

Renewable Energy from the Mechanical World: A Conversation About Energy

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Abstract

Energy is one of the most important issues of our time. Modern society is arranged around its creation, distribution, and consumption. There is a full-scale reorganization of society underway, driven in large part by a purported desire to move away from hydrocarbon-based energy, the implications of which are quite profound. At the same time, we are experiencing a technological revolution that is completely dependent on increasing amounts of energy, creating more demand and stress on the systems that produce and distribute energy. Energy is all around us, and we speak of it frequently. However, we seldom stop to examine what it is, and is not, nor do we examine the language of energy, its context and how that language of energy shapes our most basic understanding. From the scientific to the colloquial, we use a large array of terms to differentiate the forms and uses of energy. This discussion will explore some of our basic concepts of energy and investigate how a modest reframing of the language can lead us to finding new ways to create, store, and deliver energy. Finally, we will discuss several real-world examples of how this approach is yielding results in both the civilian and military context.

Biography

Andrew J. Amigo is the founder & CEO of Blackburn Energy, Inc., the manufacturer of RelGen®, a globally patented hybrid charging solution that powers several commercial vehicle electrification technologies and a silent watch system for the US Marines' LVSR. Prior to founding Blackburn, Mr. Amigo held a leadership role in Hartford Ventures and was general counsel to First State Management where he led a successful joint venture with Berkshire Hathaway, powered by several of his structured finance inventions. Prior to corporate law, Andrew spent several years negotiating at the United Nations on behalf of the NGO the International Criminal Defense Attorneys Association where he advocated for the rights of the accused and succeeded in the creation of an Office of Defense within the International Criminal Court.

Andrew clerked for the Constitutional Court of Slovenia during the end of the Yugoslav war and double-majored in philosophy and criminal justice with graduate degrees in law and international economics. Andrew has over 25 issued patents ranging from medical devices to structured finance to Blackburn's Hybrid Charging System, RelGen.



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