FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Rhode Island Business Plan Competition Announces Special Green Awards

PROVIDENCE – (March 8, 2011) – The Rhode Island Business Plan Competition today announced that it will grant special awards in the 2011 competition to participants who are developing green-related businesses.

The special awards will be presented for green businesses in addition to awards for winners and finalists in Entrepreneur and Student Tracks.

Green awards, split between cash and in-kind services, will be supported by donations from Edwards Angell Palmer & Dodge, New England Institute of Technology, the Rhode Island Small Business Development Center, and Braemar Energy Ventures.

Last year, the competition fielded a formal Green Track, which was supported by a lead grant that was not renewed this year.

Applications for the 2011 competition are due by April 4. Anyone may apply, but they must agree to establish or continue a business in Rhode Island to be eligible to receive prizes. Winners will be announced May 3 at RIBX, sponsored by the Greater Providence Chamber of Commerce.

Sponsors of the 2011 Competition

Lead sponsors of the 2011 competition are Bank of America, Davol Inc., the Greater Providence Chamber of Commerce, Johnson & Wales University, Providence Journal Charitable Foundation, Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation, the University of Rhode Island, and Ximedica, along with Edwards Angell Palmer & Dodge, Embolden, Hinckley, Allen & Snyder LLP, Kahn, Litwin, Renza & Co., Ltd., and the Rhode Island Small Business Development Center.


Additional support has also been provided by Angel RI, Banneker Industries, Inc., Dijipop, InsureMyTrip.com, Rhode Island Medical Society, and Summer Infant.

About the Competition

Established in 2000, the Rhode Island Business Plan Competition aims to develop the entrepreneurial spirit in Rhode Island and help create growth companies that will increase local employment. To date, it has awarded more than $820,000 in prizes to companies that span a number of industries.

Complete competition information, including rules, application procedures, guidelines, and business plan resources, is available at www.ri-bizplan.com.

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