

Oklahoma Innovations - OCAST's Official Newsletter

July 2014

UCO HOSTS 2014 OKLAHOMA TECHNOLOGY SHOWCASE August 28



Oklahoma Technology Showcase

The third annual Oklahoma Technology Showcase slated for August 28 at the University of Central Oklahoma, Edmond, will feature presentations by eight Oklahoma technology-based companies.

Michael Carolina, executive director of OCAST, said the eight featured companies have collectively accessed the suite of services available from OCAST as well as services available through other state and federal economic development agencies.

“One day of listening to the presenters at the showcase will give all of us a good sense of how programs are working to build technology-based economic development in Oklahoma,” said Carolina.

Investors, business leaders, economic developers as well as young Oklahomans trying to decide on a college curriculum are all welcome to the showcase from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. August 28 at the Nigh University Center, UCO. Each presenter will give a 10-minute high energy talk highlighting their innovative products or services, lessons learned as they developed their tech-based companies and the challenges of securing funding.

Showcase presenters include MaxQ, Noble Foundation's SmartRanch, CRTS, Choctaw Defense, Sensulin, ARL/DNA Solutions, Charlesson and PolySkope.

Sponsors include the University of Central Oklahoma, Tactical Electronics of Broken Arrow, Pelco Structural LLC of Claremore, Greater Oklahoma City Chamber, Amethyst Research Inc. of Ardmore, Access Optics of Broken Arrow, the Edmond Economic Development Authority, Pelco Products Inc. of Edmond, OU Office of Technology Development, OSU New Product Development Center (NPDC), Oklahoma Manufacturing Alliance and i2E (Innovation to Enterprise). Sponsorship opportunities and vendor booth space are available. Contact chad.mullen@ocast.ok.gov or call 405-319-8416.

Early bird registration is \$35 by August 8. After that date, registration is \$50. To register, check the web at techshowcase14.eventbrite.com.

SEEDSTEP ANGELS INVESTS \$100,000 AS PART OF A \$350,000 CONVERTIBLE NOTE ROUND IN ROLL-2-ROLL TECHNOLOGIES LLC

Transaction Overview

On July 25, Roll-2-Roll Technologies (R2R), a Stillwater-based company founded in 2013, issued \$350,000 of convertible note securities. This transaction closed simultaneously with the issuance of \$170,000 in common equity (\$100,000 funded from Cowboy Technologies, and \$70,000 from R2R management) for a total capital raise of \$520,000. R2R is commercializing an advanced lateral guide for the roll-to-roll manufacturing industry that utilizes fiber optics to minimize the need for manual adjustment during product changeover. The company's product will lead to a reduction in labor costs, downtime costs and product waste for those manufacturers who use it.



As part of this transaction, four SeedStep Angels members combined to invest \$100,000.

Transaction Highlights

- R2R is SeedStep Angels' first investment in the manufacturing equipment industry.
- The deal was sourced from Cowboy Technologies, which seeks to commercialize promising products coming out of Oklahoma State University. This is the second instance of i2E and SeedStep Angels investing in a Cowboy Technologies company.
- R2R graduated from i2E's Proof-of-Concept Center (POCC) in 2013 and is SeedStep Angels' and i2E's first investment in a POCC graduate. The POCC identifies promising Oklahoma technologies from research institutions and research support organizations and accelerates the commercialization of those technologies.
- i2E's Oklahoma Seed Capital Fund II (OSCF II) was the lead investor in the convertible note round, investing \$250,000. This round is the ninth instance of SeedStep Angels co-investing with OSCF II. SSA members have leveraged more than \$2,900,000 of OSCF II funding since 2011.
- Two of four investors in R2R are making their first investments since joining SeedStep Angels. Members from the Oklahoma City, Tulsa and Muskogee chapters invested in R2R.
- The investment represents SeedStep Angels' fifth new investment in 2014. The group has invested approximately \$730,000 this year.
- Since inception, SeedStep Angels has invested approximately \$5,100,000 across 26 companies.

