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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](http://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](http://www.themedc.org).

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

# New MTEC SmartZone Internet Platform Creates Opportunity for Growth of Technology Business

"Energizing High Tech Business Growth" is the promise and mission of the MTEC SmartZone. Now, a significant new intranet and internet technology foundation has been added to the arsenal of business support and development tools available to SmartZone companies and their employees. The new web -based platform will help accelerate business growth more than ever before by providing significant new levels of information accessibility, sharing, storage and speed.

The business intranet technology of the site features has been created via the file server system Microsoft Office SharePoint. SharePoint is an integrated suite of server capabilities that can help improve organizational effectiveness by providing comprehensive content management and enterprise search, accelerating shared business processes, and facilitating information-sharing across boundaries for better business insight. Additionally, this collaboration and content management server provides IT professionals and developers with the platform and tools they need for server administration, application extensibility, and interoperability.

"With our new server system in place, we are staying ahead of the curve to help our technology companies better facilitate processing information" says Jonathan Leinonen, MTEC SmartZone Program Director. "The new system will keep pace with changes to IT technology and make it easier for all of us to communicate and exchange information at a greatly accelerated pace," adds Leinonen.

The system represents a significant investment in time and effort on the part of numerous companies and technical experts in many areas, from content development to information management. One way the general population can see the new site at work via the internet is by visiting [mtecsmart.com](http://mtecsmart.com). A new website friendly story of the MTEC SmartZone has been developed



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and will feature changing news stories and updates for MTEC SmartZone inquiries. New videos showcase SmartZone companies and stories so that more people can learn about what the SmartZone is and does. More important, the “back-end” of the site usable by SmartZone companies is generating the real power of business growth tools.

MTEC SmartZone is energizing high-tech business growth in the Upper Peninsula. In just 5 years MTEC has brought in two fortune 100 companies, helped solidify the establishment of 12 new technology start-ups, seen its charter member graduate to build its own corporate center, and is attributed as one of the key components of a economic surge in the Keweenaw Peninsula. 160 full-time jobs are now in motion, and local city officials from Houghton/Hancock attribute over 500 spin off jobs to the impact of core family sustaining jobs.

SmartZones provide distinct geographical clusters where activities are focused on commercializing ideas, patents and other opportunities surrounding corporate, university or private research institute R&D efforts. At its core, MTEC provides vibrant work spaces and operating support that new and emerging business needs to function and grow.



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