

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Entrepreneurs Hopeful As Grow Utah Ventures' 'Concept to Company' Contest Hits Final Stretch

- Technology innovation contest will provide three winners with \$34,000 in cash and services -

SALT LAKE CITY, June 22, 2011 – [Grow Utah Ventures](#), and [Zions Bank](#) announced the final weeks in the registration process for its [General Technology 'Concept to Company' Innovation Contest](#). Applications are being accepted through July 5, 2011. Nearly 100 entries are expected and each entrepreneur is hoping they will be chosen as a finalist for a chance at winning the big prize.

The contest will focus on new innovations involving technology. The main objective of the contest is to encourage and support Utah entrepreneurs with the intent of helping them turn their concepts into a company. The ongoing contests are held in various regions across the state each focusing on different industries. To date, over \$450,000 has been awarded to nearly 30 entrepreneurs.

“We encourage anybody with a business idea or concept to apply for this contest and take advantage of the mentoring and services it provides,” [said T. Craig Bott, President and CEO of Grow Utah Ventures](#). “One of the trends we’ve seen from the more than 30 businesses we’ve worked with and mentored is entrepreneurs who have been fast-tracked on the road to success and are better prepared to seek angel and venture capital funding, understand what their market is and who their customers are and as a result are primed for rapid success.”

The contest is open to any Utah-based entrepreneur or small businesses with a product or service innovation involving technology.

On July 5, 2011, an initial screening of applications will take place. By July 12, 2011 a group of 7 finalists will be named and invited to present their concepts to a panel of industry judges on July 20, 2011 at the NorthFront Business Resource Center at in Kaysville, Utah.

Following the finalist presentations, one grand-prize winner and two runner-up winners will be selected. Winnings for the grand prize will be up to \$18,000 in cash and services while the runners-up will each receive up to \$8,000 in cash and services. Service prizes are being offered from Kunzler IP Law, Forthgear Marketing, Ballard Spahr Law, and Advanced CFO Solutions. The cash prize is being offered by the Northfront Business Resource Center and SEED Weber-Davis-Morgan.

For more information and to apply, visit: www.ConceptToCompany.org.

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.

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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.

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