Contact any of the i2E staff listed below if you have questions regarding this transaction:

David Thomison: Senior VP, Client Services Group 918-877-0457

Tom Francis: Director, Funds Administration 405-813-2410

Elaine Hamm: Director, Proof-of-Concept Center & Venture Advisor 405-813-2420

Michael Kindrat-Pratt: Manager, SeedStep Angels & Venture Advisor 405-813-2418

SeedStep Angels sponsors are: i2E, Greater Oklahoma City Chamber, Oklahoma Business Roundtable, Oklahoma Medication Research Foundation, City of Oklahoma City and the Oklahoma Center for the Advancement of Science and Technology.

SAVE SEPTEMBER 30 DATE FOR NORTHEAST REGIONAL FORUM

Innovators, public officials and economic developers from a seven-county area will meet September 30 for the Northeast Regional Innovation and Collaboration Forum at the Tri-County Technology Center in Bartlesville. Governor Mary Fallin is luncheon speaker.

The event will focus on energy and manufacturing. Energy is a commodity of long-standing in Osage, Washington, Rogers, Nowata, Craig, Ottawa and Delaware counties. Manufacturing requires both energy and an educated workforce. The select group will be challenged to determine how energy, manufacturing and an educated workforce join forces for a bright economic future in the northeast region of Oklahoma.

Sherri Wilt, president of the Bartlesville Chamber of Commerce, will serve as master of ceremonies, and panel moderator is Lindel Fields, superintendent of the Tri-County Technology Center. Michael Carolina, executive director of OCAST, will make introductions.

Dr. Stephen McKeever, the governor's science secretary, will present highlights of the *OneOklahoma* plan. Also scheduled are panels on energy, manufacturing, education and workforce.

Dr. Larry Rice, president of Rogers State University, will introduce Governor Fallin.

Other presentations will feature Oklahoma entrepreneurs. A networking reception will conclude the day.

FOUR NEW STAFF MEMBERS JOIN OCAST RANKS

Four new staff members have been added in recent months to the OCAST team. Information about each of them follows:



Doris Simms

Doris Simms, a native of Roanoke, Virginia, began her tenure with OCAST as office manager in February this year. She has been employed with the state of Oklahoma for 33 years.

She worked for the Oklahoma State Department of Education for 24 years. There, she served as executive assistant to the state superintendent of

public instruction. She also worked in the office of Governor Henry Bellmon where she served as executive assistant to the secretary of education.

She comes to OCAST from the Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth. Her position there was administrative assistant to the Interagency Coordinating Council for Early Childhood Intervention.

Casey Harness

Casey Harness of Oklahoma City became a programs officer for OCAST in April after serving with OCAST's strategic partner, i2E, for nearly six years. In his new role, Harness manages small business development focusing on support of the federal Small Business Innovation Research and Small Business Technology Transfer programs.



He has a bachelor of science degree in biomedical engineering from Yale University. At Yale, he was a research assistant focusing on bioscience and nanotechnologies.

While at i2E, Harness designed and managed the i2E Fellows Program, was liaison with the Oklahoma Bioscience Association and served as external relations coordinator. His service included benchmarking existing and new i2E programs, screening and evaluating Oklahoma startup firms and helping new clients with business plans, market analysis and technology development planning.

Before joining i2E, Harness was affiliated with Cole, Hargrave, Snodgrass & Associates, a nationally known polling, advocacy and survey research company. He also served as a legal clerk with the Oklahoma County Public Defender's Office.

Leah Maloy



Leah Maloy of Edmond was appointed OCAST programs officer July 1 following 10 years of service as an executive assistant in the Oklahoma State Senate. She worked with outgoing State Senator Cliff Aldridge. As a senate staff member, she was responsible for communications, legislative research and constituent services. Her duties at OCAST include working with the organization's legislative liaison and in the Technology Information Services section.

Ms. Maloy previously served as executive assistant of Women Impacting Public Policy and as account manager for ADP. She currently serves as a founding board member of Adoption Services of Oklahoma, located in Enid.

She graduated from Rose State College with an associate's degree in paralegal studies and business.

Chelsea Smith

Chelsea Smith of Oklahoma City recently joined the OCAST Programs Division as a programs officer where she will work on special projects related to targeted research and client evaluations. She recently completed a year-long OCAST internship. Her duties included researching Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) grant opportunities and development of new agency ideas.



Ms. Smith holds a master of science degree in wellness management-exercise science and attends the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center where she is working toward a second master's degree in epidemiology. Her undergraduate studies at Drake University were in biochemistry, cell and molecular biology.

