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Company Perspectives on Innovation

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COMPANY PERSPECTIVES ON INNOVATION

Session Chair – Cyndee Todgham Cherniak
Canadian Speaker – H. Douglas Barber
United States Speaker – Craig Maxwell

INTRODUCTION

Cyndee Todgham Cherniak

My name is Cyndee Todgham Cherniak. I am on the advisory board of the Canada-United States Law Institute, and I am also a partner in the Toronto law firm of Hennan Blakely. We have offices across Canada, and I am a trade lawyer. This panel is going to start where Dan left off. I think one of Dan's last comments was a view from the trenches, and that's what we are going to get in this panel. I am very excited, honored, and privileged to be chairing this particular panel because we don't often get a view inside the corporation as lawyers and Government officials. For the next hour, we are going to be embedded in corporations, and we are going to get a view from the inside.

Our first speaker is Dr. Douglas Barber, and he is a distinguished professor in residence at McMaster University. He tells me that while he has an office in the engineering department, he influences the learning environment throughout the university. He was formerly President and CEO of Gennum Corporation and now continues to serve on the board of directors. He is also the director of numerous corporations, including the Golden Horseshoe Venture Forum, Canadian Academy of Engineering, Allergen, Net Access, and a number of other organizations.

After Dr. Barber, we are going to hear from Craig Maxwell, the Corporate VP of Technology and Innovation at Parker Hannifin. Craig is responsible for emerging markets. He has this wonderful power point. Have you picked up the power points? Anyone that hasn't, we have brought them into the room in case you need a copy and didn't get them this morning. So rather than me speaking, I am interested to learn about what happens within the corporations and learn the corporation's perspective on innovation.

Douglas?