

Social Innovation Lecture Series  
presents 3<sup>rd</sup> talk on



## Innovating affordable and sustainable products

Tuesday, 29 Nov 2016 | Time: 4 pm -5.30 pm

(Registration and networking tea @ 3.30 pm)

Venue: Training room, Venture Center, 100 NCL Innovation Park

### Abstract of the talk

The talk is an attempt to synthesize product development knowledge based on experience developing products in/for a resource-limited setting. Along with general wisdom, specific experiences in developing two products will be shared. Many thoughts about a product development framework for medtech devices, best practices and common pitfalls of entrepreneurs will be shared.

*Product  
Development*



**Arun Venkatesan**  
Product Realization Expert  
Villgro Innovations Foundation, D-Rev



*Medtech  
devices*

### Speakers brief Bio

Arun Venkatesan holds a B.Tech., M.S., and Ph.D., all in Chemical Engineering. After about two decades of leading product development in the USA, Arun re-located to Chennai since the last 4 years. One of the major roles Arun held while in Chennai was, as CTO of Phoenix Medical Systems, a leading med tech enterprise. His area of expertise is materials research and development, device integration and forward-integration of technology into tangible, marketable entities. During his industrial career Dr. Venkatesan worked for various companies in a research and development capacity while interacting with academic research groups as well as independent development teams. He has extensive experience in coordinating development projects in small-scale and start-up companies using external vendors for rapid turn-around of various product components.

Arun was responsible for the development and commercialization of a wide variety of products - chemically modified fullerene based fuel-cell materials, a portable solid-oxide electro-chemical oxygen generator for the army, completely micro-manufacturable micro-scale fuel-cells to name a few. Dr. Venkatesan has 2 years of post-doctoral research experience in fuel-cell materials development and micro-fuel-cell fabrication. More recently, he has been instrumental in successful commercialization of Brilliance - A low cost phototherapy device for premature babies and SmartCane - An affordable navigation aid for the visually impaired. He is privileged to be part of three grants in assistive devices from Wellcome Trust. He has been invited to be on Judging and Design review panels for CII and ASME iShow to evaluate companies and their ideas.

Register here: <http://tinyurl.com/hs5y56t>