



Regional Growth Partnership
BUILDING A HIGH-TECH, HIGH PERFORMANCE ECONOMY



NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Rocket Ventures Invests \$200,000 in Northwest Ohio Companies

Rocket Ventures, a division of the Regional Growth Partnership, with generous support from the Ohio Department of Development's Third Frontier Program, recently invested **\$200,000** in four local technology companies. Each company received \$50,000 from the Rocket Ventures Ignite! program.

"These four investments represent Rocket Ventures' commitment to the acceleration of commercialization and wealth creation that will benefit these four companies and everyone in the Northwest Ohio community," said Greg Knudson, Rocket Ventures director and Regional Growth Partnership vice president.

Alternative Hybrid Locomotive Technologies, Inc. (AHL-Tech) has revolutionized locomotive technology with the design and commercialization of a new generation of locomotives based on coupling clean, natural, renewable fuels technology with the latest in electrical hybrid designs. Based on technology created by professors at The University of Toledo, AHL-Tech's design couples the use of ethanol along with battery power – the result being the world's first ethanol-electric hybrid locomotive.

Lima-based **BioSys Medical, LLC** (Biosys) has patented a specialized catheter that is capable of taking quantitative samples from lung tissue while protecting that sample from cross-contamination. Biosys predicts that the clinical application of these catheters will have a profound impact on a physician's ability to accurately diagnose, provide targeted treatment of and monitor patients with pneumonia and other lung diseases. This will provide a cost effective solution to the problem of treating hospital acquired infections.

Branam Oral Health Technologies, Inc. (BOHTI), has created a line of all natural health care products addressing the number one chronic childhood disease in America – tooth decay. BOHTI's line of products, developed by local dentist Dr. Stephen Branam, features mouth wipes, sprays, rinses and toothpaste and a patented pacifier, which allows for normal jaw development while soothing a child. The Launch program, a division of the Regional Growth Partnership, provided business assistance to Toledo-based BOHTI and recommended the company to Rocket Ventures.

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Turning Point, LLC. (Turning Point) has developed a set of Core Trainer devices, which will be used to condition and strengthen 28 muscles in the torso. Developed in collaboration with The University of Toledo, Pinnacle Technology Group, Inc, Lockrey Manufacturing and TTL Associates, Inc., the Core Trainer will be used to improve general athletic ability for elite athletes and “weekend warriors,” to rehabilitate injuries and to help those suffering from chronic back pain. The company headquarters are located in Toledo.

About Rocket Ventures

Rocket Ventures, a division of the Regional Growth Partnership, is a pre-seed, early stage venture fund for technology-based entities/companies operating within the state of Ohio. It consists of \$15 million in state funding and \$7.5 million in private sector investment.

About Launch

Launch is a technology-based business incubation program of the Regional Growth Partnership. Launch provides comprehensive business assistance for entrepreneurs and start-up companies that are commercializing revolutionary, world-class technologies, to accelerate company growth and time to-market-entry.

About The Regional Growth Partnership

The Regional Growth Partnership is a private nonprofit development corporation dedicated to fostering local, national, and international economic growth opportunities for Northwest Ohio and Southeast Michigan. The Regional Growth Partnership acknowledges the contribution of the state of Ohio, Department of Development and Thomas Edison Program, which provide funding in support of the Launch program.

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