plasma Coating Removal (APCR) technology, acquiring and managing Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Strategic Environmental Research and Development Program (SERDP) grants with the team at Atmospheric Plasma Solutions. Outside of work, Mr. Snowden enjoys spending time with his wife and three cats at their home in Apex, North Carolina.

LECTURE: Plasma Innovations & Thriving Through Small Business Research

Plasma, the fourth state of matter, is revolutionizing various industries with its unique applications and properties. Plasma's special properties make it an effective tool for cleaning surfaces and enhancing their surface energy, crucial for improving adhesion and performance in applications like coatings and electronics. We'll discuss how this high-energy state can remove contaminants at the molecular level, modify surface characteristics, and the story behind how plasma is breaking into coating and paint removal industries as a sustainable alternative to grit blasting and laser cleaning.
We will also cover my journey from studying at Lamar to working in a small business and the rewarding and challenging aspects of starting your career at a company with fewer than 20 employees. We'll discuss some of the basics of securing funding through government grants, which has been essential for our growth and stability. Additionally, I'll share insights on successfully managing projects with the Department of Defense and other government stakeholders, highlighting the importance of communication and adaptability in collaborative efforts.

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