

Oklahoma Innovations - OCAST's Official Newsletter

March 2015

2015 BIOSUMMIT AND AWARDS DINNER

Presented by the Oklahoma BioScience Association, the BioSummit is designed for the local life science and research community to learn more about partnering with big pharma, national funding opportunities, accessing federal researchers and resources and applying human bioscience to agricultural markets.



The BioScience Awards Dinner honors outstanding contributions and accomplishments of individuals, companies and organizations that further the development in the bio sciences industry in Oklahoma and around the world.

The Oklahoma BioScience Association is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization, and all proceeds will support additional educational activities for Oklahoma's bioscience community.

The BioSummit and Awards Dinner will be held April 8 at the Embassy Suites, Downtown Medical Center. Go to www.i2e.org for the agenda, to register or additional information.



SBIR ROAD TOUR COMES TO OKLAHOMA

America's largest seed fund is coming to Oklahoma for the SBIR Road Tour: Oklahoma's 2-day Conference on April 28 and 29 at the PHF Conference Center.

The highly competitive Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) programs provide the needed impetus for many advanced technology firms to move from ideation to commercialization, supporting our country's innovation driven economy. Since the programs' inception, there have been over 150,000 awards totaling about \$40 billion to help this country's innovators and de-risk technology investments needed to keep our country competitive. Annually, thousands of American innovators gain access to \$2.5 billion in non-dilutive seed capital through the SBIR/STTR programs.

The SBIR Road Tour "Seeding America's Future Innovations" is a nationally focused outreach initiative targeting advanced technology communities, including women-owned and minority-owned firms, in states that have underutilized this funding opportunity.

Each SBIR Road Tour stop is hosted by a local organization committed to supporting technology-based entrepreneurship. The first day of Oklahoma's conference will provide a full-

day workshop on SBIR/STTR proposal preparation led by nationally recognized SBIR experts from BBC Entrepreneurial Training and Consulting. Day two will provide attendees with a coveted local opportunity to hear directly from federal agency program managers and meet one-on-one with program decision makers.

For additional information at to register for the event go to www.ok.gov/ocast/oksbir.html.

UNITED GUAR BREAKS GROUND IN ALTUS

United Guar, a guar gum manufacturer, has chosen Altus as the location to build their first US guar refinery. A ground breaking ceremony was held at the refinery location within the city owned Eastside Industrial Park on the southeast end of Altus.



Officials representing federal, state and local government were in attendance for the event. A large crowd of city employees, community members and friends turned out to support the exciting opportunity for the city of Altus.

The United Guar groundbreaking showcases a successful collaboration between the Oklahoma Center for the Advancement of Science and Technology (OCAST), the Oklahoma Manufacturing Alliance (OMA) and the city of Altus, including Altus City Council, Altus Chamber of Commerce and Southwest Technology Center.

United Guar was formed in 2012 and is headquartered in Houston, Texas. Guar has been grown on land suitable for cotton and similar crops for half a century on primarily semi-arid land in Texas and Oklahoma. The Altus processing facility is planned to be fully operational in the fall of this year. The initial facility will take up approximately 5,000 square feet, with 1,500 for administrative operations.

United Guar will process the guar bean into powder for use in several industries including foods, cosmetics, pharmaceuticals and textiles, but the highest demand is for hydraulic fracturing in the oil and fuel industry. According to United Guar, the gum is the “material of choice” for a fracking fluid, where water becomes highly viscous with the addition of guar gum, making the high pressure pumping and fracturing process more efficient.



TULSA BASED COMPRESSION SOLUTIONS MOVES TO NEW LOCATION

Compression Solutions is a medical device manufacturer and distributor headquartered in Tulsa. They supply deep vein thrombosis (DVT) prevention and cold and compression therapy products. Each

year more than 300,000 people die from a DVT or blood clot that usually develops in their leg and then breaks off, creating a potentially fatal PE (pulmonary embolism). Three hundred thousand people are more than the amount of people that die each year from breast cancer, AIDS and highway fatalities combined.

In addition to the DVT prevention products, the company makes products for cold and compression therapy that are marketed through Compression Solutions and PowerPlay, its sports medicine company, to post-surgical patients and athletes for joint recovery.

The company has recently combined their three offices into a newly renovated facility at 817 East Fourth Street. According to Mark Farrow, CEO, the company had a corporate office at Sixteenth and Main and two warehouse/manufacturing facilities in east Tulsa.

Farrow says, “The renovated 20,000 square foot facility in the East Village allows for all employees to work in the same office for a more efficient and effective delivery of product throughout the US and select international countries. It also will accommodate the growth of our business for years to come.”

ISARRA INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE TO BE HELD IN NORMAN

The 2015 Meeting of the International Society for Atmospheric Research using Remotely piloted Aircraft (ISARRA 2015) will be held on the University of Oklahoma campus during May 20-22.

ISARRA was formed to provide a forum for those interested in using unmanned aerial systems (UAS) to investigate and observe the Earth’s atmosphere. ISARRA 2015 will provide a venue for a wide spectrum of individuals to exchange ideas, technological advances and related experiences pertaining to this topic.

