

## **2016 Ready to Rocket lists Announced to Profile Growth Companies in B.C.'s Growing Technology Sectors**

**Rocket Builders Names Top Technology Companies To the “Ready to Rocket” lists for 14th Consecutive Year to Highlight Companies with Highest Growth Potential**

**VANCOUVER, BC – March 1, 2016**

**Rocket Builders today released its fourteenth (14th) annual “Ready to Rocket” lists. These lists profile British Columbia technology companies that are best positioned to capitalize on the technology sector trends that will lead them to faster growth than their peers. Rocket Builders also released results from its 2015 lists, with strong revenue growth across all sectors and a record number of companies being acquired - MediaCore, Recon Instruments, Solegear and dPoint. Additionally, a number of companies graduated from consideration, with the largest being Slack, a recognized global Unicorn (an industry term signifying a high growth company exceeding a billion dollars in valuation).**

**The annual 2016 “Ready to Rocket” lists provide accurate predictions of private companies that will likely experience significant growth, venture capital investment or acquisition by a major player in the coming year. The lists cover 3 different technology sectors:**

- **Information and Communications Technology (ICT)**
- **Cleantech (CT)**
- **Life Science (LS)**

**The “Ready to Rocket” lists are the only predictive lists of its kind in North America, requiring many months of sector and company analysis.**

**“Over the 14 years of the program, the B.C. technology sector has steadily grown each year, and presents a growing challenge to select and identify the most likely to succeed for our Ready to Rocket lists.” said Geoffrey Hansen, Managing Partner**

at Rocket Builders. "In recent years, a startup economy has blossomed to give another dimension to the technology sector in B.C. Our Emerging Rockets list enables us to profile those earlier stage companies that are well positioned for investment."

"I've had the opportunity to interview most of the companies on our lists," said Reg Nordman, Managing Partner at Rocket Builders, "The diversity of solutions, maturing skill sets of management and the resulting increased ability to address large markets is becoming a strength of the BC Technology landscape."

The 2015 Ready to Rocket list for ICT performed extremely well. The median growth rate on that list was 50% growth, with 6 companies exceeding 100% growth. The majority of companies on the list had in excess of 25% growth, and the list as a whole represented the creation of over 378 jobs (42% headcount growth). Over 45% of companies on the list received new investment in 2015. The 2016 list will feature 30 companies, and the list can be found here:

<http://www.readytorocket.com/2016/03/2016-ready-to-rocket-ict-list.html>

"2015 was a good year for the Ready to Rocket ICT list, and the most interesting observation I have for 2016 is the number of viable and promising startups that are emerging," said Steven Forth, Senior Partner at Rocket Builders. "In selecting companies for our Emerging ICT list, this year we had to increase the criteria yet still resulted in a list of 30 companies. Among the trends driving these young companies are Mobility, Cloud Computing, the Internet of Things (IoT), Social Media and E-Commerce."

The 2015 Ready to Rocket list for Cleantech performed extremely well. The median growth rate on that list was 80% growth, with 5 companies exceeding 100% growth. The majority of companies on the list had in excess of 75% growth, and the list as a whole represented the creation of over 120 jobs (25% headcount growth). Over 35% of companies on the list received new investment in 2015. The 2016 list features 19 companies.

The 2016 selections for the Cleantech Ready to Rocket list are as follows:

Aquatic Informatics Inc.

**Awesense Wireless Inc.**

**Axine Water Technologies, Inc.**

**Bit Stew Systems Inc.**

**Cooledge Lighting Inc.**

**Diacarbon Energy Inc.**

**Enbala Power Networks Inc.**

**First Light Technologies Ltd.**

**Golden Environmental Mat Services Inc.**

**Mazza Innovation Ltd.**

**Minesense**

**Neurio Technology Inc.**

**Quadrogen Power Systems, Inc.**

**Rainforest Automation Inc.**

**S2G Biochemicals Inc**

**Saltworks Technologies Inc.**

**SunPump Solar Inc.**

**TBF Environmental Technology Inc.**

**According to Dave Thomas, Senior Partner at Rocket Builders, “The Cleantech sector in B.C. is very strong, and the companies on the list have overcome significant commercialization hurdles to become well established. These companies benefitted from acquiring key industry partnerships to establish great channels to market. Growth rates are better than any other region in North America.”**

The 2015 Ready to Rocket list for Life Science featured many new investments and key milestones. Revenue growth was over 100% for all companies on the list, and the majority of companies at least doubled their headcount. The 2016 list will feature 10 companies, and the list can be found here:

<http://www.readytorocket.com/2016/03/2016-ready-to-rocket-life-science-list.html>

Thealzel Lee, Senior Partner at Rocket Builders, says that “2015 has seen significant investments in BC’s life science companies, and advances in progress has increased revenue and headcount. The major trends influencing this sector include evolving regulatory issues, the need for efficiency in healthcare delivery, and the ongoing convergence with IT technologies.”

For details on the “Ready to Rocket” lists, please visit <http://www.readytorocket.com>