

**REGISTER BY APRIL 24
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FINAL AGENDA

**Reducing Costs and Achieving Safe, High Energy
Density Batteries with Solid Electrolytes**

6TH ANNUAL

SOLID-STATE BATTERY SUMMIT

AUGUST 11-12, 2026 | CHICAGO, IL

AUGUST 12-13, 2026

CO-LOCATED
WITH:

The **16th** Annual

BATTERY SAFETY SUMMIT

Implementing Lithium-Ion Battery Safety to
Meet Increasing Energy Demands

2026 Featured Speakers:



Tobias Glossmann
Mercedes-Benz Research &
Development North America



Owen Lu
Ford Motor Company



Shirley Meng, PhD
Argonne National Laboratory
& University of Chicago



Rana Mohtadi, PhD
Toyota Research Institute of
North America



Kevin Fok
LG Energy Solution Vertech



James Salvador
General Motors



Loraine Torres-Castro
Sandia National Laboratories



John Zhang
Polypore International

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TUESDAY, AUGUST 11

7:00 am Registration Open and Morning Coffee

8:20 Organizer's Opening Remarks

OEM PERSPECTIVES ON SOLID STATE

8:25 Chairperson's Remarks

Adrian Tylim, Head Business Development North America, Blue Solutions

8:30 Materials Informatics-Guided Design of Battery Materials

Manas Likhit Holekevi Chandrappa, PhD, Senior Researcher, Nissan Advanced Technology Center Silicon Valley

Halide solid electrolytes (SEs) have surged in popularity as they offer a good balance of high ionic conductivity (>1 mS/cm), high voltage stability (>4 V), and mechanical properties. More recently, amorphous halides (including oxyhalide) SEs have been reported with ultra-high ionic conductivity of >10 mS/cm. In this talk, we demonstrate how we leverage cutting-edge atomistic simulation tools to investigate and elucidate the conduction mechanisms in amorphous halide SEs.

9:00 Clearing the Path for Lithium-Metal Batteries

Tobias Glossmann, Principal Systems Engineer, HV Battery Research and Test Lab, Mercedes-Benz Research and Development North America

Lithium-metal batteries have not yet reached mainstream use. Experts from industry and academia explored why, identifying open research questions and potential actions. This talk shares insights from those discussions at the last Lithium-Metal Battery Workshop and their outcomes.

9:30 Design Considerations for Robust and High-Performance Silicon Anodes in Solid-State Battery Applications

Owen Lu, PhD, Research Engineer, Ford Motor Company

This work presents a detailed review of advancements in Si-based anodes for solid-state batteries (SSBs) across material, electrode, and cell levels. From this analysis, a promising strategy for designing a robust, high-performing silicon anode for SSBs has been identified. A prototype cell was fabricated, its performance evaluated, and perspectives on further enhancing solid-state silicon anodes are discussed.

10:00 Presentation to be Announced



10:30 Welcome Coffee Break in the Exhibit Hall with Poster Viewing (Sponsorship Opportunity Available)

11:15 Solid-State Batteries: Progress in Solid Electrolytes and Needs

Rana Mohtadi, PhD, Senior Principal Scientist, Materials Research, Toyota Research Institute of North America

KEYNOTE PRESENTATION



11:45 KEYNOTE PRESENTATION: All Solid-State Battery—A Reality Closer than You Think

Shirley Meng, PhD, Director, Energy Storage Research Alliance (ESRA), Argonne National Laboratory; The Liew Family Professor, The University of Chicago

A compelling next-generation solution for delivering high-energy and high-power density with improved safety is all solid-state battery (SSB). In this talk, we will discuss the major hurdles of these developments and how an open, innovative, and collaborative approach help to overcome the major hurdles. We will also draw the roadmap of all solid-state batteries with lessons learned from lithium-ion battery (LIB) in mind.

