TCOMM EVENT September 27, 2012

HOLIDAY INN OAKLAND

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TCOMM EVENT

Registration Information:

FULL-DAY REGISTRATION **ONLY \$25** (includes continental breakfast, luncheon and all event activities)

WALK-IN **\$50** will be accommodated on a space availability basis. Pre-registration is strongly recommended.

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Location & Parking

Holiday Inn *(Oakland area)* 100 Lytton Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15213

Discounted parking is available in the Holiday Inn parking lot or UPMC garage.

Overnight Guests:

Holiday Inn (Oakland area)

A limited number of rooms have been reserved for overnight guests.

412.682.6200 (mention TCOMM) www.holidayinn.com/pit-univctr use password "TCO"

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Funding support and resources are provided by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania through the Department of Community & Economic Development; through a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration; and in part through support from Duquesne University. All services are extended to the public on a non-discriminatory basis. Special arrangements for persons with disabilities can be made by calling 412.396.6233. All opinions, conclusions or recommendations expressed are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the SBA.

THE **TCOMM EVENT** IS A FAST-PACED, INTERACTIVE CONFERENCE DESIGNED FOR SMALL BUSINESSES AND INNOVATORS WHO WANT TO CREATE AND COMMERCIALIZE NEW TECHNOLOGIES.

SEPTEMBER 27 AGENDA

8:30-9 a.m.

Registration

9:-9:45 a.m.

Welcome and Breakfast





Listen as
Tom Kubilius
of Bright
Innovation and
Mark DeSantis
of KWantera
discuss "Visions

Realized" and share secrets to success.

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9:50-11:05 a.m. Breakout Session I

What Innovators Need to Know About Patent Protection and Changing Laws

Signed into law in September 2011, the Leahy-Smith America Invents Act represents the most significant change to the U.S. patent system since 1952. What are the benefits and drawbacks for today's technology innovators? Learn how the USPTO processes and procedures have changed and what you need to know about the patent application, the review process and ongoing patent protection requirements.

Leap the Pitfalls, Grasp the Gold: Lessons From Both Sides of the Fence

An incredibly good way to see your business thrive is to avoid the things that kill it off. With two startups and eight years as a tech commercialization consultant under his belt, Steve Overholt knows what causes failure, mediocrity and success. Receive practical tips to apply today and stride a narrow path that's no nonsense, no excuses and "nothing but net." Revealed are hidden perils lurking in IP, funding, product design, market research, regulatory issues, marketing, licensing, strategic alliances and even your own personality.

Shale Gas Supply Chain: Small Business Opportunities

The rapid expansion of the shale gas industry has created an opportunity for small businesses to supply goods and services within the shale gas supply chain and to develop new and innovative

technologies to meet industry needs. What are these needs, and how can you take advantage of them? An industry expert will provide up-to-date information on how your small business can potentially benefit from this growth industry.

11:10 a.m.-12:25 p.m. Breakout Session II

Sources of Capital for Tech Entrepreneurs: Which Could Be Right for You?

Pittsburgh is blessed with a growing cadre of resources for entrepreneurs. Many offer sources of capital via equity, debt and grant programs. Is one of them right for you? Join Pittsburgh technology investment community for a great panel discussion to find out if one of these programs is a fit for your business.

Sell It! Sales Strategies for the Technology Expert

You probably think you can hone your selling skills when you finally have a product on the market. But in reality, you are selling from the moment you conceive of your new idea. You have to convince others to assist you in market research, funding, prototyping, licensing, partnering, beta testing and more. Learn techniques used by top executives to achieve success.

Challenges of Commercializing Clean Technology

Join us for a panel discussion from entrepreneurs experienced in commercializing their technologies. What were the stages of development? What challenges did they face bringing their products to market? What financing obstacles did they face, and how did they solve them? What helped them along the way? What advice do they have for others?

12:25-2 p.m. "What's On Your Mind?" Lunch

Get ready for a lunch like no other! You'll be seated at a table hosted by an expert: a successful technology entrepreneur, an attorney, an SBIR expert or an investor. Talk one-on-one with someone who has answers to your toughest questions. Expand your network while you lunch!

Featured Luncheon Address

"How to Tap Opportunities and Resources through the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania"

Presented by **Carolyn Boser Newhouse**, Deputy Secretary of Innovation and Investment, PA Department of Community and Economic Development

Moderator: Kelly Wylam, Innovation Partnership

9

About the Speaker

With more than 20 years of private-sector business experience, Carolyn Boser Newhouse has founded multiple companies, including SuperUser Technologies, an IT company that provides wired and wireless communications;

Newhouse Family Limited Partnership, a partnership for commercial real estate; and Newhouse Enterprise LLC, an entity for retail business. Carolyn earned her undergraduate degree in Computer Science from the University of Pittsburgh and is a graduate of the Entrepreneur Leadership and Advanced Entrepreneur Leadership programs at the University of Buffalo.

2:10-3:25 p.m. Breakout Session III

Clean Energy Trends: State of the Industry in PA and the U.S.

Get up-to-date growth forecasts and market sizing for the major clean-energy sectors (solar PV, wind and biofuels), as well as a detailed analysis of solar PV pricing, public market activity and performance, venture capital investments and emerging industry trends.

Crowdfunding and the SEC: Risks and Rewards for Technology Entrepreneurs

Peer-to-peer lending. Micro-lending. Crowd-funding. Whatever you call it, raising money online is a recent and growing phenomenon. Since the inception of this alternative financing just a few years ago, billions of dollars have been raised. But is this a viable source of capital for your technology? What are the SEC regulations and requirements, and how are they changing? Before turning to Kickstarter, Prosper, IndieGoGo, Profounder or others, join us to learn the ins, outs and risks of crowd-funding.

Go Global: Taking Your Technology Abroad

A proven way to grow a technology firm's revenues is to expand overseas where U.S. expertise is highly valued. Overseas markets show explosive growth, and opportunities abound for U.S. firms. But companies going global should know which markets have a demand for their product and how to design their products to meet international regulations, protect their intellectual property and obtain financing to accomplish the deal.