Aravind Kailas

http://www.aravindkailas.com

CAREER GOAL: Championing corporate thought leadership in advanced technologies.

CORE COMPETENCIES

1. Driving business transformation by launching strategic technology initiatives.
2. Strengthening company reputation by building and managing govt. relations and communications.
3. Advancing business goals by running effective public affairs campaigns.
4. Promoting corporate leadership through public speaking engagements.
5. Facilitating knowledge transfer across organizations and industries for efficient problem-solving.

SELECT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Set up a functional office in southern California and forged a pipeline for publicly funded grants ($100M+) to drive Volvo's R&D and product commercialization in the automation, connectivity, and electromobility spaces.
- Championed landmark federal and state legislations (Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, Inflation Reduction Act, California Comeback Plan, etc.) to grow the zero-emission (ZE) technology market across U.S.
- Advanced critical policies (Powering Up Californians Act, etc.), regulatory reforms, and investments in the U.S. electric utility sector to foster an affordable clean energy transition in trucking.
- Represented Volvo in establishing Powering America's Commercial Transportation, a new industry trade association to educate and overcome existing statutory energy and infrastructure barriers for ZE heavy-duty trucks across U.S.
- Contributed to the first-ever National Zero-Emission Freight Corridor Strategy - the action plan for freight decarbonization across U.S. by 2040 - by working with the Joint Office of Energy & Transportation, U.S. Department of Energy, U.S. Department of Transportation, Environmental Protection Agency, and other entities and thought leaders.
- Spearheaded the charging infrastructure build out and local partner development within the award-winning Volvo LIGHTS project (a California state agency-funded public-private partnership that helped deploy Volvo's first 30 electric trucks in North America (N.A.)).
- Launched and managed Volvo's multi-year intelligent transportation systems program ($10M) in the U.S. to support field trials and commercialization of communication-based vehicular safety applications.
- Led Volvo's advocacy for a stable regulatory environment to deploy life-saving and innovative vehicle-to-everything (V2X) and digital infrastructure technologies in the U.S.
- Deployed the first connected vehicle testbed in the San Pedro Bay for assessing local air quality improvements using smart traffic lights along freight corridors by working with a wide array of state and local govt. agencies and private sector partners.
- Led Volvo's first automation (truck platooning) activities in N.A. to engage customers and policymakers in dialogues about the benefits and challenges with commercializing automated driving systems.

INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

- Volvo Group, Costa Mesa, CA
  - **Advanced Technology Policy Director**, 2020–present
  - **Research and Innovation Manager**, 2017–2019
  - **Intelligent Transportation Systems Program Manager**, 2014–2016
- DOCOMO Innovations, Inc., Palo Alto, CA, **Visiting Research Scientist**, 2010
- QUALCOMM, Inc., San Diego, CA, **Engineer**, 2004–2006
- **Internships** at DOCOMO Innovations, Inc. (2009), QUALCOMM, Inc. (2004), and General Electric (2003)

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- California State University Long Beach, Long Beach, CA, **Part-time Instructor**, 2015–present
- The University of North Carolina at Charlotte, Charlotte, NC, **Assistant Professor**, 2011–2013
- **Graduate Assistantships** at Georgia Institute of Technology (2006–2009), Aalborg University (Summers of 2007 & 2008), and University of Wisconsin–Madison (2002–2004)

SELECT HONORS

Climate leadership awards (2x 2022, 2x 2021, 2x 2020), IEEE Senior Member (2022), SAE Outstanding Oral Presentation Award (2019), best paper awards (TRB: 2x 2018, 2017; IEEE: 2012, 2007), Volvo Group key talent (2015), faculty grants (2x 2011), Graduate Research Assistant Excellence Award (2010), management awards at QUALCOMM (2006, 2005) and General Electric (2003), teaching awards (2x 2004).

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Electrical & Computer Engineering, Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, GA, 2010
M.Sc., Applied Mathematics, Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, GA, 2010
M.S., Electrical & Computer Engineering, University of Wisconsin–Madison, Madison, WI, 2005
B.E., Electronics & Telecommunications, Mumbai University, India, 2002