



AEA 2025 Board of Directors Candidates - Biographies and Personal Statements

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Stephen Crolius

Carbon-Neutral Consulting



BIOGRAPHY

Stephen H. Crolius is President and Co-Founder of [Carbon-Neutral Consulting LLC](#). CNC was launched in 2019 to provide business strategy counsel to companies that are addressing opportunities and challenges related to the energy transition. Steve brings to CNC 35 years of experience as a business strategy professional at the Boston Consulting Group and other firms. He served as a senior staff member at the William J. Clinton Foundation's [Climate Initiative](#) from 2006 to 2013. Steve also served as President of the [Ammonia Energy Association](#) from 2016 through 2021 and subsequently as President Emeritus.

STATEMENT

As an organization that operates almost entirely within the energy transition, the Ammonia Energy Association must find its way through a dynamic landscape that presents an ever-shifting collection of opportunities and challenges. The energy transition has been my full-time professional focus since 2006. I have had and continue to have occasion to engage tangibly with a wide variety of strategic issues on behalf of our projects and clients. It would be my privilege to continue to bring this breadth of experience to the proceedings of the AEA's Board of Directors.

Linda Dempsey

CF Industries



BIOGRAPHY

Linda Dempsey manages CF's global public affairs function. She leads engagement with a wide array of governmental and non-governmental stakeholders on a broad range of domestic and international policies, from environmental, energy, and sustainability issues to trade and agriculture matters, supporting the company's growth, clean energy, and corporate stewardship objectives.

Ms. Dempsey is EVP President Elect of the Ammonia Energy Association and a member of the Board of Directors at the Fuel Cell and Hydrogen Energy Association and the Public Affairs Council.

Prior to joining CF Industries, Ms. Dempsey was Vice President, International Economic Affairs, at the National Association of Manufacturers (NAM) where she led efforts to improve the global competitiveness of manufacturers in the United States. In addition to the NAM and additional work with business associations, Dempsey has also served on Capitol Hill as a senior trade advisor on the Senate Finance Committee and worked as a lawyer in private practice. She also engaged in overseas development activities in the agricultural sector.

Dempsey received her B.A. in Political Science from the Pennsylvania State University and her J.D. from the University of California, Berkeley School of Law.

Jong Chen Foo



BIOGRAPHY

Jong Chen joined Woodside in 2024 as the Head of Global Ammonia to lead origination of ammonia offtakes, marketing and trading activities which includes developing lower carbon use cases in Energy (Marine Fuels/Refining), Power Generation, Cracking, Industrial Chemicals, and Fertilizers globally.

Jong Chen has over 20 years of international trading, marketing and procurement experience in commodities and energy industry, including over 13 years of ammonia trading experience. He is also on the Board of Directors for Ammonia Energy Association and had been on the SteerCo of The Fertilizer Institute's Ammonia certification program and Argus Clean Ammonia Advisory Committee.

Prior to joining Woodside, he worked with OCI Global, RGE Group, Koch Industries, Royal Dutch Shell, and held roles such as Global Head of Ammonia, Global Head of Procurement & Supply Chain, Managing Director APAC Trading, Global Trading Product Line Leader; leading trading, procurement and business development in fertilizers, chemicals, pulp value chains, palm value chains, crude oil, Fuels, Bitumen.

Jong Chen has a Mechanical Engineering degree from National University of Singapore and an MBA from Manchester Business School.

Anthony Garcia



BIOGRAPHY

I am Anthony Garcia, based in Tampa, Florida, and serve as an Ammonia Trader at Trammo, Inc., where I focus on North America-based business. My role encompasses negotiating and managing offtake agreements, developing supply chains, managing risk exposure, executing spot and long-term sales contracts, and driving market growth for low carbon attributes. This work directly supports the Ammonia Energy Association's mission to promote ammonia in a sustainable energy economy and accelerate the energy transition by supporting new business cases throughout the ammonia energy value chain. For example, I contributed to securing a Heads of Agreement with ExxonMobil for the offtake of 300,000 to 500,000 tons of low-carbon ammonia annually from their landmark project located in Baytown, Texas. I am passionate about advancing ammonia's role in the global energy transition and am committed to contributing to the AEA's mission.

