

## **Gwinnett Innovation Park Awards \$25,000 to Technology Entrepreneur**

### ***First Nspire Founders Grant Honors JBOD Storage Solutions***

Atlanta – March 13, 2012 - Gwinnett Innovation Park ([www.gwinnettinnovationpark.com](http://www.gwinnettinnovationpark.com)), a unique, affordable, low risk space alternative for start-ups, entrepreneurs, independent professionals and teleworkers, announced today that JBOD Storage Solutions is the winner of the \$25,000 Founders Grant Award for the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2012. Sponsored by the Gwinnett Innovation Park (GIP) and Intelligent Systems, the Founders Grant Award is a quarterly award to a company that is part of the eHub Nspire Program or is a qualified company in the GIP -- \$100,000 will be awarded annually.

"The Founders Grant is designed to be a 'propellant' to help an early stage technology company achieve an important near-term milestone and accelerate its business. It's been an interesting process meeting with the entrepreneurs in the Nspire program and hearing the vision for their companies " said Leland Strange, local serial entrepreneur, investor and supporter of hundreds of technology companies in the Atlanta area over the last 30 years. "The Gwinnett Innovation Park Trustees were impressed with all of the Nspire companies, but believe that the \$25,000 will help JBOD Storage Solutions the most at this point in their company's development and can play a key role in helping them reach the next level."

The Founders Grant is part of the eHub Nspire Program which helps support Atlanta technology entrepreneurs by providing them with resources and benefits to help them succeed, including office space at Gwinnett Innovation Park at no cost for one year. The Gwinnett Innovation Park Trustees, a panel of distinguished entrepreneurs and Atlanta business professionals, select the quarterly honoree based on the merits of the business summary, interview and demonstration of a compelling use of the award funds by an Nspire company that has been a resident for at least one quarter.

JBOD Storage Solutions markets the fastest, largest and most dense SSD-based data storage array available today. JBOD's Founder, Gary Webb said, "There is an explosive need by data centers and high performance computer deployments to improve the performance of their data storage subsystems because of the huge amount of transactional processing being required by enterprise, financial government and retail users as well as within compute-intensive scientific and video-centric systems."

"I am honored to receive the Founders Grant. The GIP Trustees have created a platform to help technology start-ups grow and succeed," added Web. "I highly recommend any Atlanta-based technology entrepreneur to apply for this program and look forward to continue participating in the Nspire program."

### **Network, Inspire and Grow**

The Nspire Program includes:

- Establish office in eHub at no cost for one year
- Access to experienced, successful business executives including face-to-face time with successful serial entrepreneur and monthly marketing and PR advice sessions
- Office space in an open plan environment
- Eligible for Gwinnett Innovation Park Founders Grant

As part of the Gwinnett Innovation Park which has been home to more than 75 innovative companies and has been ranked in the Top 10 among US Technology Incubators, companies in the eHub Nspire

Program also benefit from the following:

- Opportunity to learn from Gwinnett Innovation Park's more than 20 years of support for emerging businesses
- Professional but friendly environment with peer-to-peer networking
- Convenient access to I-85
- Onsite director and facilities staff
- Eight conference rooms (hold 4 to 45 people)
- VOIP phone system with voice mail and auto attendant
- Security Systems with 24/7 electronic access
- Loading dock/staging area
- Wi-Fi with High Speed Internet
- Snack bars and kitchen
- Onsite FedEx and UPS

For more information or to download an application to become part of the Nspire Program email [applicant@gwinnettinnovationpark.com](mailto:applicant@gwinnettinnovationpark.com).

#### **About Nspire Program and Founders Grant**

The eHub Nspire Program helps give Atlanta-area entrepreneurs a fighting chance to become a successful business. It plans to give back to the entrepreneurial community by allowing a limited number of companies to establish an office in Gwinnett Innovation Park at no cost for one year. Designed to provide Atlanta-based technology entrepreneurs with the resources to succeed, the Nspire Program includes monthly face-to-face time with a successful serial entrepreneur, access to marketing and public relations advice and the opportunity to establish an office in Gwinnett Innovation Park. Nspire Program companies are eligible for the quarterly eHub Founders Grant which rewards entrepreneurial excellence and helps deserving companies continue on their path to success with a \$25,000 - no strings attached - stipend. For more information or to download an application to become part of the Nspire Program email [applicant@gwinnettinnovationpark.com](mailto:applicant@gwinnettinnovationpark.com).

#### **About Gwinnett Innovation Park**

The Gwinnett Innovation Park offers an affordable environment for new and growing companies. Entrepreneurs can focus on business development and enjoy an "instant home" for their company without having to deal with facility and infrastructure hassles or lock into long-term commitments. They also have access to the business expertise of on-site executives and benefit from peer interaction, shared services and an extensive network of resources. Sponsored by long-time technology pioneer, Intelligent Systems Corporation [NYSE Amex: INS], the Gwinnett Innovation Park is one of the most successful, privately funded incubation programs in the country. During its 20 year history, the Gwinnett Innovation Park has been recognized as a top technology incubator and has been home to some 75 start-up companies that are estimated to have created more than a 1,500 new jobs in the Gwinnett county area. Information about the Gwinnett Innovation Park is available at [www.gwinnettinnovationpark.com](http://www.gwinnettinnovationpark.com) or send a message to [info@gwinnettinnovationpark.com](mailto:info@gwinnettinnovationpark.com).

For More Information:  
Deanna Anderson, APR  
AquaPR  
404-759-1890  
[danderson@aquapr.com](mailto:danderson@aquapr.com)

###