The new staff member holds a Lean-Six Sigma White Belt and is an adjunct professor in healthy life skills at the University of Central Oklahoma, Edmond. She is former graduate assistant rowing coach at UCO, made the 2011 and 2012 National Rowing Teams and participated in the 2012 Olympic trials.

Her other previous duties include service as assistant coordinator and corporate league administrator of the Oklahoma City Boathouse Foundation and as former research assistant in the Transformational Learning Center at UCO.

TECH BUSINESS OWNERS ATTEND NE OKLAHOMA STEM LUNCHEON



Two OCAST partner firms, Siemens of Bartlesville and Pelco Structural LLC of Claremore, were featured June 25 at the second annual Northeastern Oklahoma STEM Networking Luncheon at the Broken Arrow Historical Society.

Cornell Cross II, OCAST's associate director of programs in northeastern Oklahoma, chaired the session which included special presentations by Robert Paiva of Siemens and Phil Albert of Pelco Structural. The purpose was to provide a networking opportunity for OCAST clients, current and prospective funding recipients and regional resources.

Business support organizations and representatives included Kinnee Tilly of the Broken Arrow Economic Development Corp., April Sailsbury of the Broken Arrow Chamber of Commerce, Ann Gaines of the Bartlesville Development Authority, Jeri Koehler of the Claremore Industrial & Economic Development Authority, Mark Lauinger of i2E, Cross of OCAST, Christine Allison of the Oklahoma Manufacturing Alliance, Heather Davis of the Tulsa Regional Chamber and Judy Elliott of the Tulsa Technology Center.

Other businesses represented include Swanson Bierman of Air Hygiene, Charles Paul of Cyclonic Valve, Rick Keithly of CymSTAR, Rusty Hampton of L-3 AMI, Garry Mans of

PACCAR, Gloria O'Neal of Rise Manufacturing and Ben Kimbro of Tactical Electronics, all of Broken Arrow.

Also present were Bob Cohelnik of Caseco of Claremore, Dick Morris of Advantage Controls of Muskogee and Bill Ardrey of TechTrol of Pawnee.

Others included Shannon Gullekson of Allied Motion, Terry Woodruff of Badger Meter, Ron Burden of BEI Engineering, Michael Tate of Clean NG, Matthew Newman of Covanta, David Carter of CRTS Inc., Dee Hays of Excellence Engineering, Leslie Agee of Linde Gas, Vacuworx and Bill Clary of MIRATECH, all of Tulsa.

SBIR/OSCR DATES AND DEADLINES

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) current solicitation can be found here: grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/sbir.htm#funding. It will close August 5, 2014.

The Department of Transportation (DOT) solicitation has just opened and can be found here: www.volpe.dot.gov/work-with-us/small-business-innovation-research/142-us-department-transportation-us-dot-sbir. It will close September 15, 2014.

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) solicitation opened June 20, and can be found here: www.nifa.usda.gov/fo/sbir.cfm. It will close October 2, 2014.

The Department of Energy (DOE) released their topics on July 14. They can be found here: science.energy.gov/sbir/funding-opportunities. Applications are due October 14, 2014.

For more information about the OSCR program, please contact [Casey Harness](mailto:Casey.Harness@doe.gov) at 405-319-8404.

OKLAHOMA INNOVATIONS RADIO PROGRAM

A \$1.9 million grant through the Advanced Manufacturing Jobs and Innovation Accelerator Challenge will allow the [OSU New Product Development Center](#) and the [Oklahoma Manufacturing Alliance](#) to begin the Manufacturing Improvement Program for the Oil and Gas Industry Supply Chain and Marketing Cluster. This program will focus on increasing the profitability and innovation of small to medium-sized manufacturers in the oil and gas industry. Sustainable job creation for 44 low-income Oklahoma counties is one of the top objectives of the project.

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[Launch Pad FT](#) serves the needs of entrepreneurs starting a new venture as well as owners of early stage companies facing struggles in today's economic environment. It provides the starting

point for a small business to grow, mature and become a sustainable business in our community.
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With OU's new interactive educational platform, [Janux](#), students have the ability to engage with one another simultaneously in real time. The online learning community is at the forefront of social learning and open courseware.

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Clinton - Saturday at 6 a.m. - KYCU 89.1 FM
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