



Contact: Holly Clifford
Cell: 404-668-7733
holly@thisispress.com

Tampa Bay WaVE Announces Second FirstWaVE Accelerator Class

Application deadline for next class is May 31

Tampa, FL (May 13, 2013) – Tampa Bay WaVE, a non-profit that helps entrepreneurs turn ideas into growing technology ventures, announced its second FirstWaVE Accelerator class, comprised of 8 early-stage technology startups. FirstWaVE clients participated in an application submission process, which included a live pitch event to the FirstWaVE Accelerator vetting committee on April 8th, before being selected into the program.

The second FirstWaVE Accelerator program clients include:

Fashion Sponge: FashionSponge gives billions of fashion lovers an environment to follow, learn, discover, share, buy and sell fashion and beauty related products.

ZingScan: ZingScan is a subscription-based business model for small businesses and schools to utilize an iOS visitor management app. The company offers three different plans of pricing: Basic, Pro, and EDU. Each plan will also offer different features.

CityLync: CityLync is a free yield management service for high-end restaurants. CityLync helps restaurants monetize their tables that would otherwise go unfilled and provides their members access to those tables at prices they can't get otherwise.

Mobadwin: Mobadwin is a free app for iPhones and Androids that connects businesses with their dream audience, using 25 demographic qualifiers, and allows them to engage and communicate with that audience. They provide their users with special offers and promotions from great bars, restaurants, shops, concerts and more, as well as allow them a chance to earn money and perks.

Pledge Your Bets: Pledge Your Bets is a fundraising platform that uses gamification technologies to encourage giving and provides a way for charities to engage younger donors.

Local Plants: LocalPlants.com is a venue that provides gardeners, landscapers, plant nurseries, tree farms and garden centers the ability to market their products and businesses to their local community.

Truckspotting: At Truckspotting, the founders have developed a better way to find food trucks other than following unreliable tweets. They came up with the idea of outfitting trucks with state of the art GPS devices that allow anyone with a smartphone the ability to track their favorites or find new food trucks near them in any city in the US...in real time.

Swap Shop Mobile: Swap Shop is the first mobile application that does the shopping around for you. Find books using your GPS location at a negotiable price. When you add the items you need to your profile, all you have to do is sit back and wait for a notification to appear on your phone that someone in your area has it.

--more--

“Our second FirstWaVE Accelerator class is an impressive group of business ideas and entrepreneurs,” said Jennifer Metz, program director. “The pool of talented individuals continues to grow. Development of unique and innovative technologies is paving the way for greater innovation and job creation in the Tampa Bay area.”

FirstWaVE Accelerator offers a wide variety of benefits to startups in all phases of development, including bootcamps and workshops by local entrepreneurs and business executives, dedicated mentors, opportunities to meet with investors, access to a team of dedicated student interns and free professional services. Clients also have access to coworking and office space within the FirstWaVE Venture Center, located in Tampa Bay WaVE’s headquarters on the second floor of the Rivergate Tower, downtown Tampa.

Applications for the next accelerator class must be submitted by May 31, 2013. To review the application and requirements or to apply, click on this link <https://tampabaywave.wufoo.com/forms/firstwave-venture-center-application/>. There is no fee to apply. Finalists will be asked to attend a live pitch event with the FirstWaVE Accelerator vetting committee on June 5. The next FirstWaVE class will be announced on June 6. All accepted ventures are required to attend a full-day Tech Venture Bootcamp on June 11.

About Tampa Bay WaVE:

Tampa Bay WaVE is a non-profit providing entrepreneurs and innovators with facilitated access to the resources, organizations, expertise and capital they need to create technology-based companies that will be the foundation for economic growth in the Tampa Bay region and eventually across the state. With a grant from U.S. Commerce Department and support from The University of South Florida and keystone corporate sponsors including In-Rel Properties, Sykes Enterprises, AVI-SPL, Florida Blue and Absolute Mobile Solutions, Tampa Bay WaVE is poised to jumpstart innovation and economic growth. For more information, visit www.tampabaywave.org.

###