

For Immediate Release  
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**ABOUT MTEC SMARTZONE**

The mission of MTEC SmartZone is to provide technology-based facilities, resources and programs to high-growth entrepreneurs and companies that increase employment, income, wealth and recognition in the U.P. communities where we serve. Our vision is having integrated economic development of the region that includes a vibrant technology sector, driving Michigan's technological leadership and economic growth with sustainable opportunities for companies and their employees to prosper. More information is available at [www.mtecz.com](http://www.mtecz.com)

**ABOUT THE MEDC**

The Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) is the State of Michigan's one-stop resource for businesses seeking to grow in Michigan. Whether it's an expansion, a relocation, or even a concern with another agency of state government, the MEDC can help. From site location assistance to job training grants, from help with permits to tax abatements, we're the state's economic development corporation. More information is available at [www.themedc.org](http://www.themedc.org).

*SmartZone is a service mark of Michigan Economic Development Corporation.*

# MTEC SmartZone Awarded \$500,000 for Business Programs

HOUGHTON, MI

Michigan Economic Development Corporation has announced that MTEC SmartZone is being awarded \$500,000 to provide business programs for startup technology companies. The grant will be used to offer services that include business planning, marketing research, an executive-in-residence program, patents and legal assistance.

The grant is provided through the Strategic Service Providers program which provides critical and valuable services to technology entrepreneurs and companies in Michigan. MTEC plans to assist businesses and entrepreneurs that have the ability to attract significant capital investment to the State of Michigan, employ workers with family-sustaining wages and build Michigan's technology core. The grant is intended to help technology businesses diversify and expand Michigan's economy in fields including life sciences, aerospace, alternative energy, advanced engineering/manufacturing, homeland security and defense. Funding from the program will enable companies to secure investments that move them from fledgling businesses with very low budget resources to sustainable businesses that offer long-term income generation and continued growth of Michigan's economy.

MTEC SmartZone will begin offering programs and services starting in May. Interested companies should contact Jonathan Leinonen by calling 906-487-7004.

