Nine Firms Honored at ATDC

Nine early-stage technology companies graduated April 30 from the Advanced Technology Development Center, Georgia Tech’s business incubator. Three of them have Georgia Tech roots.

Future Networks, Inc. develops a new generation of standards-based data and voice cable modem products. In January, the company was acquired by Tellabs for $181 million.

Georgia Composites, Inc. manufactures glass mat recycled thermoplastic materials from carpet industry waste. The company’s process was developed at Georgia Tech.

Incanta, Inc. provides broadband service providers with a managed set of turnkey services including interactive content.

Ockham Technologies, Inc. produces sales management software applications.

RF Solutions, Inc. develops the wireless engines powering the next generation of systems for the broadband wireless access market. The company was founded by Georgia Tech faculty members.

SimplyHealth enables individuals and small businesses to research, purchase and manage their health insurance needs online.

SPAN2 brings together the information infrastructure for the agent/broker and carrier sides of the property and casualty industry.

Strain Monitor Systems, Inc. develops technologies for the remote monitoring of major structures such as buildings and bridges.

Velant, Inc. provides the transportation industry with a Web-based optimization approach to transportation planning. It was founded by a Georgia Tech faculty member.

atdc.org

Getting the Business

In Augusta, a Georgia Tech procurement specialist assisted Career Personnel, a small, woman-owned, labor-staffing firm, respond to a government solicitation for temporary workers at the Savannah River Site.

The counselor not only helped the firm understand the complex requirements of a federal solicitation, but also guided management through the proposal process, including assistance with organizing, editing and producing the response in the required time frame. This effort helped the company obtain a contract worth $20 million.

www.edi.gatech.edu/gtpac

Fighting Fog

This summer, the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) plans to implement an automated fog and smoke warning system on I-75 near Adel where traffic tie-ups and accidents frequently result from visibility-reducing conditions.

The $2.4 million system, designed by engineers at the Georgia Tech Research Institute, could become a model for any area where visibility problems often occur, according to GDOT.

gtresearchnews.gatech.edu

By the Numbers

Georgia Tech’s Center for International Standards & Quality (CISQ), which assists companies with ISO standards and systems, continues to have a significant impact on Georgia industry. More than 50 percent of the 700-plus Georgia companies registered to ISO 9000, ISO 14000 and QS-9000 have used CISQ services. Last year, CISQ provided training, audits, assistance and information to 1,436 individuals representing 826 firms in the Southeast.

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Looking Back to Look Ahead

In late March, some two dozen historians, land developers, urban planners and others gathered in Atlanta for the third annual conference hosted by Georgia Tech’s Center for Society and Industry in the Modern South. “Growth and Change: The Southern City Since 1860” examined economic development and its ties to the region’s culture and history.

Topics ranged from heritage tourism to the automobile culture to neighborhood revitalization. One session focused on the success Chamblee has had with business development programs, many of which are aimed at assisting immigrant-entrepreneurs.

Entrepreneurial Boost

Georgia Tech is providing a component to the recently established Georgia Rural Economic Development Center (GREDC) in Swainsboro—an entrepreneur services coordinator to support manufacturing-related, technology-based entrepreneurial growth in the region.

The position, filled by Patrick Wilbanks, will focus on four areas to create and retain high-value, long-term jobs: (1) management and technical assistance, (2) guidance to local economic developers, (3) development of entrepreneurs into suppliers and (4) coordination of services to entrepreneurs via various agencies.

GREDC, funded through the University System’s Intellectual Capital Partnership Program and located at East Georgia College, develops strategies, supplies technical assistance and provides grant opportunities for community economic development projects and economic development research. 478/289-2099

Around the GLOBE

As a Georgia franchise of “GLOBE: Global Learning and Observations to Benefit the Environment,” the Georgia Tech Research Institute conducts statewide K-12 teacher training for this worldwide, Internet-based science education program.

Teachers learn how to guide students in hands-on environmental measuring of their region’s land cover, water quality, soil types and atmospheric conditions for entry into GLOBE’s online database. Through GLOBE, Georgia students communicate with students in some 10,000 schools in 90 countries as they gather and record valuable environmental data for scientific use. maven.gtri.gatech.edu/foundations/

The Right Course

In early April, Georgia Tech hosted its 34th annual Basic Economic Development Course, vital training for economic developers. The seven-day event drew 77 attendees from eight states, including 41 from Georgia representing 24 communities across the state.

This year’s course featured a day-long trip to Cartersville to examine practices in strategic planning, infrastructure planning and development, downtown development and tourism, and water issues. Participants also visited three area companies. www.ceds.gatech.edu

For more information on the topics in this newsletter, call toll-free 888/272-2104.
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