

RAMEZ NAAM

Leading Expert on Innovation and Disruptive Technologies, Energy Co-Chair at Singularity University

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- Spent 13 years at Microsoft
- Holds more than 20 patents, including several as a co-inventor with Bill Gates
- Deep experience leading teams working on cutting edge technologies such as machine learning, search, massive scale services, and artificial intelligence
- Speaks around the world on exponential innovation, the practical applications of technology, and the "8 Things Disruptors Do Differently"
- Award-winning author of four books: The Infinite Resource: The Power of Ideas on a Finite Planet (non-fiction), which looks at the environmental and natural resource challenges of climate change, energy, water, and food, and charts a course to meet those challenges

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Ramez Naam is a computer scientist, futurist, and award-winning author. Ramez spent 13 years at Microsoft, where he led teams developing early versions of Microsoft Outlook, Internet Explorer, and the Bing search engine. His career has focused on bringing advanced collaboration, communication, and information retrieval capabilities to roughly one billion people around the world, and took him to the role of Partner and Director of Program Management within Microsoft, with deep experience leading teams working on cutting edge technologies such as machine learning, search, massive scale services, and artificial intelligence.

Dynamic and personable, Naam speaks around the world, captivating audiences as he illustrates “what disruption looks like” and shares the eight strategies incumbents should draw on to keep the pace of change. Naam’s presentations are geared at helping businesses optimize their positioning and products to win in a crowded, dicey marketplace. He is currently Energy Co-Chair at Singularity University.

Between stints at Microsoft, Ramez founded and ran Apex NanoTechnologies, the world first company devoted entirely to software tools to accelerate molecular design. He holds 19 patents related to search engines, information retrieval, web browsing, artificial intelligence, and machine learning.

Ramez is also the H.G. Wells Award-winning author of four books: The Infinite Resource: The Power of Ideas on a Finite Planet (non-fiction), which looks at the environmental and natural resource challenges of climate change, energy, water, and food, and charts a course to meet those challenges by investing in the scientific and technological innovation needed to overcome them, and by changing our policies to encourage both conservation and critical innovations.

He’s a graduate of the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign and the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy at Aurora Illinois. In his leisure, Ramez has climbed mountains, descended into icy crevasses, chased sharks through their native domain, backpacked through remote corners of China, and ridden his bicycle down hundreds of miles of the Vietnam coast. He lives in Seattle, where he writes and speaks full time.

TEMAS

- How Technology Disrupts – and How to Adapt, Survive, and Thrive
- Energy
- Innovation
- Digital Transformation
- The disruptive power of exponential technologies
- How organizations can adapt and thrive in an era of technological disruption

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PROGRAMAS

Ramez speaks around the world on innovation, the disruptive power of exponential technologies (AI, robotics, drones, 3D printing, biotechnology, and more), and how organizations can adapt and thrive in an era of technological disruption.

Ramez also specializes in the disruption clean energy and related technologies are bringing to the $6 trillion energy, transportation, food, and water industries.

Ramez's talks focus on preparing audiences for both the incredible challenges of those transitions and the immense opportunities they bring with them. Ramez can craft a presentation specifically for your audience.

The Clean Energy Revolution

Of all the infrastructure available to developers, none has had a steeper price drop than solar power, which has come down 250-times in price since its arrival in the marketplace. Here, Singularity's Energy co-chair talks about how solar and other clean energy sources will continue to change the world we live in, following the pathway of exponential technology that slowly but steadily becomes demonetized and democratized. Inspiring and powerful, Naam's talk pulls in historical anecdotes, a look at technology evolving now, and a thoughtful review of the ways regulation needs to keep the pace of change. Highly-customizable, Naam's talk is a can't-miss for any group considering the impact of the clean energy revolution on their industry.

Exponential Energy

The world is bumping up against multiple environmental and natural resource hurdles – climate change, peak oil, fresh water shortages, rising prices for food, minerals, and commodities of all sorts. At the same time, a growing population and a surge in the wealth of the developing world is increasing consumption. Can innovation keep pace? What are the true limits to growth? How do we overcome the challenges that face us? The session will provide an overview of the key natural resource and environmental challenges that face us, the on-the-horizon innovations that hold the promise to overcome them, and the policies that would best encourage innovation in those critical fields. The true limits to economic and natural resource growth on Planet Earth will be presented and discussed.

Exponential Organizations & Disruption

We're living in the age of exponential technologies: Computing, AI, machine learning, robotics, self-driving cars, 3D printing, drones, virtual reality, augmented reality, the internet of a trillion things, and more. The sudden surge of their performance empowers individuals and new players, but threatens to disrupt incumbent businesses. The only way to respond is to re-organize for the exponential age, embracing experimentation, autonomy, bottoms-up innovation, networked business models, and an empowered, inspired workforce. Here's what leaders can do to change their organization and to become disruptors rather than be the disrupted.

Global Planetary Optimism

We are the ones we've been waiting for. The world faces incredible challenges: Climate change, forests, food, oceans, water. Its people face challenges just as large: Poverty, inequality, violence, and hate. Yet our ability to innovate in technology, in policy, and in new ways to run our businesses gives us the opportunity to overcome all of these challenges. From solar power to desalination; from VR to decentralized democracy. The choice is up to each of us to step up, take action, and do well by doing good.

How Clean Energy is Disrupting the $6 Trillion Energy Industry – and How to Profit

Discover How Clean Energy is Disrupting the $6 Trillion Energy Industry – and How to Profit

Energy is the world's largest industry, with $6 Trillion spent per year around the world. It's being disrupted by exponential technologies, as the price of solar power, wind power, battery storage, and electric vehicles all rapidly plunge in pace.

The way we generate and consume energy, and move ourselves and our goods from place to place, is on the brink of radical change. Every consumer, business, investor, and nation will be affected. Those embrace this change will profit. Those slow to move will be disrupted.

With the information in this talk you will:

- Understand the trajectory of plunging prices in clean energy and transport.
- Identify ways for you and your company to avoid losses and realize profits.
- Glimpse the massive geo-political changes as oil-producing nations lose their main source of revenue.
- Gain insights into how to invest in the clean energy future.

Reinventing Education for the Human Good

The most important enabler of human well-being is education. In the face of concerns over growing inequality in rich countries, and potential loss of jobs from automation, education empowers women and men to stay ahead and to build a better, healthier society. So how can we improve it?

Digital technology has transformed how we deliver books, music, and videos. It's transformed how we measure the performance and effectiveness of products and services. It's enabled companies like Google to experiment rapidly and scientifically with the design of their algorithms to maximize the success of their customers. All of these principles and more can be brought to bear in education, for both children and adults, to dramatically in-crease its effectiveness. The opportunities for new entrepreneurs, learners, and society as a whole are tremendous.

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