STATEMENT

As a nominee for the AEA Board of Directors, I aim to leverage my extensive experience in ammonia trading, coupled with exposure to the low-carbon markets, to advance the association's goal of promoting ammonia in a sustainable energy economy. My involvement in Trammo's key projects positions me to contribute by advancing market development strategies, advocating for supportive policies, promoting collaboration among stakeholders, and providing strategic guidance to navigate the evolving energy landscape. I am dedicated to driving innovation and ensuring ammonia plays a central role in the shift towards cleaner energy sources.

Jeffrey Goldmeer

GE Vernova



BIOGRAPHY

Dr. Jeffrey (Jeff) Goldmeer is currently a Senior Director for Technology Strategy at GE Vernova in the company's Strategy and Innovation organization. His primary focus is leading cross business teams to deliver investment recommendations for power generation and system technologies focused on enabling lower-carbon economy including hydrogen, ammonia and other e-fuels. Jeff has had multiple leadership roles in GE Vernova, including Combustion System Lab Manager at the company's research center, and within the Gas Power business as the Emergent Technologies Director for Lower-Carbon Fuels. During his time within GE Vernova's gas turbine business, Jeff led teams that delivered first of a kind projects for the power generation industry including operation of an F-class gas turbine on crude oil, as well as first of a kind operation of aeroderivative and heavy-duty gas turbines on blends of hydrogen and natural gas. Jeff also led the GE Vernova team evaluating the use of ammonia as a power generation fuel, resulting in a MOU and then a joint development agreement with IHI Corporation to develop a 100% ammonia combustion system for GE Vernova's F-class gas turbines. Jeff is a recognized expert in gas turbine combustion, fuels, and decarbonization. He has been invited to participate in policy and technical discussions with government, non-government policy organizations, universities, and investment firms. These include the US Department of Energy, the US Department of State, the US National Academy of Sciences, the Business Council of Australia, Princeton University, the King Abdullah University of Science and Technology, Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Bank of America, and multiple non-US governments (Australia, India, Japan, the Netherlands, and the Ontario provincial government.)

STATEMENT

The need to decarbonize stationary power generation and systems continues to be an important global issue. Renewables are critical, but there will be continued need for utility scale dispatchable power. There has been incredible focus on hydrogen, with little focus on other molecules, including ammonia, which can unlock challenges related to transport and storage. The Ammonia Energy Association sponsored a first of a kind panel discussion on the use of ammonia as a gas turbine fuel during the November 2024 annual meeting. This session concluded with an ask for the association to help the industry focus on safety issues, leveraging known safety practices, etc. The Ammonia Energy Association, with the experience and knowledge of its members, can become a leading voice advocating for the use of ammonia as a power generation fuel while working to share known solutions for the safety risks. If elected to the board, I will volunteer to lead this call to action.

Jorge Palomar Herrero

Iberdrola



BIOGRAPHY

He is responsible for promoting green hydrogen projects and business development at Iberdrola. With over 24 years of experience in the energy sector, he has expertise in engineering, fuel trading and electricity markets worldwide. He has held various senior positions within the company, including Head of Global Operations and Trading in Europe and Head of Corporate PPAs. Four years ago, he became the Head of Global Green Hydrogen Development, where he is currently overseeing more than 30 projects across 6 countries. He holds a degree in Mining Engineering from Universidad Politécnica de Madrid, an International Executive MBA from Universidad Antonio de Nebrija, and a Master's

in Energy Industry Economics from Carlos III University. Additionally, he has completed several leadership programs at IMD Business School.

He is also an educator, teaching masters and postgraduate courses at various universities.

STATEMENT

After twenty four years of experience on the energy sector and twenty two years working in Iberdrola in different senior roles (see attached personal bio) I took four years ago the responsibility of developing the new green Hydrogen and derivatives Global development within Iberdrola Group. Since then, many things have happened and today we can say that Iberdrola is a global leader on green Hydrogen that is already 100 % focused on Green Ammonia development too with a very realistic and reliable approach that will imply important investments in the short and medium term.

