

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Grow Utah Ventures Names Elite Eight In Its General Technology “Concept to Company” Innovation Contest

*- Eight start-ups include VehiCALL, Focusbuilder Software, 3T Technologies, EnergyWise Systems, Solar Fins, 3D4PS, Danemco Fabric Finder, Test Solutions Corporation and Doug Catton -*

**SALT LAKE CITY, April 02, 2010** – And then there were eight. **Grow Utah Ventures** ([www.growutahventures.com](http://www.growutahventures.com)) today named the eight finalists who will compete for a chance at \$65,000 in cash and consulting services in its general technology “**Concept to Company**” **Innovation Contest** ([www.concepttocompany.org](http://www.concepttocompany.org)) on April 9, 2010 in St. George, Utah.

Grow Utah Ventures, Zions Bank, USTAR, Workman Nydegger, Ballard Spahr, SEED Dixie, and CFO Solutions are sponsors of the contest, which received over 70 applications this year.

“The response to this general technology contest was outstanding and shows how innovative our local entrepreneurs are,” said [T. Craig Bott, president and CEO of Grow Utah Ventures](#). “We’re anxious to see the presentations these entrepreneurs prepare and are confident that many of these companies will help us achieve our goal of developing businesses that will create new jobs in Utah and strengthen our local economies.”

The 2010 finalists in the general technology “Concept to Company” Contest include:

- **VehiCALL** - aftermarket auto upgrade that will allow the consumer to lock or unlock their vehicle from any phone.
- **Focusbuilder Software, LLC** - online project management software for construction companies and contractors, to eliminate unnecessary material waste and downtime.
- **Danemco Fabric Finder** - unique textile search engine that can match fabric photos to online stores that carry that product.
- **Doug Catton** - innovative rollator/walker design that incorporates built-in seating technology which allows elderly or other persons to sit in their walker when needed and prevents falling.
- **3T Technologies** - tripod and laser system that can draw specific points from a blueprint onto the ground to eliminate the need for measuring.
- **3D for Photoshop** - online 3D clipart library with 3D images for Photoshop. The versatile 3D images are layered and can thus be easily rotated and customized within Photoshop.
- **Solar Fins** - new solar-thermal hot water heating system installed in the attic instead of the roof. It harvests the thermal energy in the attic to make hot water.
- **Test Solutions Corporation** - innovative lift system for the semiconductor testing industry that allow operators to move large pieces of electronic equipment for testing motherboards, microchips and more.

“I really believe that each of these eight companies has the potential to be successful, profitable, business”, said Jill Elliss, director of USTAR Southern Region and director of SEED Dixie. “We look forward to working with the winners and know that, through the support and mentorship of

the Concept to Company sponsors, they'll have an incredible opportunity to take their business to the next level and make it a successful company.”

The Concept to Company contests are ongoing innovation contests held in various regions across the state of Utah and were created as a way to encourage entrepreneurship and stimulate business growth in the state. Each competition focuses on a different industry and matches the unique entrepreneurial strengths of that particular region.

Finalists will present their business concepts to a panel of judges on April 9, 2010. The winners will be announced during an awards ceremony at 3:30 that same day. The awards ceremony is open to the public and will be held at the Dixie State Taylor Sciences Building (1525 Medical Center Drive, St George). The winning entry will receive up to \$35,000, comprised of cash and services to help bring the idea to fruition. Two runner-up winners will also receive up to \$17,000 each comprised of cash and services.

For more information on the “Concept to Company” contests, including complete descriptions of each of the seven finalists visit [www.ConceptToCompany.org](http://www.ConceptToCompany.org).

#### **Additional Resources:**

Twitter: <http://twitter.com/growutahventure> .

Facebook Fans Page: [Grow Utah Ventures](#).

#### **About Grow Utah Ventures**

Grow Utah Ventures, is a privately funded not-for-profit organization dedicated to stimulate, unlock and develop the entrepreneurial talent and early stage business opportunities for value creation across Utah. Comprised of a team of successful and experienced entrepreneurs, business leaders and private investors, Grow Utah Ventures accomplishes its mission by

- Identifying, selecting and recognizing accomplished and promising Utah entrepreneurs,
- Building a statewide community of outstanding entrepreneurs and those interested in promoting entrepreneurial development,
- Partnering with organizations, companies and investors seeking to support Utah's best entrepreneurs,
- Rallying community leadership and financial resources to support entrepreneurial development.

For more information about Grow Utah Ventures, visit [www.growutahventures.com](http://www.growutahventures.com).

#### **About Zions Bank**

Zions Bank is Utah's oldest financial institution, and is the only local bank with statewide distribution of branches, operating 114 full-service branches throughout Utah. Zions Bank also operates 24 full-service branches in Idaho, and nearly 200 ATMs throughout Utah and Idaho. In addition to a wide range of traditional banking services, Zions offers a comprehensive array of investment and mortgage services, and has a network of loan origination offices for small businesses nationwide. The company is also a leader in providing electronic banking services, including electronic municipal bond trading. Founded in 1873, Zions has been serving the communities of Utah for more than 135 years. Additional information is available at [www.zionsbank.com](http://www.zionsbank.com).

#### **About USTAR**

The Utah Science Technology and Research initiative (USTAR) is a long-term, state-funded investment to strengthen Utah's "knowledge economy" and generate high-paying jobs. Funded in March 2006 by the State Legislature, USTAR is based on three program areas. The first area involves funding for strategic investments at the University of Utah and Utah State University to

recruit world-class researchers. The second area is to build state-of-the-art interdisciplinary facilities at these institutions for the innovation teams. The third program area involves teams that work with companies and entrepreneurs across the State to promote science, innovation, and commercialization activities. For more information, go to [www.innovationutah.com](http://www.innovationutah.com) or follow <http://twitter.com/Innovationutah>.

#### **About Workman Nydegger**

Based in Salt Lake City, W|N has earned recognition as one of the top patent prosecution and intellectual property litigation firms in the nation. The firm represents a wide array of clients in all areas of intellectual property law, including patent, trademark, copyright, unfair competition, and related litigation and licensing matters.

#### **About Ballard Spahr**

Ballard Spahr Andrews & Ingersoll, LLP traces its origins to 1885 and became known as “Ballard and Spahr” in the early 1900s when Ellis Ames Ballard and Boyd Lee Spahr began practicing law together. The firm has grown to be one of the largest law firms in the country, with over 550 attorneys and 12 offices located throughout the United States. As a large, multi-practice, multi-regional law firm, Ballard Spahr is able to combine a national scope of practice with strong local market knowledge to represent companies, individuals, and other entities in virtually every state and country around the world.

#### **About CFO Solutions**

CFO Solutions LC is Utah’s largest and oldest outsourced financial and accounting services provider. The CFO Solutions team has collectively amassed over 250 years of combined experience managing the finance and accounting functions for small to medium size companies that don’t need or cannot afford full time staff in those functions. Our experiences cover dozens of industries including; Software, Healthcare, Manufacturing, Biotechnology, Retail, Distribution, High Tech, Real Estate and more. Since its founding in 1996, CFO Solution’s clients have raised over \$470 Million in equity, debt and lease financing with our support.

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