

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.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.

MTEC SmartZone Announces Three New Board Members Business leaders to serve, fulfill 2020 vision

HOUGHTON, Michigan (January 12, 2012) – MTEC SmartZone recently appointed three new business leaders to its Board of Directors: Dinah Adkins, author and former President and CEO of the National Business Incubation Association; Peter W. Farner, Partner in TGap Ventures, an early stage Michigan-based venture firm; and Dave Haviland, founder of Phimation and expert consultant for Stage 2 businesses.

“We were introduced to these individuals, all of whom have extraordinary experience, at a strategic planning session this past July. They were very impressed with what is happening here in the Keweenaw, and excitedly accepted these board positions,” says MTEC SmartZone CEO, Marilyn Clark.

Together, the new and established board members will help realize MTEC SmartZone's recently launched 'year 2020 vision,' which includes creating 750 new jobs in the region, providing greater support and resources to Stage 2 companies and developing a position at Michigan Technological University, moving new technologies from the lab to MTEC SmartZone and, ultimately, the marketplace.



Dinah Adkins, former President and CEO of National Business Incubation Association

Dinah Adkins served as President and CEO of the National Business Incubation Association for 21 years. Under Adkins' direction, the Association developed many products and services, including publications, training, research and consulting activities for members – representing 67 nations – and customers.

“MTEC SmartZone is committed to the best practices of entrepreneurship support; I am thrilled to help in any way I can,” Adkins says.



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Ms. Adkins is an author and coauthor of many articles and books including, "Best Practices in Action – Guidelines for Implementing First-Class Business Incubation Programs," (Athens, Ohio: National Business Incubation Association, 2010).



Peter W. Farner, Partner of
TGap Ventures

Peter W. Farner - Currently a Partner of TGap Ventures, successfully raising two funds and actively investing millions, Farner has been active in emerging ventures since 1984. He served in business development roles and as Founder and CEO for technology, software and service companies, successfully contracting with more than a dozen Fortune 500 companies. Additionally, Farner holds two United States patents.

"I am excited to get involved with MTEC SmartZone, helping Houghton, Hancock and Michigan Tech capitalize on the entrepreneurial spirit and technologies emerging in the Keweenaw Peninsula," Farner says.

In 2011, Mr. Farner was appointed by Governor Snyder to the Michigan Early Stage Venture Investment Corporation Board of Directors.



Dave Haviland, founder of Phimation
Strategy Group

Dave Haviland - Prior to starting Phimation Strategy Group, a management consulting and coaching firm focused on small growth companies, Haviland served as an operations, corporate development and marketing leader at four telecom/media startups. For over 15 years, Haviland has been consulting and working with companies that are starting or transitioning to a new growth stage.

"This region has a strong set of economic development leaders, and I'm looking forward to supporting them as they continue their efforts to create new growth for the community," Haviland says.

Mr. Haviland is a featured blogger for *Crain's Detroit Business* on matters related to business growth and is a contributor to industry publications on Stage 2 related topics.

To view a complete list of MTEC SmartZone's Board of Directors, please visit:
<http://www.mtecsz.com/MTECBoardOfDirectors.aspx>

To learn more about MTEC SmartZone's 2020 Vision, please call: (906) 487-7000.