During the first two days of ISARRA 2015 discussions will be focused primarily on the exchange of recent scientific and engineering developments through oral and poster presentations. The third day will consist of a trade show which will allow vendors, universities and researchers to interact one-on-one to discuss available and emerging technologies along with the ongoing needs within the scientific community.

The meeting format is designed to not only accommodate experienced research teams and private sector interests but also those wishing to launch into this exciting area of study.

Primary programmatic themes of the meeting will be:

1. Aircraft and control systems
2. Instrumentation and integration
3. Science applications, including synergistic research with other platforms and numerical simulation
4. Regulatory issues

See the ISARRA web site for additional information: http://isarra.org/isarra_2015.html.

OKLAHOMA TECHNOLOGY SHOWCASE»

TODAY'S INNOVATIONS, TOMORROW'S JOBS

August 26, 2015 / Northeastern State University - Broken Arrow

SAVE THE DATE, OKLAHOMA TECHNOLOGY SHOWCASE

Presentations by eight Oklahoma technology-based companies will highlight the fourth annual Oklahoma Technology Showcase slated for **August 26 at Northeastern State University in Broken Arrow** from 8:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Investors, business leaders, economic developers as well as young Oklahomans trying to decide on a college curriculum are all encouraged to attend the showcase. Each presenter will give a high energy talk highlighting their innovative products or services, lessons learned as they developed their tech-based companies and the challenges of securing funding.

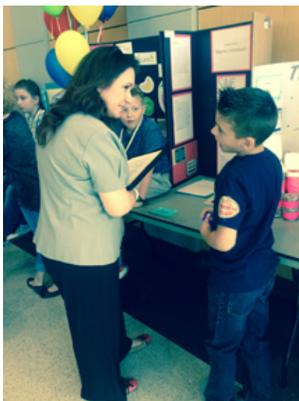
We are excited for TYPros' participation in the Tech Showcase this year! More information will be coming soon – please visit www.ok.gov/ocast/OKTechShowcase.html for the latest updates.

OCAST STAFF PARTICIPATE AS JUDGES IN STATEWIDE SCIENCE EXPOSITION

The Oklahoma Student Inventors Exposition held at Rose State College is a free annual statewide competition for students from kindergarten through high school. This statewide expo brings students from across the state, helping creativity and science work together through various projects. Each project is required to solve a real-life problem.



More than 2,500 students submitted ideas and projects to their school's own invention fair. Standouts from those fairs were invited to attend the statewide event with a total of 195 students from 28 public, private and parochial schools bringing projects and prototypes to the expo.



“We love working on this event each year. It really is a team effort,” said expo chairperson Betty J.C. Wright. “We’re really fortunate to have the amount of support we get from Rose State staff and volunteers – every piece of the puzzle counts. A lot of these students spend months working on their projects, and it’s always worth it once we see the kids come together and get excited about their inventions and prizes.”

Ethen Taylor was the grand prize winner this year taking home a prize of \$150. The winning project, “Thor,” was based around the idea of

using ambient energy from the ground to run a current through and charge an alternator and car battery. It took nearly a year from conception to completion.

Other projects from this year's expo included a "Breakaway Boat Anchor" from Poteau Upper Elementary School student and Division I winner Jace Goff, a "Handy Dandy Sandy Glove" from Bethany Middle School student and Division II winner Blue Cunningham and more.

A cash prize was also awarded for the "wackiest" invention, a title claimed this year by "The Attic Slider" by Poteau Upper Elementary School student Conner Whitworth. Each winner received a cash prize, and all contestants received a participation medal.

OCAST PROGRAMS CALENDAR

Plant Science application deadline: April 15, 2015

Health, OARS, FY15.2 Intern awards announced: June 16, 2015

Oklahoma Technology Summit: August 26, 2015

OKLAHOMA INNOVATIONS RADIO SHOW

Rick Smith is the warning coordination meteorologist at the [National Weather Service's Norman Forecast Office](#). He manages NWS Norman's hazardous weather preparedness, outreach and education activities for the office's 56 county area of responsibility.

[Listen to the show.](#)

Research Week is an annual event celebrating the research and scholarly activity of students and faculty at Oklahoma State University. Featuring speakers, symposiums, performances and presentations, the week provides an excellent opportunity for those inside and outside the university to experience the value and impact of research..

[Listen to the show.](#)

Oklahoma has transformed the heartland into a global crossroads. Our businesses are booming and we're a leader in everything from unconventional energy to unmanned aerial vehicles.

Oklahoma's [Secretary of State](#) discusses what the the state is doing right!

[Listen to the show.](#)

To hear more interviews on *Oklahoma Innovations* visit the [OCAST website](#) or listen weekly on:

Altus - Saturday at 6 a.m. - KOCU 90.1 FM

Ardmore - Saturday at 6 a.m. - KLCU 90.3 FM

Chickasha - Saturday at 6 a.m. - KCCU 100.1 FM

Clinton - Saturday at 6 a.m. - KYCU 89.1 FM
Lawton/Fort Sill - Saturday at 6 a.m. - KCCU 89.3 & 102.9 FM
Oklahoma City - Sunday at 5 p.m. - KTOK AM 1000
Tulsa - Sunday at 8 a.m. - KRMG AM 740/FM 102.3
Wichita Falls, TX - Saturday at 6 a.m. - KMCU 88.7 FM