



## **Business News**

### **Texas Emerging Technology Fund**

**Lubbock, TX – February 13, 2009 – The West Texas Coalition for Innovation and Commercialization (WTCIC) for the Texas Emerging Technology Fund (ETF) announces that Animal Innovations, Inc. of Amarillo, Texas received a \$250,000.00 pre-seed investment by the ETF. This pre-seed investment can increase up to \$1,000,000.00 with the successful completion of designated milestones.**

“We are pleased that Animal Innovations, Inc. is the recipient, in the West Texas region, of an ETF commercialization investment. We are also excited that the company will have their offices located at the West Texas A&M Enterprise Center in Amarillo. The investment from ETF will allow Animal Innovations, Inc. and their collaboration partners, at Texas A&M University, to rapidly advance their new injection technology to market”, said Steve Anderson, Executive Director of the WTCIC.

Animal Innovations was approved for \$250,000.00 for completion and commercialization of its fast, accurate, and reliable, automatic syringe filling system with data collection. The Animal Innovations’ AIT system can fill a syringe with 10ml in about three seconds. The AIT system provides three key advantages. First, medication is environmentally protected; second, animals are not under, or over medicated; and third, the AIT system provides animal ID tracking.

“Without the support of the Texas Emerging Technology Fund, Animal Innovations, Inc. would have found it difficult to continue development of this important technology for improving animal health and reducing potential antibiotic residue in food products. The private investment community focuses on short term reward and high profit. ETF’s focus is on fostering development of products that can improve the health and welfare of not only Texas, but the entire world. The management of Animal Innovations is grateful for the support and assistance we have received from everyone at the State”, said Lance Parker, Sr., CEO of Animal Innovations, Inc.

Walco, a large veterinarian supply company, says, “The ability to accurately dose antibiotics, pharmaceuticals, and vaccines is critical to the effectiveness of the animal health products we sell. In the near future we believe strict dosing of products and data recording by individual animal will become a mandatory food safety issue, in addition to being beneficial to our customers.” The AIT system uses a

patented syringe that allows “back filling” and has a patented user signaling capability. Combined with the licensed patented medication insulation there is no other system that can be as fast, accurate, portable, and guarantee the viability of the medication, or vaccine.

The \$200 million Texas Emerging Technology Fund was signed into law in June 2005, by Texas Governor Rick Perry, to assist small, early-stage technology companies in expediting the commercialization of new, high-potential technology developments out of the lab and into the hands of consumers. Another element of the ETF enables Texas universities to establish research superiority by recruiting world class researchers with experience in moving technologies into commercial applications.

### **About WTCIC**

In September of 2005, the West Texas Coalition for Innovation and Commercialization (WTCIC) was formed to encourage innovation and entrepreneurship in the region, with the first of its goals being to capture funds for businesses through the Emerging Technology Fund. The WTCIC is a program under the umbrella of the Northwest Texas Small Business Development Center Region Network.

The economic development directors of Abilene, Amarillo, Lubbock, Midland, Odessa, and San Angelo came together, with guidance from the Governor of Texas' office, and created the WTCIC.

The WTCIC is headquartered in Lubbock, and serves an 83 county region throughout West Texas. The economic development organizations, in partnership with the rural economic development entities in the region, collaborate to support the efforts of WTCIC.

For additional information contact Steve Anderson at the WTCIC, 806-745-3973, Ext. 273.

[www.wtcic.org](http://www.wtcic.org)