12:15 pm Presentation to be Announced

12:45 Enjoy Lunch on Your Own

SOLID-STATE MARKET OPPORTUNITIES

1:55 Chairperson's Remarks

Tobias Glossmann, Principal Systems Engineer, HV Battery Research and Test Lab, Mercedes-Benz Research and Development North America

2:00 Five Ingredients for Solid-State Battery Success

Halle Cheesman, PhD, Program Director, ARPA-E

From lead-acid to nickel-cadmium to lithium-ion, batteries have become foundational to modern life. The electrification of drones, eVTOLs, robotics, and data centers demands step-change improvements in energy storage. Where do solid-state batteries truly fit, and what will determine their success? In this talk, Dr. Cheesman examines five critical ingredients: product proposition, cost, performance, safety, and supply chain.

R&D ADVANCEMENTS IN SOLID-STATE BATTERIES

2:20 Latest Technical Advancements and Applications in Polymer-Based Solid-State Batteries from Blue Solutions

Adrian Tylim, Head Business Development North America, Blue Solutions

As a pioneer in solid-state batteries, Blue Solutions continues to advance its solid-state chemistry in automotive and diverse applications. In addition to our OEM work, one example is a demonstrated 70% improvement in range for a two-wheeler. We'll present the latest results of our chemistry for automotive and other applications based on our polymer electrolyte and sustainable cell design.

2:40 Advances in Li-ion/Sulfur Batteries and Low-Cost Lithium Sulfide

Steven Visco, PhD, CEO & CTO, PolyPlus Battery

Lithium-sulfur batteries have been challenging to commercialize despite sulfur's high theoretical capacity, abundance, low cost, and environmental friendliness. Technical hurdles include the polysulfide shuttle and poor cycling of the lithium and sulfur electrode. PolyPlus eliminated the polysulfide shuttle with a ceramic solid electrolyte, replaced the lithium electrode with graphite, and introduced a high-capacity aqueous polysulfide electrode that cycles reversibly. PolyPlus will also discuss its low-cost synthesis for lithium sulfide.

3:00 Refreshment Break in the Exhibit Hall with Poster Viewing (Sponsorship Opportunity Available)

3:30 Sponsored Presentation (Opportunity Available)

4:00 Building a Completely Dry Solid-State Battery with a Silicon Anode

Kevin Wujcik, PhD, CTO, R&D, Blue Current Inc.

Blue Current is developing fully dry solid-state batteries featuring silicon-active material anodes and flexible composite electrolytes. The company is now scaling production of 2 Ah solid-state pouch cells at its pilot facility in Hayward, CA. In this presentation, Blue Current will provide a detailed exploration of its cell performance capabilities and an update regarding the company's pouch-cell commercialization roadmap.

4:20 Is All Li Metal Created Equal? How Li-Metal Microstructure and Purity Affect SSB Performance

Andrew Westover, PhD, Staff Research Scientist, Energy Storage, Oak Ridge National Lab

Li metal is critical for reaching batteries with specific energies greater than 500 Wh/kg and energy densities greater than 1000 Wh/L. While significant research has been placed on electrolytes including solid-state electrolytes and on cathode design, the



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impact of the Li metal properties on performance is often overlooked. This presentation will explore the impact of Li purity, Li microstructure, and Li alloying on solid-state battery performance.

4:40 Reactive Carbide-Based Synthesis and Microstructure of NASICON Sodium Metal All Solid-State Electrolyte

David Mitlin, PhD, David Allen Cockrell Professor in Engineering, University of Texas Austin

Reactive carbide precursor-based synthesis of NASICON-type NZSP ($\text{Na}_{1+x}\text{Zr}_2\text{SixP}_{3-x}\text{O}_{12}$) solid-state electrolyte (SSE) is demonstrated, in contrast to the established oxide-based approach. Phase-field simulation reveals deflection of dendrites by mechanically tough zirconia, while brittle glassy phase accelerates dendrite growth, especially when finely distributed.

5:00 Welcome Reception in the Exhibit Hall with Poster Viewing (Sponsorship Opportunity Available)

6:00 Evening Tutorial*

The Rechargeable Battery Market Value Chain & Main Trends: 2026–2036

*Separate registration required; please see tutorial registration page.

