

For Immediate Release
January 18, 2010

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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.mtecsz.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.

SmartZone is a service mark of Michigan Economic Development Corporation.

Congressman Stupak Applauds SmartZone's Success

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Following the completion of a \$3.2 million renovation, the fourth MTEC SmartZone location to open in the Keweenaw was a source of excitement and inspiration for Congressman Bart Stupak during his recent visit to the U.P. With his significant interest in economic development and entrepreneurship, Stupak applauds the SmartZone on being an integral part in the expansion of high-tech businesses and the subsequent increased job market within the Upper Peninsula.

Along with Congressman Stupak, Kim Stoker, Executive Director of the Western U.P. Planning and Development, Phil Musser, Executive Director of the SmartZone, Tom Baldini, District Director for Congressman Stupak, and Mike Lahti, Michigan's State Representative had the opportunity to tour the facility under the direction of the SmartZone's CEO, Carlton Crothers on January 7, 2010.

The group was impressed with the renovation and thrilled about the reuse of an existing building. The upgrades have prepared the facility to become a high-tech hub for the continued development of technology-based business and further expansion of the MTEC SmartZone.

The newly renovated facility features 12 business spaces. Along with greater floor space within each suite, the new location offers a High Definition conference room, an independent climate server room in which clients could securely have their own operating server in place, as well as a back up generator insuring 24/7 power.

MTEC SmartZone is responsible for bringing into the local community two, fortune 100 companies, Ford and GE Aviation, the establishment of 12 new technology start-ups, and the further development of 160 full-time jobs. Each SmartZone company plays a key role in the economic surge of the Keweenaw Peninsula and with this new facility now operational there is a promise for further growth.

The UPPCO building itself has found a new beginning with this renovation project and is now ready to support the new beginnings of the next stage of MTEC SmartZone entrepreneurs.



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Stupak shares his thoughts on the Smart Zone's success in the new HD conference room. (Pictured left to right) Mike Lahti, State Representative; Kim Stoker, Executive Director of Western Upper Peninsula Planning & Development Region ; Carlton Crothers, CEO MTEC SmartZone; Phil Musser, President Keweenaw Economic Development Alliance and Congressman Bart Stupak.