I will be thrilled as Iberdrola's representative to be part of the Ammonia Energy Association, a great organisation that is working toward promoting the use of green ammonia in a sustainable and global energy economy and with which Iberdrola shares common values and goals. My wish is to boost green ammonia as a key component of global decarbonisation and a pillar for reducing energy dependence in Europe with a very realistic and sustainable approach.

Tomoaki Ichida

MOL



BIOGRAPHY

Tomoaki Ichida is a seasoned professional with extensive experience in maritime industry, specializing in energy sector including ammonia energy solutions. With a strong background in project management and strategic planning, Tomoaki has successfully led multiple initiatives aimed at advancing sustainable energy practices. Tomoaki's expertise in collaborating with cross-functional teams and stakeholders has been instrumental in driving innovation and achieving organizational goals. As a dedicated advocate for clean

energy, Tomoaki is committed to contributing to the development and implementation of cutting-edge technologies that promote environmental sustainability.

STATEMENT

I believe I can significantly contribute to the AEA Board of Directors by leveraging my extensive experience in maritime industry and my deep understanding of energy sector including ammonia energy solutions. My background in project management and strategic planning will enable me to provide valuable insights and guidance on key initiatives. Additionally, my proven ability to collaborate with diverse teams and stakeholders will help foster a cohesive and innovative environment within the board. I am passionate about advancing sustainable energy practices and am committed to supporting the AEA's mission to promote the development and adoption of ammonia energy technologies.

Phil Ingram

Johnson Matthey



BIOGRAPHY

Johnson Matthey (JM) produces technologies that reduce carbon emissions in fuel production, power generation and chemical processing. JM offers sustainable technologies for low carbon hydrogen, low carbon ammonia, methanol, e-methanol, SAF, e-SNG, ammonia cracking technologies and offers catalysts for each technologies including green ammonia catalysts. JM low carbon hydrogen technology has already selected in 7 global projects. Phil leads the low carbon hydrogen and ammonia business for Johnson Matthey where he leads a team in delivering 'blue' hydrogen technology into projects targeting decarbonised ammonia, e-fuels, industrial decarbonisation and power generation. He holds a PhD in Surface Science and has spent more than 25 years in the syngas industry in

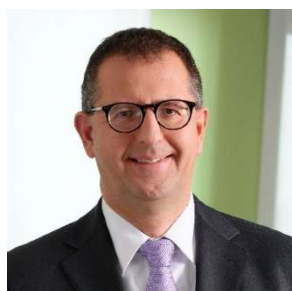
a variety of technical and commercial roles largely focused on reducing carbon in hydrogen, ammonia and methanol production based in Europe and North America.

STATEMENT

Phil is looking forward to contributing to the AEA board with his extensive experience and knowledge in variety of low carbon hydrogen production technologies, its integration to ammonia plants and use of catalysts in these technologies. With his science background and technical and commercial experiences, his presence at the Board will add a huge value to the AEA and the members.

Dennis Lippmann

thyssenkrupp Uhde USA



BIOGRAPHY

Dennis Lippmann currently serves as President and CEO of thyssenkrupp Uhde USA. In this role he is responsible for the chemical plant engineering, procurement and construction business of Uhde in North America. The project and technology portfolio includes hydrogen, syngas, methanol and ammonia plants, nitric acid and fertilizer plants, polymers and petrochemicals. The company was instrumental in developing and building the first commercial scale green hydrogen to ammonia plant in the United States.

Dennis has worked in the hydrogen, syngas and ammonia technology field for over 30 years, starting out as an ammonia process engineer, then leading process engineering teams and holding executive positions for licensors and EPC companies. Prior to his current role Dennis served as CEO for thyssenkrupp Industrial Solutions North America, covering the US, Canadian and Mexican market for chemical plants, cement plants, mining facilities, automotive assembly lines and naval industry components. From 2016 until 2019 he also held the CTO role for the Fertilizer & Syngas Business Unit at thyssenkrupp.