7:30 Close of Day

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12

7:30 am Registration Open and Morning Coffee

SOLID-STATE MARKET OPPORTUNITIES

7:55 Chairperson's Remarks

Steven Visco, PhD, CEO & CTO, PolyPlus Battery

8:00 The Rechargeable Battery Market 2026-2036 — Significant Changes in North America in Applications and Emerging Technology

Michael Sanders, Senior Advisor, Energy, Avicenne Energy

Avicenne Energy will be presenting the major changes in electrification in ever-expanding applications that will drive broader demand than just EV and emerging technologies that are becoming more available. Presentation will be focused on North America, but also highlight how the region's value chain is structured vs. other regions. Forecasts will cover both global and North America perspectives.

R&D ADVANCEMENTS IN SOLID-STATE BATTERIES

8:30 Lithium-Free Anode Solid-State Batteries, 500 Wh/kg and Beyond

Eric Wachsman, PhD, Professor & Director, Materials Science & Engineering, University of Maryland College Park

We will present 100 mA/cm² current densities and 99.995% Li-cycling Coulombic efficiency using our novel 3D anode architecture and recently developed mixed ionic and electronic conducting garnet. By reducing dense layer thickness and incorporating higher energy density cathodes we will further show =500 Wh/kg full cell performance. All at room temperature with zero applied pressure.

SCALING SOLID-STATE BATTERIES



8:50 FEATURED PRESENTATION: From Lab to Market: Commercializing Solid-State Batteries at Global Scale

Danielle Gendron, PhD, Engineer, QuantumScape

Solid-state battery technology can overcome the limitations of conventional lithium-ion batteries, enabling longer range, faster charging, and enhanced safety. Applications span automotive, AI data centers, defense, robotics, and aerospace. QuantumScape is now scaling production through an automated pilot line to bring this technology to market. Danielle will discuss commercialization strategies—including licensing models with global partners—to make this transformative technology accessible at scale.

9:10 Challenges and Opportunities in Solid-State Electrolyte Manufacturing for Lithium Batteries

Mohammad Asadi, PhD, Assistant Professor, Illinois Institute of Technology

We recently developed a solid-state composite polymer electrolyte capable of operating efficiently with lithium metal, opening new pathways for high-energy-density batteries. Since its initial development, our efforts have focused on optimizing the electrolyte properties to enable scalable manufacturing. In this presentation, I will highlight our latest findings and discuss the opportunities and challenges of implementing this electrolyte in advanced lithium-metal battery technologies, with a primary focus on lithium–air systems.

9:30 Scaling Solid-State Battery Production: Processes from Mixing to Electrode Assembly

Speaker to be Announced, IPCO



10:00 Coffee Break in the Exhibit Hall with Poster Viewing (Sponsorship Opportunity Available)

10:30 Scalable Sulfide-Solid Electrolyte Powder Coatings for Enhanced Performance and Manufacturability

Justin Connell, PhD, Materials Scientist, Materials Science, Argonne National Lab

We have developed a powder coating approach to address limitations to the manufacturability and performance of sulfide solid-state electrolytes (SSEs). Ultrathin (= 1 nm) coatings on SSE powders stabilize them to aggressively oxidizing atmospheres while significantly improving electrochemical performance. The scalability of this approach is demonstrated with up to 100 g/batch processing achieved. This strategy enables a new framework for accelerating the integration of sulfide SSEs into next-generation solid-state batteries.

11:00 Pathways to Commercialize Solid-State Battery Technology through Collaborations across the Value Chain

Eongyu Yi, PhD, Director of Battery Technology, Ampcera

The commercialization of SSB technology presents both significant opportunities and challenges. This presentation explores the critical pathways for bringing SSBs from the R&D phase to commercial launch. Focusing on the importance of strategic collaborations across the value chain, we discuss how partnerships between material and equipment suppliers, battery manufacturers, OEMs, and research institutions can accelerate technological advancements, reduce costs and time-to-market, and enhance scalability.

11:20 Launching Solid-State Batteries—Capable Batteries for Better Devices

Gregory Hitz, PhD, Founder & CTO, Ion Storage Systems

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ION's customer engagement has moved conversations out of the lab and into the field. Real-world considerations—voltage profile, operating temperature window, failure modes, cleanliness, and swell—now overtake academic metrics like theoretical energy density and cycle life. Rather than “What can the battery do?”, customers focus on “What device designs are now possible with ION's battery in it?”

