

# Emerging Technology Fund

*"In Texas, we understand that high-tech companies don't just happen overnight but are a product of forethought, sound vision and planning, and strategic investments by both the public and private sectors. Through our Emerging Technology Fund, we are bringing the best scientists and researchers to Texas, attracting high-tech jobs and helping start-up companies get off the ground faster." – Gov. Rick Perry*

The Emerging Technology Fund (ETF), created by the Texas Legislature in 2005 at the urging of Gov. Perry, provides Texas with an unparalleled advantage by expediting the development and commercialization of new technologies, and by recruiting the best research talent in the world. Matching and commercialization funds coupled with additional federal and outside investments mean new technology is emerging in Texas. The ETF was reauthorized by the 80th Texas Legislature, making more than \$185 million available during the 2008-09 biennium.

The program works through partnerships between the state, institutions of higher education and private industry to focus greater attention on the research, development, and commercialization of emerging technology. There are seven Regional Centers of Innovation and Commercialization (RCIC) and one Texas Life Science Center to serve stakeholders throughout the state in:

- **Top Talent Acquisition:** For acquisition of "research superiority" for Texas higher education institutions, e.g., attracting additional, established, "high profile" researchers as faculty;
- **Commercialization Awards:** Provides selected, early-stage investments in new, technology-based, private entrepreneurial entities that collaborate with public or private institutions of higher education in Texas, and which, if successful, may provide significant economic benefit to the state.

## **Key components of the ETF**

The ETF brings new ideas and products to the marketplace today. This innovation and the commercialization will have a long-term profound impact on Texas.

Priority is given to emerging technology projects that will enhance Texas' global competitiveness – that are collaborative and leverage both critical expertise and financial resources. Not only will these ETF investments demonstrate economic benefits, they will also result in significant medical and or scientific breakthroughs which will improve people's lives.

Recipients commit to work in a collaborative environment and support Texas economic development by growing their business in Texas and providing a return on the State of Texas' investment.

(Continued)

**AWARDS**

To date, the ETF has awarded over \$140 million to Texas companies and universities. Below are two examples of ETF award recipients.

NanoMedical Systems (NMS) was awarded \$3,500,000 to assist with the development of the company's Personalized Molecular Drug-delivery System (PMDS). The PMDS is a small capsule designed to be implanted just under the skin in a simple office procedure. The capsule will be able to hold enough medication for weeks or months of controlled release. NMS will commercialize the patented research of co-founder Dr. Mauro Ferrari. Dr. Ferrari was recruited through an ETF Research Superiority grant to the Alliance for NanoHealth at the University of Texas Health Science Center in Houston.

Texas AgriLife Research, an agency of the Texas A&M University System, was awarded \$4,025,000 by the ETF for research and development of the economical production of microalgae-derived fuels, such as biodiesel. Microalgae-derived biofuels could produce 15,000 gallons of biodiesel per acre per year compared to the 50 gallons per acre per year typical of soybeans. The funds provided by the ETF will allow Texas AgriLife Research to acquire the personnel and physical resources necessary to research and develop the technologies necessary to tap into the incredible potential of microalgae-derived biofuels and offer those benefits to people worldwide.

For additional information, please see a full listing of awards at [www. EmergingTechFund.com](http://www. EmergingTechFund.com).

**ETF Regional Centers of Innovation and Commercialization (RCIC)**

<p><b>1 - Trans-Pecos/El Paso RCIC</b> Ebetuel "Beto" Pallares beto@tpeprcic.org 915.613.2476</p>	<p><b>2 - West Texas Coalition for Innovation &amp; Commercialization</b> Steve Anderson s.anderson@nwtsbdc.org 806.745.3973</p>	<p><b>3 - North Texas RCIC</b> Mike Lockerd mikel@ntxrcic.org 972.883.4920</p>	<p><b>4 - Gulf Coast RCIC</b> Bob Prochnow bob.prochnow@gulfcoastrcic.org 832.746.9262</p>	<p><b>5 - Central Texas RCIC</b> Susan Davenport sdavenport@austinchamber.org 512.322.5657</p>	<p><b>6 - South Texas RCIC</b> Jim Poage jbp@satai.us 210.458.2523</p>	<p><b>7 - Rio Grande RCIC</b> Fernando Gonzalez fgonzalez@riograndercic.com 956.973.8600</p>	<p><b>Texas Life Science CIC (Statewide)</b> Andrew Nat anat@tlsc.tamu.edu 281.857.9028</p>
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For more information on Texas call 1-800-888-0511 or visit [www.TexasWideOpenForBusiness.com](http://www.TexasWideOpenForBusiness.com).



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