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**FINALISTS AND JUDGES ANNOUNCED FOR FOURTH ANNUAL “1<sup>ST</sup> AND FUTURE” SUPER BOWL  
EVENT PRESENTED BY ARROW ELECTRONICS**

*ENTREPRENEURS AND DATA SCIENTISTS PITCH THEIR IDEAS TO MODERNIZE THE GAME AND  
ADVANCE PLAYER SAFETY DURING THE LIVE COMPETITION*

New York, January 25, 2019—The National Football League (NFL) and Arrow Electronics (NYSE:ARW) today announced the finalists and judges for *1<sup>st</sup> and Future*, the NFL’s annual Super Bowl competition designed to spur novel advancements in athlete safety and performance.

The live event will take place at Georgia Institute of Technology (Georgia Tech) at the Ferst Center for the Arts in Atlanta, Georgia on February 2, 2019, the day before Super Bowl LIII. During the program, NFL Commissioner **Roger Goodell**, Atlanta Falcons President and CEO and NFL Competition Committee Chairman **Rich McKay** and Arizona Cardinals Wide Receiver **Larry Fitzgerald** will participate in a panel discussion on leveraging the latest technology to modernize the game. The panel will be moderated by **Scott Hanson** of NFL Network and host of NFL RedZone, who will also emcee the pitch competition.

NFL Network will livestream the full competition on Feb. 2 at <http://www.nfl.com/1standfuture/live>.

Finalists will compete in two categories — the **NFL Punt Analytics Competition**, featuring data-driven proposals for rule changes intended to reduce player injury during punt plays, and the **Innovations to Advance Athlete Health and Safety Competition**, highlighting innovative product concepts that aim to improve player health and safety. Finalists will present in front of a panel of judges including Georgia Tech Football and Atlanta Falcons head coaches Geoff Collins and Dan Quinn and former NFL player and *1<sup>st</sup> and Future* winner Shawn Springs.

Four finalists from the **NFL Punt Analytics Competition** will be awarded \$20,000 and will compete to win Super Bowl LIII tickets. Five finalists from the **Innovations to Advance Athlete**

**Health and Safety Competition** will compete for a grand prize of \$50,000 and two tickets to Super Bowl LIII. The second-place winner will receive \$20,000 and two tickets to Super Bowl LIII.

The following individuals and companies have been named as finalists (with a summary of each submission, as described by the finalist):

### **NFL Punt Analytics Competition**

#### **John Miller, Fort Worth, Texas**

Miller [proposes](#) providing a yardage incentive to the receiving team for fair catches and expanding the definition of illegal blindside blocks during returns.

#### **Jeff Rayvid, New York, New York**

Rayvid [proposes](#) a new rule to mandate a certain formation and an adjustment to blocking techniques.

#### **Alex Wainger, New York, New York**

Wainger [proposes](#) removing the 45-year-old rule that holds the kicking team on the line of scrimmage until the punt.

#### **Halla Yang, Wilmette, Illinois**

Yang [proposes](#) awarding a five yard bonus on a fair catch, changing the allowed coverage on receptions, and requiring helmet sensors that can directly monitor physical deceleration.

### **Innovations to Advance Athlete Health and Safety Competition**

#### **[Nobo](#), Milwaukee, Wisconsin**

Nobo is developing B60, a connected wearable device that monitors hydration levels of elite athletes. B60 uses patent pending, non-invasive optical technology to report hydration levels to athletes and their trainers in real time.

#### **[SOLIUS](#), Seattle, Washington**

SOLIUS has developed an advanced science that uses nano-spectrums of light to stimulate the production of critical hormones and peptides as a better way to reduce injuries, speed recovery, and improve the performance of athletes.

#### **[TackleBar](#), St. Paul, Minnesota**

TackleBar Football is a product that aims to provide a safer approach to the game and decrease injuries while preserving the tradition and spirit of the sport, serving as a transition between flag football and tackle football for our youngest players, and an effective practice tool for our older football players.

#### **[TendoNova](#), Atlanta, Georgia**

TendoNova's Ocelot™ system aims to increase access to effective chronic tendon pain treatment with reduced rehabilitation times for all levels of athletes by deploying a hand-held, minimally-invasive device that provides real-time feedback during procedures on the effect the intervention has on tissue.

**TopSpin, Detroit, Michigan/London, Ontario, Canada**

TopSpin Technologies Ltd, inventors of the TopSpin360, the first patented training device proven to dynamically strengthen the neck to help reduce concussion risk.

The panels of judges will feature:

- **Geoff Collins**, Head Coach, Georgia Tech Football
- **Leigh Ann Curl, MD** Head Team Orthopedic Surgeon, Baltimore Ravens, and President, NFL Physicians Society
- **Sarath Degala**, Vice President, BIP Capital
- **Victor Gao**, Chief Marketing Officer, Arrow Electronics, Inc.
- **Dan Quinn**, Head Coach, Atlanta Falcons
- **Allison Sabia**, Vice President and General Manager, Digital, Arrow Electronics, Inc.
- **Shawn Springs**, CEO, Windpact
- **Keith Werle**, Managing Director, Business Analytics Center at Georgia Tech's Scheller College of Business

Georgia Tech's Advanced Technology Development Center will serve as a home base for the competing finalists during the week prior to the *1st and Future* competition and the event will be presented by Arrow Electronics.

For more information on *1st and Future*, visit <http://www.nfl.com/1standfuture>.

**About the NFL's Health and Safety Initiatives**

The NFL is committed to advancing progress in the diagnosis, prevention and treatment of sports-related injuries. As part of the NFL's ongoing health and safety efforts, in September 2016, Commissioner Goodell launched Play Smart. Play Safe. — a league-wide health and safety initiative. At the heart of the initiative is a pledge of \$100 million in support for independent medical research and engineering advancements and a commitment to look at anything and everything to protect our players and make our game safer, including enhancements to medical protocols and improvements to how our game is taught and played. For more information about the NFL's health and safety efforts, please visit [www.PlaySmartPlaySafe.com](http://www.PlaySmartPlaySafe.com).

**About Arrow Electronics**

Arrow Electronics guides innovation forward for over 150,000 of the world's leading manufacturers of technology used in homes, business and daily life. With 2017 sales of \$26.6 billion, Arrow develops electronics and enterprise computing solutions for customers and suppliers in industrial and commercial markets. The company maintains a network of more than 345 locations serving over 80 countries. Learn more at [FiveYearsOut.com](http://FiveYearsOut.com).

**About the Georgia Institute of Technology**

The Georgia Institute of Technology, also known as Georgia Tech, is one of the nation's leading research universities. Georgia Tech provides a focused, technologically based education to more than 32,000 undergraduate and graduate students. Georgia Tech has many nationally recognized programs, all top-ranked by peers and publications alike, and is ranked in the nation's top 10 public universities by U.S. News and World Report. As a leading technological university, Georgia Tech has more than 100 centers focused on interdisciplinary research that consistently contribute vital research and innovation to American government, industry, and business.

**About the Advanced Technology Development Center**

The Advanced Technology Development Center (ATDC), a program of the Georgia Institute of Technology, is the state of Georgia's technology start-up incubator. Founded in 1980 by the Georgia General Assembly which funds it each year, ATDC's mission is to work with entrepreneurs in Georgia to help them learn, launch, scale, and succeed in the creation of viable, disruptive technology companies. Since its founding, ATDC has grown to become one of the longest running and most successful university-affiliated incubators in the United States, with its graduate start-up companies raising \$3 billion in investment financing and generating more than \$12 billion in revenue in the state of Georgia. To learn more, visit [atdc.org](http://atdc.org).

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