SOLID-STATE BATTERY SAFETY

11:40 Building Practical Safety Requirements for Solid-State Batteries: Insights from UL 2285 Testing

Alvin Wu, Research Manager, Research and Development, UL Solutions

This presentation introduces the development of UL's new draft safety standard for solid-state batteries, UL 2285, and illustrates how collaborative research with academic and industrial partners can support evidence-based standard development. Representative solid-state battery samples are evaluated using key safety test methods defined in the draft standard to investigate failure behaviors under thermal, electrical, and mechanical abuse conditions.

12:00 pm Enjoy Lunch on Your Own

12:50 Close of Solid-State Battery Summit

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WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12

12:50 pm Organizer's Opening Remarks

SOLID-STATE BATTERY DESIGN AND SAFETY

12:55 Chairperson's Remarks

Eric Darcy, PhD, former Battery Technical Discipline Lead, NASA-JSC; Private Consultant, Darcy Batt Consulting, LLC



1:00 Liquid, Solid, and Semi-Solid Batteries with Focus on Battery Safety

John Zhang, PhD, CTO/CSO, Polypore International

This presentation will address the safety behavior and underlying mechanisms of SSBs, with direct comparison to liquid-state batteries (LSBs). Testing results show that, during internal shorts in high-energy systems, the severity of fire and explosion follows the order: SSB > LSB. The data indicate a counterintuitive trend—the greater the liquid content in the battery, the safer its behavior under abuse conditions.

1:30 Engineered Cathode Chemomechanics Enables Ultra-Low Stack Pressure Solid-State Batteries

Paul V. Braun, PhD, Professor & Grainger Distinguished Chair, Engineering, University of Illinois Urbana Champaign

Stresses resulting from electrode material chemomechanics are strongly coupled to solid electrolyte-electrode interface failures. Such failures are significant barriers to realization of practical Li-metal solid-state batteries (SSBs). We show the importance of cathode chemomechanics at commercially relevant low stack pressures (e.g., <1 MPa). Utilizing these learnings, we build long cycle-life SSBs with practical areal capacity (5 mAh/cm²) operating at less than 1 MPa stack pressure at room temperature.

2:00 Safety and Manufacturability of Semi-Solid-State Li-Metal Batteries with Ultra-Thin Anode

Alex Kosyakov, Co-Founder & CEO, Natrium Inc.

Natrium is the manufacturer of Active Separator, a thin, flexible solid-state electrolyte separator for lithium secondary batteries. Natrium will present its latest validation of the performance and safety of semi-solid lithium-metal batteries pairing Active Separator with 5-20 micrometer-thick lithium-metal anodes. This will include cyclability of high-capacity pouch cells at ambient temperatures and pressures (zero clamping) demonstrating 1000+ Wh/L, 400+ Wh/kg energy densities, as well as independent abuse testing results.

2:30 Sponsored Presentation (Opportunity Available)

3:00 Refreshment Break in the Exhibit Hall with Poster Viewing
(Sponsorship Opportunity Available)

3:30 Sponsored Presentation (Opportunity Available)

DEM & MANUFACTURING PERSPECTIVES ON BATTERY SAFETY



4:00 An Ounce of Prevention: Formation Data Analysis for Defect Detection at Production Scale

James Salvador, Staff Researcher, Chemical Sciences & Materials Systems Laboratory, General Motors

In gigawatt Li-ion battery plants, cell defects with vanishingly low probability can occur daily. In this talk, we will show automated gas harvesting and analysis hardware solutions for quantification of formation gas—and software solutions for time series formation charge analysis that can enable *in situ* determination of cell-quality anomalies that could potentially lead to premature failure. These methods leverage existing data streams to improve safety through prevention.