Besides Uhde, Dennis has also worked for KBR, leading their global ammonia & syngas technology business from 2013 – 2015. Dennis is a chemical engineer by background and holds a PhD degree from the Technical University of Clausthal, Germany. In 2023 he received the Meyer-Galow Award for Business Chemistry from the German Chemical Society, GDCh. Besides corporate board and officer positions at thyssenkrupp, Dennis currently serves as Board Member and Director at the Ammonia Energy Association as well as Advisory Board Member at the Energy Institute of the University of Oklahoma. Dennis resides with his family in Houston, TX.

STATEMENT

In my current role with thyssenkrupp Uhde, one of the leading turnkey providers for ammonia plants, I am closely following the latest developments in low carbon ammonia energy projects. I am involved in both, natural gas / CO₂ sequestration based projects as well as electrolysis based projects together with our sister company thyssenkrupp nucera, one of the largest electrolysis suppliers. My long term experience in the ammonia industry and background from two major ammonia technology licensors allow me to support the AEA with the latest industry perspective. My familiarity with board positions will furthermore ensure good governance of the AEA.”

Luca Pilenga

Baker Hughes



BIOGRAPHY

Luca Pilenga is at the helm of Baker Hughes' hydrogen growth strategy, orchestrating a symphony of activities that span product development, strategic partnerships, and customer engagement. With a keen eye for innovation, Luca synchronizes efforts across various departments, ensuring seamless execution of the company's vision.

Luca's extensive experience in renewable energy, circular economy, and energy efficiency is complemented by a robust skill set in strategy, project development, and M&A. His

leadership and negotiation prowess has been honed through numerous successful deals and various Boards of Directors positions, including as MD/Chairman.

Holding a M.Sc. in Management Engineering from Politecnico di Milano, Luca's academic journey includes studies in Finland, Spain, and a thesis at the Indian Institute of Technology Mumbai. His career began in Sri Lanka, and he now brings a global perspective to his work.

As a Board member of the Ammonia Energy Association, Luca incredibly contribute by combining entrepreneurial spirit with a deep understanding of hydrogen technologies and markets, driving forward-thinking initiatives that shape the future of energy.

STATEMENT

With over 18 years of experience in the energy industry, spanning from renewables and energy efficiency to hydrogen, I believe I can contribute significantly to the AEA Board. My extensive background has provided me with a comprehensive understanding of the various technologies, key players, regulations, and innovations within the sector. Additionally, my experiences have given me a broad, worldwide perspective across multiple dimensions.

I am excited about the opportunity to help the organization navigate the numerous opportunities that lie ahead in this transformative period for the energy industry.

Vinod Patel

InterContinental Energy



BIOGRAPHY

Vinod Patel is the Downstream Director at InterContinental Energy a world leading green fuels developer with the largest and most advanced portfolio of the projects. Working

together with partners, he is responsible for leading Downstream engineering across the project lifecycle for the company's projects portfolio across the globe.

Vinod has over 39 years of experience in operational management, technical services, and project development in world scale Ammonia industries from fossil feedstock to the renewable based via electrolysis. He was in the pioneering Yara team that worked on the renewable-based hydrogen/ammonia project at Australia's Pilbara facility, where he conducted extensive development work including hydrogen integration with the existing ammonia facility.

As a leading role in green fuels development work has conducted various study streams and understood hydrogen value chain, the technologies, developments in renewable field, project economy, agreements, Govt. fundings, and permitting.

STATEMENT

I have a long association with AEA. In 2016 I attended my first AEA conference in Los Angeles, followed by participated in establishing AEA Australia chapter in 2018/19. Currently working with AEAs Ammonia Certification team as Working Group member and Certification Committee member. Having extensive experience in Ammonia and Hydrogen industries and understanding of whole Hydrogen value chain, and long association with AEA, I believe, I can contribute to the Association's strategic direction, governance, and decision-making as a Board of Director.

