

Press release

12th of May, 2022

Aquaculture Innovation Studio Hawai'i 2022 showcases 11 aquaculture companies at a Community Event .

Hatch, a global venture and accelerator program for the aquaculture industry, launched its second Aquaculture Innovation Studio Hawai'i targeted for early-stage entrepreneurs (four Hawaii-based) in this sector on April 18th. The goal of the program is to offer industry-specific business support, advice, and insights to develop and mentor the next generation of aquaculture and alternative seafood entrepreneurs and to attract more talent into the sector.

“The challenges associated with the ever-increasing global population have made it even more important than ever for the aquaculture industry to grow further and be able to perform at its full potential. We see innovation and technology as key central drivers to enable the required but sustainable growth in the future production of global seafood”, says Wayne Murphy Co-Founder and Partner at Hatch. “Working with and supporting the development of this diverse, local and global cohort of innovators and “Aquapreneurs” is a very exciting but critical part of the of work we do.”

The mentorship program kicked off virtually and has run over a period of four weeks on a part-time basis. The studio was designed for companies looking for support and mentorship, or startups that want to take things to the next level or later stage companies seeking to increase market & industry access. A very competitive application process was employed in the selection of this year's Hawaii Innovation Studio cohort which comprises eleven companies, four of which are from Hawaii. They now join a global community and network of aquaculture startups, key industry players and investors.

“We are very excited to continue working with Hatch after a successful three year pilot program to develop an Aquaculture Accelerator here in Hawaii,” said Gregory Barbour, Executive Director at the Natural Energy Laboratory in Kailua-Kona. “We look forward to the next four years with them as part of a recent agreement we signed with Hatch and a multi-million-dollar support fund from the U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration,” said Barbour.

The in-person and live event is upon invitation only (please request invitation if you are available to attend) but a recording of the Studio company pitches will be available on HATCH's YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/c/HATCHblue>

For more information contact:

Sarid Ditton

Marketing Executive | **HATCH**

sarid@hatch.blue

541.514.9050

73-987 Makako Bay Dr.

Kailua-Kona. HI 96740