

Contact

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(LinkedIn)

Top Skills

Technical Leadership
Strategic Leadership
Broadband

Patents

Mobile interactive satellite services
Asymmetric TDD in flexible use
spectrum

Mariam Sorond

CEO | Trusted Advisor in Technology and Spectrum | Board Member
Vienna, Virginia, United States

Summary

Mariam Sorond is a visionary and pioneer in the telecommunications industry. Today, as Board Chair and CEO of NextNav, she has taken on the biggest challenge of her career and serves as an innovator in the telecommunications industry. Under her leadership, NextNav, a leader in developing positioning, navigation, and timing (PNT) location services, is on a mission to provide a complementary terrestrial backup to GPS.

The lack of a backup GPS is one of America's most significant national security risks, and Mariam has found purpose in championing a solution that uses the talents of NextNav engineering innovation and 5G Spectrum.

Mariam is a skilled strategist and organizational builder who consistently translates complex technical visions into market-leading solutions. She excels at assembling and inspiring high-performing teams, fostering a culture of innovation, and aligning organizational capabilities with strategic objectives to drive sustainable growth and shareholder value. Her leadership approach combines bold vision with precise execution, enabling companies to capitalize on emerging market opportunities.

While an engineer by "trade and education," Mariam's success stems from her strategic leadership across mobile wireless, cable, satellite, and cloud sectors – leading strategies that drive a company's success and increase shareholder value. She excels in driving transformational change, combining deep technical expertise with business acumen and regulatory and policy issues facing these industries. Her career includes holding executive roles at VMware, DISH Networks, and CableLabs.

Mariam has served on different company boards and has also served on the NTIA's Commerce Spectrum Management Advisory Committee and the FCC Technological Advisory Committee. She

holds multiple patents and is a recognized thought leader, author, and speaker in the telecommunications industry.

Experience

NextNav

Chief Executive Officer and Board Chair

November 2023 - Present (2 years 7 months)

CTIA

Board Member

January 2026 - Present (5 months)

US Department of Commerce, NTIA

Member, Commerce Spectrum Management Advisory Committee (CSMAC)

2014 - 2024 (10 years)

Washington, District of Columbia, United States

Co-chair of the 5G and CBRS CSMAC subcommittee. The Commerce Spectrum Management Advisory Committee (CSMAC) advises the Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information at NTIA on a broad range of spectrum policy issues. The members are spectrum policy experts, appointed as "Special Government Employees," from outside the Federal government. Committee members offer expertise and perspective on reforms to enable new technologies and services, including reforms that expedite the American public's access to broadband services, public safety, and long-range spectrum planning. Members are selected based on their technical background and expertise as well as NTIA's commitment to ensure diversity and balance in points of view. Members serve in a personal capacity and do not represent any organization or interest.

Federal Communications Commission

Member, FCC Technological Advisory Council

November 2022 - November 2023 (1 year 1 month)

Washington DC-Baltimore Area

The FCC's Technological Advisory Council (TAC) provides technical advice to the FCC. The TAC is organized under the authority of the Federal Advisory Committee Act. As a member of the FCC TAC, we help the FCC identify important areas of innovation and develop informed technology policies supporting America's competitiveness and job creation in the global economy.

VMware

CTO - Service Provider and Edge

March 2022 - November 2023 (1 year 9 months)

Saankhya Labs Pvt. Ltd.

Member Of The Board Of Advisors

January 2021 - November 2023 (2 years 11 months)

Saankhya Labs is one of the early pioneers of commercializing Software Defined Radio (SDR) technology and they continue to be disruptive across fixed and mobile access technologies. With their proven track record, they are set to develop innovative solutions for an open, virtual and disaggregated RAN in 5G and beyond which leads to differentiated and converged services for operators globally.

COMSovereign Holding Corporation LLC

Member Of The Board Of Advisors

July 2021 - April 2023 (1 year 10 months)

Advisor across a portfolio of disruptive communications and power technologies as well as niche companies capable of rapid integration and expansion

CableLabs

Chief Research & Development Officer

September 2019 - December 2021 (2 years 4 months)

Louisville, Colorado, United States

Led mobile broadband research and development, and convergence with cable, wireless and fiber broadband.

DISH Network

Chief Wireless Architect

2012 - 2019 (7 years)

Denver, Colorado, United States

Worked directly with Charlie Ergen as the wireless architect for DISH's entry into the wireless market.

ICO Global Communications (DBSD)

Vice President, RAN Development and Spectrum Strategy

2006 - 2012 (6 years)

Reston, VA

Sprint Nextel Inc.
Technology Evaluation and Research
2003 - 2006 (3 years)
Reston, VA

Lucent Technologies
Wireless/CDMA Deployment Lead
1996 - 2002 (6 years)
Europe, Brazil, San Francisco

PrimeCo Personal Communications
RF Design Engineer
January 1995 - December 1996 (2 years)
Houston, Texas, United States

Education

University of Houston
Master of Engineering - MEng, Electrical and Electronics Engineering

University of Houston
Bachelor of Science - BS, Electrical and Electronics Engineering