4:30 Battery Thermal Propagation Mitigation Strategies across Cell Chemistries & Cell Form Factors

Bhaskara Boddakayala, Global Technical Expert, Battery Safety & Materials, Cell Vent Management, Ford Motor Company

Sahil Nagpal, HV Battery CVM Systems Engineer, Ford Motor Company

Battery thermal propagation represents one of the most critical safety challenges in modern energy-storage systems, particularly as battery-pack energy densities continue to increase across automotive, stationary storage, and consumer applications. This presentation focuses on analysis and examines current solution trends; compares protection strategies at cell, module, and pack levels; and evaluates chemistry-specific approaches to mitigating thermal-runaway propagation.

5:00 Welcome Reception in the Exhibit Hall with Poster Viewing
(Sponsorship Opportunity Available)

6:00 Evening Tutorial*

Battery Safety and Abuse Tolerance Validation

*separate registration required, please see tutorial registration page.

7:30 Close of Day

THURSDAY, AUGUST 13

7:30 am Registration Open and Morning Coffee

8:20 Organizer's Welcome Remarks

THERMAL-RUNAWAY MITIGATION

8:25 Chairperson's Remarks

Adam Cohn, PhD, Principal Scientist, Materials Science and Electrochemistry, Exponent, Inc.

8:30 Isolating Internal Shorts with Metallized Polymer Current Collectors

Eric Darcy, PhD, former Battery Technical Discipline Lead, NASA-JSC; Private Consultant, Darcy Batt Consulting, LLC

Metallized polymer current collectors for the cathode have been demonstrated to consistently (27 out of 27 tries) tolerate nail penetration without thermal runaway in 21700 cell designs achieving > 250 Wh/kg when coupled with isotropic strength polymer separators and applying a thermally stable ceramic coating to the anode active material. High-speed radiography along with post-test computed tomography provides unique insights into the isolation mechanism.

9:00 Lithium-ion Battery Fire Suppression for Aircraft Cargo Compartment Fires

Judy Jeevarajan, PhD, Vice President and Executive Director, Electrochemical Safety Research Institute, UL Research Institutes

Lithium-ion batteries used for portable applications are getting significantly large in terms of energy, and pose fire hazards of concern in the cargo compartments of aircraft. Studies have been carried out that include thermal runaway tests on these batteries ranging from a few tens of Wh to about 350 Wh. Suppressants that include Halon 1301, water, and water additives have been tested to characterize the efficacy of suppression.

9:30 Thermal Runaway Risks in Flooded Electric Vehicles: Insights from Submersion Testing and Diagnostics

Tanvir Tanim, Battery R&D Engineer and Group Lead, Energy Storage Technology Group, Idaho National Laboratory

Electric-vehicle (EV) battery packs pose safety risks during saltwater submersion, as seen in recent hurricane-related incidents leading to thermal runaway. This study examines pack vulnerabilities through teardowns and full-scale immersion tests,

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identifying failure modes such as seal weaknesses, component degradation, and pathways to thermal runaway. These findings support improved pack design, early-warning systems, updated standards, and emergency-response strategies for saltwater-flooded EVs.

10:00 Sponsored Presentation (Opportunity Available)

10:30 Coffee Break in the Exhibit Hall with Poster Viewing (Sponsorship Opportunity Available)

11:00 Can Sparse Temperature Sensing Reliably Detect Thermal Runaway? Bridging the Gap Between Theory and Commercial Battery Packs

Yatish Patel, PhD, Fellow, Mechanical Engineering, Imperial College London

This talk evaluates how effective these low-cost temperature measurements are for early fault detection, using a combined modelling and experimental approach. It critically compares temperature-based diagnostics with alternative sensing methods, demonstrating that despite limitations, temperature sensing remains the most viable solution for scalable, cost-constrained battery management systems.

11:30 Scaling Early Thermal-Runaway Detection from Cell to EV Module

Loraine Torres-Castro, PhD, Battery Safety Lead, Sandia National Laboratories

Early thermal-runaway detection in scaled electric-vehicle battery systems remains challenging due to sparse sensing and signal averaging across parallel-connected cells. This study experimentally evaluates advanced gas sensors and high-voltage electrochemical impedance spectroscopy in commercial Tesla modules housed in a pack-representative enclosure. Controlled single-cell overheating was used to assess diagnostic response at module scale, addressing the gap between cell-level validation and full-pack implementation.

