



September 12, 2023

Pennsylvania Senate  
Attn: Sheila Fitzgerald Sterrett  
Executive Director, PA Senate Policy Committee

Title: Carnegie Robotics: Transforming the Pittsburgh Technology Ecosystem

Carnegie Robotics is one of the preeminent robotics in the country, with immense influence within the Pittsburgh technology ecosystem. The company was jointly spun-off by the National Robotics Engineering Center (NREC) and the Carnegie Mellon University Robotics Institute, two pillars in the world of academic research within robotics, in April 2010. The initiative was launched under the exceptional leadership of John Bares, a previous director of NREC.

The birth of Carnegie Robotics has its roots embedded deep within the development and maturation of the field of robotics at Carnegie Mellon University, a premier institution globally recognized for its leading role in robotic innovations. The company's founding team comprised an elite group with copious professional and technical experience gained from their years at NREC.

In its initial years, Carnegie Robotics dedicated itself to develop and integrate top-tier robotic sensors and systems into military-, mining-, and agriculture-oriented machinery. Over the years, the company excelled in applying robotics solutions to numerous unique and complex problems, delivering advanced technology to a myriad of industries.

As part of the Pittsburgh technology ecosystem, Carnegie Robotics has played an instrumental role in encouraging the growth of the local robotics and technology scene. Several successful ventures have evolved directly or indirectly due to their productive cooperation with Carnegie Robotics. Argo AI and Aurora, both leading self-driving car companies, are two noteworthy examples. Carnegie Robotics' alumni have also spearheaded thriving start-ups, including Near Earth Autonomy and HEBI Robotics.

Moreover, the impact of Carnegie Robotics expands well beyond business and job creation. The company has fostered an environment underpinned by innovation and research, strengthening Pittsburgh's reputation as a global hub for robotics and artificial intelligence technology. Contributing to the advancement of regional knowledge networks and infrastructure has solidified its place as a significant stimulator of regional economic prosperity.

Regarding the role of Pennsylvania's government in this technological revolution, the state has realized the potential of advancing technology organizations in fueling local economies and the broader state's economic growth. Accordingly, the Pennsylvania government has invested heavily in nurturing local tech companies, including Carnegie Robotics.

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Reinforcing Carnegie Robotics and similar establishments is imperative to expand and reinforce Pennsylvania's tech scene, fostering jobs, invigorating the economy, and securing Pennsylvania's place as a trailblazer in the broader national and international tech landscape.

Conclusively, Carnegie Robotics, with the essential support of the state of Pennsylvania, is destined to continually disrupt, influence, and direct the future trajectory of the rapidly evolving technology industry in Pittsburgh and beyond. The organization stands as an epitome of transformative impact through robotics, stimulating local growth, economic expansion, and the broader evolution of society.  
Thank you.

Mike Embrescia  
Chief Development Officer

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