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More On EngenuitySC

Knowledge Economy Infrastructure New Additions & Partnerships

Columbia's attractive business community, skilled workforce, and innovative environment is helping to retain and attract knowledge-based companies to the region. Read below about the new additions to our region's knowledge economy infrastructure.



[Innovista](#) recently welcomed two new tenants, [VC3](#) and [TM Floyd](#) to its research campus. The two companies will occupy space in the [Horizon II](#) building and play an integral role as partners in the Consortium for Enterprise Systems Management.

The South Carolina Department of Commerce, Central S.C. Alliance, and SC Launch! also recently [announced](#) that [Bridge to Life Ltd.](#), a development

The Digital Road to Recovery Digital Transformation via Economic Stimulus

Investing \$30 billion in America's information technology (IT) infrastructure could create as many as 949,000 jobs. That's what the Information Technology and Innovation Foundation (ITIF) reported in a recent economic stimulus package proposal.



In the report, ITIF stated that investments made in our national IT infrastructure will have a greater positive impact on jobs, productivity, and innovation. They identified and analyzed the impact of investments in three IT infrastructure projects: broadband networks, health IT, and the smart grid.

Click [here](#) for the full report. What do you think?

Companies on the FastTrac

stage biotechnology company, will locate their global headquarters in Richland County. The company has set up temporary offices at the [USC Columbia Technology Incubator](#).

Ignite Clean Energy Business Presentation Competition

Calling all emerging entrepreneurs, university students, and clean technology supporters! The Ignite Clean Energy (ICE) program is seeking teams to submit business ideas that focus on innovative applications or unique developed technologies that help our society move away from a dependence on non-renewable fuels.



The ICE program aims to give clean energy entrepreneurs a competitive edge in the funding race by training contestants in the best practices for creating money-winning business plans. There are cash prizes along with in-kind services such as legal advice, office or incubator space, publicity and marketing, etc.

Interested in entering? Visit their [website](#) for more information and to register.

CoEE Research Rockstars Dr. Jihad S. Obeid

To help South Carolina gain an edge in clinical trials research, a top expert in research databases and web-based clinical research systems has been recruited to South Carolina through the state's [Centers of Economic Excellence \(CoEE\) Program](#).



Dr. Jihad S. Obeid has been recruited as a CoEE Endowed Chair in Biomedical Informatics at the Medical University of South Carolina. Medical informatics is a field that focuses on managing and processing data, information and knowledge to improve healthcare practice and delivery.

Click [here](#) to learn more about what Dr. Obeid will

Meet NextGenEn

The [FastTrac Midlands](#) program is empowering the Midland's entrepreneurs to turn their ideas into sustainable-growth oriented businesses. The 'Companies on the FastTrac' section of the newsletter will feature up and coming start-ups companies around the Midlands.

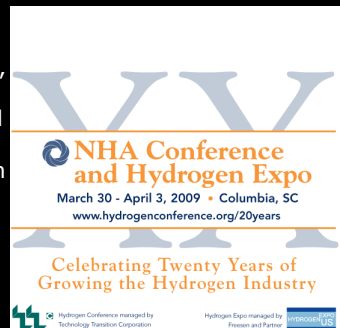


NextGenEn, South Carolina's first home-grown solid-oxide fuel cell (SOFC) technology company, graduated from FastTrac Tech Venture in July 2008. The company is working on developing a "green" portable power solution that will provide greater, higher quality, more consistent, and longer per use life power for mobile clinical devices than existing battery technologies. NextGenEn's product will help save lives and improve the quality of patient care by reducing medical errors as well as improve clinician's productivity through helping enable true bedside electronic medical record (EMR) patient care. Keep an eye out for more information on the local start-up, NextGenEn!

Got Fuel Cells?

NHA 2009 in Columbia, SC

On March 30, 2009 the world's leading energy, automotive, technology, and industry players will descend upon Columbia and South Carolina for one week during the [National Hydrogen Association's 20th Anniversary Annual Conference and Hydrogen Expo](#).



[Columbia](#) will be the focal point for hydrogen and fuel cells for one full week, and this is a tremendous opportunity for children, students, teachers, and citizens to get "up close and personal" with the future of energy in South Carolina.

be working on and why this research rockstar chose to come to South Carolina.

Public Day is on Wednesday, April 1st, and the conference will be open to anyone from the public for free! Public Day is the perfect opportunity for you to learn more about hydrogen technologies, experience real, working hydrogen fueled products, and ride and drive all kinds of hydrogen cars. So mark your calendars and be on the look out for additional community activities leading up to the event!

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