



Got funding? Northwest entrepreneurs can find it at 15th annual Washington Technology Industry Association Investment Forum

Northwest's leading annual investment forum attracts some of region's most promising technology companies as well as interesting new sessions, panels and speakers.

SEATTLE (April 9, 2008) – Many of the region's most dynamic companies are scheduled to make their business and funding pitches during the 15th annual Washington Technology Industry Association Investment Forum April 24 in downtown Seattle.

The annual Investment Forum provides a unique vehicle for new, fast-growing and promising technology companies in the Northwest to connect with key venture capitalists and technology buyers to provide an unparalleled exchange of business ideas, information and feedback. In past years, a number of the presenting companies have made connections with venture capitalists and other funding sources that have led to investment capital, said Ken Myer, president and chief executive officer of the Washington Technology Industry Association.

"We are very proud of our track record in connecting some of our state's most promising companies and entrepreneurs with venture capitalists and angel investors who are committed to the ongoing growth and success of the technology industry in Washington State," Myer said. "The quality of this year's presenting companies as well as our funding participants is simply outstanding."

The 2008 Investment Forum will be held from 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday, April 24, at the Bell Harbor International Conference Center at Pier 66.

The following companies are slated to present at the 2008 Investment Forum:

Clean Tech

- General Biodiesel, Inc.
- Greenwood Technologies, LLC
- HaloSource, Inc.

Digital Media

- Digini Inc.
- Mixpo
- Wetpaint

Online Communities

- Sampa Corporation
- Shelfari
- Trusera, Inc.
- Zoodango.com

Software

- Entomo, Inc.
- N2UITIVE Corporation
- Physware, Inc.
- Protelus Corporation

- Topaz Technology
- Winshuttle, Inc.

Web Services

- Demoxi
- Earth Class Mail Corp.
- Escapia, Inc.
- Limeade
- TalentSpring
- Yapta, Inc.

Wireless

- Formotus, Inc.
- Medio Systems, Inc.
- Ontela
- Strata8 Networks, Inc.

New this year

The Investment Forum will include several new features this year, Myer said. The association has partnered with the Alliance of Angels to bring both an early-stage and growth track to the forum's program. Additionally, the association has partnered with venture capital firms in both Washington and California to ensure that entrepreneurs will achieve visibility with a broad set of potential investors.

The forum brings together more than 300 venture capitalists, angel investors, industry analysts and media to see emerging technology businesses from Washington State and the Pacific Northwest.

The forum also will include a Technology Showcase component that enables presenting companies, sponsors and other technology companies, to demonstrate and highlight their products and solutions for attendees.

Speakers and panelists

This year's Keynote Speaker is Benjamin Ball, founding partner of Francisco Partners, a leading global private equity firm focused exclusively on investments in technology and technology-enabled services and businesses.

The program also will feature a Trends and Innovations panel which will be moderated by Keith Grinstein of Second Avenue Partners. Other panel members include Steve Lidberg of Pacific Crest Securities, Mike McSherry of Clearwire and Sid Parakh of McAdams Wright Regan, Inc.

For information on the event or to register, please see the events section of the WTIA Web site at www.washingtontechnology.org.

About the Washington Technology Industry Association

The Washington Technology Industry Association, founded in 1984, is the largest state-wide association of technology companies, IT departments and individual technology professionals in North America. With more than 1,000 member companies representing more than 100,000 employees in Washington State, the association is a catalyst for setting new industry directions, sharing expertise, fostering collaboration, delivering key business services, and advancing the economic value and global impact of technology companies doing business in Washington. The association's global partners are Davis Wright Tremaine LLP, Microsoft, Regence BlueShield, The Hartford and Wells Fargo Insurance Services. Funding partners for the technology

association are AH&T Insurance, Blink Interactive, Inc., Comerica Bank, GrapeCity Inc. and RealNetworks. For information, go to www.washingtontechnology.org.

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