

WORKSHOP 739 | MONDAY 14 SEPTEMBER 2026 | 10:00-16:30 EDT

Participant Guide

From Quantum Algorithms to Industry Verticals

EVIDENCE FIRST

HUMAN GATES

WRITTEN DECISIONS



Accessible backup:
workshops.qap-partners.com/qce26/materials/

No advance preparation is required. All exercises are manual. Each group appoints one scribe and one spokesperson.

Agenda

Time	Session	Written output
10:00-11:30	Science-to-Market Translation Under Technical Uncertainty	TEST, HOLD or KILL decision card
13:00-14:30	Founder-Led Intelligence From Research to Working Demonstrators	BUILD, RESEARCH, PARK or REJECT worksheet
15:00-16:30	Disagreement Before Commitment, presented by Denise	Final gate record and collective amendments

Each session uses the accepted 30/25/25/10 structure: framing, anonymized case, manual activity and shareback.

Learning outcomes

- Decompose a technical capability and select the fastest useful evidence-seeking experiment.
- Separate research, meeting preparation, mockups, demonstrators and production evidence.
- Preserve independent perspectives and establish decision rights before disagreement appears.
- Criticize and amend a concrete Operator Collective hypothesis.

Glossary

Evidence grade	A declared assessment of how directly a claim is supported. It is not a probability.
Technical distance	DIRECT, ADAPTATION or PIVOT from the current technical core.
Pivot cost	The founder-owned estimate of time, talent, data, architecture change and opportunity cost.
Decision gate	A written state with one owner and a condition for reopening.
Human review	The accountable judgment that controls external action and final commitment.
Demonstrator	A bounded working flow. It is not by itself production evidence, client value or product-market fit.
Non-claim	An explicit statement of what the current evidence does not establish.

Starting Operator Collective hypothesis

An independent, sponsor-funded collective can place accountable human operators inside pre-seed and seed deep-tech ventures for bounded eight-week assignments. Governed agentic systems expand the operators' research and prototyping capacity. The model should reduce decision time and founder workload without taking equity, ownership of the startup's work or control of the final decision.

Default model

- Three to five ventures, prioritizing quantum startups.
- A real decision, bounded data access and scheduled founder gates.
- Operators for science-to-market work, intelligence, prototyping, review and gate ownership.
- Agentic systems limited to bounded research, synthesis, code generation, testing and documentation.
- No autonomous outreach, publication, procurement or deployment decision.
- No equity or material startup fee during the pilot. Startup-specific outputs belong to the startup.

Pilot survival criteria

- At least three of five ventures complete a preregistered decision by the deadline.
- Decision time and founder workload improve against frozen baselines.
- The evidence is used in a real buyer, investor or programme discussion.
- Two independent sponsor categories express willingness to fund another cohort.
- No unauthorized action or material data-governance incident occurs.

Sanitized case briefs

Session 1: Structured translation

A quantum-inspired chemistry engine using structured tensor representations was decomposed into transferable primitives. The work generated approximately 25 candidate applications, five priority wedges and one deferred baseline. One real method and completed article exist. Cross-venture outcomes remain open.

Session 2: Intellig ence-to-demo

Public-web research, strategic meeting preparation, persona-panel objections, publication work and rapid working demonstrators formed one loop. Several manuscript or preprint outputs remain in preparation. Screenshots, generated scenarios and cloud demos do not establish savings, production readiness or product-market fit.

Session 3: Independent review

Three independent model families produced 13 unanimous findings and one isolated disagreement in a technical review case. A later closure review found a contract breach despite green tests. The controlled M2PI manuscript found that specialization and compartmentalization did not beat shared context by default.

Operator Collective Test

Complete these four questions at the end of every worksheet.

- Which human operator performed the critical work?
- Which tasks could agentic systems accelerate?
- Which decision must remain human?
- What evidence would prove that this intervention created value?

Public comparator references

- NSF I-Corps: <https://www.nsf.gov/funding/initiatives/i-corps>
- Activate Fellowship: <https://activate.org/the-fellowship>
- Duality: <https://www.dualityaccelerator.com/>
- The Engine Blueprint: <https://engine.xyz/blueprint>
- OPERATORS Collective: <https://www.operatorscollective.io/>
- Operator Collective: <https://www.operatorcollective.com/>

The anonymized case paper, incubator implementation artifacts, internal operating evidence and M2PI manuscript are workshop source materials. Public links will be added only after rights and status review.