



Regional Growth Partnership

BUILDING A HIGH-TECH, HIGH PERFORMANCE ECONOMY



Rocket Ventures

TECHNOLOGY ... REALIZED



# NEWS

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Rocket Ventures Invests \$237,000 in Six Northwest Ohio Companies**

Rocket Ventures, the venture capital and technology division of the Regional Growth Partnership, recently invested \$237,000 in six Northwest Ohio technology companies. Each investment was made from Rocket Ventures' Ignite! Grant program.

The Ignite! Grant program is designed to help companies develop and use technology to create new products or improve processes that have an impact on revenues -- and ultimately jobs within the Rocket Ventures footprint. Rocket Ventures has awarded 32 local companies over \$1.4 million in Ignite! Grants since the program began in 2008.

"We are thrilled to invest in these six stellar companies. These early infusions of capital provide an impetus for entrepreneurship in product engineering and development and will hopefully result in innovations that provide a significant return on investment for the Northwest Ohio economy," said Greg Knudson, Rocket Ventures Director.

**AllinBioPlastics, LLC** is a joint venture of The Andersons Inc, Laurel BioComposites LLC, and LingoTech USA that will produce bio-plastic enhancer products made from dried distillers grains with solubles (DDGS), a byproduct of ethanol plants. The bio-products have the potential to be lower cost and non-oil dependant replacements and enhancers for polyethylene and polypropylene, which are currently used in plastic products production. AllinBioPlastics

was awarded \$50,000 from the Rocket Ventures Ignite! Program to further strengthen their product.

**AP Alternatives, LLC (APA)** is a spin-off of Alex Products, Inc, that was created to provide efficient and novel installation of solar technology for utility scale projects. APA was awarded \$36,500 from the Rocket Ventures Ignite! Program for the early stage development of a racking system for solar modules and automated equipment for utility-scale installations of solar arrays.

**The Mold Sentry** (Mold Sentry) is an Ohio Limited Liability Company that has developed a systematic approach to address problems associated with poor indoor air quality due to molds, viruses, allergens, bacteria, and other airborne pollutants. These airborne pollutants can cause many symptoms and illnesses that can be prevented if the pollutants are removed from “sick buildings.” Mold Sentry was awarded a \$30,000 Ignite! Grant to be used to continue research and development and market research.

**Beyond Gaming** offers a dynamic online portal, which allows competitive console gamers new ways to enjoy their gaming experience. Using propriety technology, Beyond Gaming gives paying members the ability to participate in stakes-based competitive gaming action on their favorite console game titles against each other regardless of time or geographic location in a safe, secure and legal environment. Beyond Gaming was awarded a \$37,500 Ignite! Grant for further development of their sales strategy.

**SynTerra Fuels, LLC (Synterra)** has developed zero sulfur, high cetane diesel fuel from domestic low value waste type materials at a competitive price to fossil derived diesel fuel. SynTerra believes their process will help to reduce US dependence on imported oil, but will also have significant environmental benefits. A \$50,000 Ignite! Grant was awarded to SynTerra to protect their intellectual property and engineering work.

**TransGlobal Container Corp.** (TGC) has developed the Phoenix System, which is a convertible transportation container with on-demand deployable wheels that facilitates its compatibility with land, rail and sea transportation. Touted as the shipping industry's first multimode compliant shipping device, the Phoenix System supports the development of a fully-integrated intermodal system due to its unique construction. TGC was awarded a \$33,000 Ignite! Grant for licensing, engineering costs and transportation fees.

### **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 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.