

KR Sridhar, PhD
Founder and Chairman, Chief Executive Officer
Bloom Energy

KR Sridhar is a visionary engineer, professor, and entrepreneur. In 2001, he co-founded Ion America, which later became **Bloom Energy**, a solid oxide energy platform company with a mission to make clean, reliable energy affordable for everyone on earth. Prior to founding Bloom Energy, KR was Director of the Space Technologies Laboratory (STL) at the University of Arizona where he was also a professor of Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering. Under his leadership, STL won several nationally competitive contracts to conduct research and development for Mars exploration and for flight experiments to Mars. KR has served as an advisor to NASA and has led major consortia of industry, academia, and national labs. His work for the **NASA Mars program** to convert Martian atmospheric gases to oxygen for propulsion and life support was recognized by Fortune Magazine, where he was cited as “one of the top five futurists inventing tomorrow, today.”

A member of the National Academy of Engineering, KR has served on many technical committees, panels, and boards. He has over fifty publications and is a sought-after speaker and advisor on energy and environmental issues. He participated in the **UN climate summit, COP 21**, in Paris, the **World Economic Forum**, the Baker Hughes Annual Meeting 2023 in Florence, Italy, and at CERAweek in Houston. KR is outspoken in his belief that the climate crisis we face is also a tremendous ‘economic opportunity, that energy policy must be technology-neutral and performance-based, and that we can solve our current energy problems through a combination of technology, innovation, and conservation. **Arnold Schwarzenegger**, former California governor, once referred to KR as, “someone shaping the future of energy not just for California but for the world.”

KR serves on the Board of Directors for C3 AI, the External Advisory Board at **Caltech’s** Resnick Sustainability Institute, and the Board of Visitors at the Grainger College of Engineering at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. Additionally, he has served as a strategic limited partner at **Kleiner Perkins Caufield & Byers** and as a special advisor to New Enterprise Associates. An early pioneer in green tech, KR has also served on many technical committees, panels, and advisory boards and has several publications and patents. He received his bachelor’s degree in Mechanical Engineering with Honors from the University of Madras (now called NIT, Trichy), India, as well as his master’s degree in Nuclear Engineering and PhD in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.