KEY STANDARDS FOR ENERGY STORAGE

12:00 pm Battery Energy Storage Systems: Safety Approaches and Best Practices

Kevin Fok, Director of Compliance, LG Energy Solution Vertech, Inc.

This presentation discusses recent battery energy storage system codes and standards updates, and some corresponding safety approaches and best practices.

12:30 Sponsored Presentation (Opportunity Available)

1:00 Enjoy Lunch on Your Own

ABUSE TOLERANCE, ADVANCED TESTING, AND SIMULATION

1:55 Chairperson's Remarks

Judy Jeevarajan, PhD, Vice President and Executive Director, Electrochemical Safety Research Institute, UL Research Institutes

2:00 Cycling-Induced Electrode Deformation and the Potential Safety Implications

Adam Cohn, PhD, Principal Scientist, Materials Science and Electrochemistry, Exponent, Inc.

This presentation will examine cycling-induced electrode deformation and the associated potential safety implications.

2:30 Flammability and Safety of Next-Generation Battery Electrolytes: From Liquids to Gels

Mickael Dollé, PhD, Professor, Department of Chemistry, Université de Montréal

Electrolyte flammability remains a key safety challenge for advanced batteries. We present standardized flash-point measurements applied to both aqueous-organic and gel-polymer electrolytes, revealing how solvent composition, molecular interactions, and polymer matrices influence ignition risk. These results provide practical insights for designing safer liquid and quasi-solid electrolytes for industrial battery applications.

3:00 Performance of Highly Durable Zinc Secondary Batteries Using SOE Technology

Masatsugu Morimitsu, Dr.Eng., Professor, Department of Science of Environment and Mathematical Modeling, Doshisha University

This talk presents the charge-discharge cycling performance of laminated zinc rechargeable batteries using SoE (segmentation of electrolyte) technology for electric vehicles (EVs) and stationary energy-storage applications. This technology suppresses zinc dendrite formation during charging, enabling high durability with stable voltages and high voltage efficiency.

3:30 How Safe Are Solid-State Batteries? Identifying Hazards with a Bottom-up Approach

Nathan Johnson, PhD, Senior Member of Technical Staff, Sandia National Laboratories

This talk examines safety considerations in solid-state batteries using a bottom-up approach. By analyzing material behavior and interface interactions, we identify potential failure mechanisms and highlight emerging insights that challenge assumptions about the inherent safety of solid-state systems.

4:00 Close of Summit

Tutorials

TUESDAY, AUGUST 11 6:00-7:30 PM

TUT1: The Rechargeable Battery Market Value Chain & Main Trends: 2026-2036

Instructor:

Michael Sanders, Senior Advisor, Energy, Avicenne Energy

This tutorial will present the 10-year automotive market forecasts from Avicenne and other analysts (micro/Hybrid/P-HEV/EV). Other coverage will include car makers' strategies and advanced energy storage (advanced lead acid/supercap/NiMH/LIB). Additionally, LIB design for P-HEV & EV markets (cylindrical, prismatic, pouch/wounded, stacked, Z fold cells) and LIB cell, module, and pack cost structure will be discussed.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12 6:00-7:30 PM

TUT2: Technology Innovation in the Chinese Battery Industry

Instructor:

Shmuel De-Leon, CEO, Shmuel De-Leon Energy Ltd.

This training incorporates Shmuel De-Leon's review of new Chinese innovative technologies presented during 2024-2025. The motivation behind the training is to provide attendees with the knowledge of China's new technology market trends as China is the larger player on battery materials, cells, and battery-pack manufacturing.



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Thought Leadership & Branding

- 15- or 30-minute presentation to all session attendees (live and virtual) as part of the main conference program
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Thought Leadership & Branding

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- Sponsor will host an Invitation-Only VIP Dinner (restaurant and exact date/time to be determined). To ensure optimum face-to-face networking, CET suggests dinner be limited to 12 guests, plus up to three representatives from Sponsoring company and two representatives from Cambridge EnerTech.
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For more information,
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Join Us in Chicago!



Conference Venue and Hotel:

InterContinental Chicago Magnificent Mile
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Discounted Room Rate: \$219 s/d

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