Hans Vrijenhoef

Proton Ventures



BIOGRAPHY

Hans Vrijenhoef, studied chemical engineering at the Technical university Delft and Graduated in 1982. After various jobs in the Exxon Mobil and Kemira's large scale ammonia operations in Rotterdam Europoort, he started Proton Ventures BV in 2001, with the aim to green society by using green ammonia.

Hans Vrijenhoef has been and continues to be involved in hydrogen and/or ammonia projects worldwide to realize his ambition to green our society, making use of renewable energy as much as possible in an affordable way.

As President of the Ammonia Energy Association he was actively promoting knowledge exchange between members, partners and students in the domain of clean/ Green ammonia production and applications. In the new role of Past President the roles will be more supporting the existing President

He is holding ammonia conferences in Chili and Netherlands and he also started to support start-up companies in the field of clean ammonia production, storage and applications. And now again he leads Proton Ventures BV into a new era where as well small as big ammonia projects will be supported by Proton's engineering team.

Nora Yap

Clariant



BIOGRAPHY

Nora Yap currently serves as Strategic Marketing Manager for Clariant's Catalyst Business Unit in the area of Syngas & Fuels, which encompasses the ammonia industry value chain.

Prior to her current role, Nora has held various commercial and technical roles at Clariant (previously Süd-Chemie Inc.) including Head of Sales Americas, Business Development Manager, Technical Service Engineer and R&D Engineer, starting in March of 2003. She is an accomplished chemical engineering professional with over 10+ years of progressive commercial experience at Clariant. With an MSc in Chemical Engineering from Purdue University and a BSc. in Chemical Engineering from the University of Kentucky, Nora has built a distinguished 20+ year career at Clariant, combining technical expertise in catalysis with exceptional business acumen. In her current role as Strategic Marketing Manager, she has developed comprehensive long-term business plans and delivered actionable market insights. During her tenure as Head of Sales Americas for Custom & Hydrogenation, Nora led a team of sales professionals in the Americas, managing an annual sales budget of 40 - 50 mCHF. Her most impressive achievement came as Business Development Manager, Fuel Cells where she grew a new business by double digits, by establishing strategic partnerships, optimizing the product portfolio, and executing targeted market entry strategies. Earlier in her career at Süd-Chemie Inc., she managed R&D development projects for various applications and collaborated across functions to ensure successful product commercialization. Nora excels in strategic planning, business development, and cross-functional leadership, making her ideally positioned for senior leadership and advisory roles where she can leverage her unique combination of strategic vision, commercial expertise, and interpersonal strengths to drive sustainable business growth.

STATEMENT

With my qualifications, experience and network, I believe that I can help steer the AEA to achieve its mission of decarbonization of ammonia in existing sectors, and the adoption of low-emission ammonia in the energy market

- I am knowledgeable and up-to-date on the ammonia market intelligence and can provide a strategic view and approach on taking this market to the next level
 - I am well versed in the ammonia value chain, and the technologies needed to expand this value chain to the energy market, As such, I can contribute by guiding program initiatives with AEA's members to accelerate the realization of these technologies
 - I have experience in taking a new technology into the market and still be profitable.
- Therefore, I can provide guidance on what's needed from policy makers to carve the path to profitability for AEA's collective members who are contributing to this new ammonia value chain

Frank Yu

Envision Group



BIOGRAPHY

Frank Yu was appointed to be the Senior Vice President and President of Hydrogen Business Products Line. He is accountable for the business of zero carbon gas and hydrogen energy, and will collaborate with other divisions in the group such as Envision Energy, AESC and Envision Digital to provide the value and business chance to customers, industry park and government.

Before joining in Envision, Frank Yu has been worked for Air Products for many years as vice president of China, and was the General Manager of Central and Eastern China and also General Manager of Hydrogen Energy Business.

Before Air Products, Frank Yu was the machinery and mechanic design engineer in a state owned company. He owns the bachelor degree of Chemical Equipment and Machinery in Nanjing Chemical University and the MBA degree of Maastricht School of Management held by International Business School of Nanjing University.

STATEMENT

My contribution to AEA:

1. Bring expertise about green hydrogen market and business development in the global market.
2. Specially bring expertise about the green hydrogen development in China.