

For Immediate Release

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## **8 startups to pitch at Feb. 19 Alabama Launchpad Competition EDPA program celebrates 10-year anniversary**

Birmingham, Ala., Jan. 8 -- Alabama Launchpad, a program of the Economic Development Partnership of Alabama, announces today the selection of eight startups to participate in the next round of its competition as the nonprofit organization celebrates its 10-year anniversary in 2016.

Alabama Launchpad, which started as a pilot project in 2006, conducts the startup competition that provides a share of up to \$250,000 in funding and mentoring for aspiring entrepreneurs as a part of statewide economic development efforts to diversify the state's economy.

A judge panel selected the eight from 17 applicants on Thursday.

"Alabama Launchpad turns 10 years old this year," said Launchpad Programs Director Greg Sheek. "The year and the path ahead for our program are more exciting and even bigger than that was imagined when our program first launched back in 2006. We look forward to continuing our important work with the next round of the competition to help high growth companies start, stay and grow in the state to create jobs."

The startups will make their first pitches before the judges at a free event set for 9 a.m. on Feb. 19 at Evonik Industries, 750 Lakeshore Parkway, Birmingham.

The eight companies to make first pitches are:

- **Alternavisit**, based in Birmingham, is a secure cloud based software to capture patient requests for care without a doctor's office visit and creates an efficient solution of communication and information capture.
- **BSRD LLC**, based in Huntsville, works to design, build, test, and sell advanced aerospace propulsion solutions based on the enabling technology of the turbo rocket engine.
- **Care Package**, based in Birmingham, is a grocery delivery service for Tuscaloosa, with University of Alabama students as a target market, in which customers use an app for services.
- **Concur Messaging**, based in Birmingham, provides a set of components that complement a backend service to provide real-time chat to applications with fast setup.
- **Flood-Con**, based in Birmingham, offers an automated control structure that replicates the natural runoff during all real storm events.

- **Tech to Table**, based in Mobile, develops applications to improve restaurant operations and guests' dining experiences.
- **White's Environmental Solutions**, based in Anniston, takes organic wastes and transforms them into a solution for farmers and landscapers.
- **XpertDox, LLC**, based in Birmingham, is an online doctor finder tool personalized for patients' diseases based on doctors' clinical skill, educational and leadership roles and research.

Startups will be selected from this first pitch to compete in the Alabama Launchpad Startup Competition finale on April 7.

Judges for this competition round are:

- **David Gray**, CEO, Daxko
- **Greg Mikos**, Owner, Mikos/Kampakis Insurance
- **Craig Parker**, General Manager, EmergencyCallWorks, Inc.
- **Lisa Williams**, President, Chimaera, Inc.

***About the Economic Development Partnership of Alabama:*** Now in its 25th year, the non-profit Partnership represents the private sector's contribution to economic development in Alabama. Fully funded by more than 70 leading companies invested in the state's long-term economic success, EDPA provides leadership and services that recruit new businesses to the state, retain existing businesses and renew Alabama's economy by encouraging innovation both within existing industries and through the commercialization of new technologies.  
[www.edpa.org](http://www.edpa.org)

***About Alabama Launchpad:*** Alabama Launchpad helps high growth companies start, stay and grow in Alabama while supporting, advocating and recognizing entrepreneurship statewide.  
[www.alabamalaunchpad.com](http://www.alabamalaunchpad.com)