



Regional Growth Partnership

BUILDING A HIGH-TECH, HIGH PERFORMANCE ECONOMY



Rocket Ventures

TECHNOLOGY ... REALIZED



# NEWS

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**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Julie Myers  
Regional Growth Partnership  
Phone: 419/252-2700

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Rocket Ventures Invests \$250k in Branam Oral Health Technologies**

Rocket Ventures, the venture capital arm of the Regional Growth Partnership (RGP), recently announced a \$250,000 investment in local medical device company Branam Oral Health Technologies (Branam).

The Rocket Ventures investment was made as a part of a \$1,000,000 Series A Preferred Equity round, during which Rocket Ventures is the lead investor. In addition to the Rocket Ventures investment, Branam secured an additional \$100,000 in follow-on investment.

Branam has a robust line of products that provide an innovative approach to the prevention of early childhood tooth decay and the development of proper jaw and tooth formation in children. The company will be using its initial funding to secure distribution contracts, as well as to complete stability testing on its initial product suite, which Branam anticipates reaching the market in the first quarter of 2010.

Branam's founder, Dr. Stephen Branam has been a practicing pediatric dentist for more than 30 years and is a recognized leader in pediatric dentistry. Dr. Branam's office is located in Oregon, Ohio and the majority of the Branam line of products will be manufactured locally.

"The CDC reports that tooth decay is the number one disease in children under the age of six. The RGP believes in Branam's line of products as a way of curbing this epidemic and we are thrilled to

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have been the lead investor during this round of investment, “said Greg Knudson, director of Rocket Ventures.

Branam CEO, Mick Janness stated, “The RGP has provided invaluable strategic guidance during our start-up phase and we are enormously pleased to receive an investment from the Rocket Ventures Fund, which will enable us to manufacture our products in the U.S. and bring jobs to Ohio.”

In addition to this investment, Branam received a \$50k Rocket Ventures Ignite! Development grant to perfect chemical formulation and product design.

### **About Rocket Ventures**

Rocket Ventures, a division of the Regional Growth Partnership, is a pre-seed, early stage venture fund for technology-based entities/companies operating within the state of Ohio. It consists of \$15 million in state funding and \$7.5 million in private sector investment.

### **About Launch**

Launch is a technology-based business incubation program of the Regional Growth Partnership. Launch provides comprehensive business assistance for entrepreneurs and start-up companies that are commercializing revolutionary, world-class technologies, to accelerate company growth and time to-market-entry.

### **About The Regional Growth Partnership**

The Regional Growth Partnership is a private nonprofit development corporation dedicated to fostering local, national, and international economic growth opportunities for Northwest Ohio and Southeast Michigan. The Regional Growth Partnership acknowledges the contribution of the state of Ohio, Department of Development and Thomas Edison Program, which provide funding in support of the Launch program.

### **About Branam Oral Health Technologies, Inc.**

Branam Oral Health Technologies, Inc. develops and manufactures all-natural products that leverage innovative ingredients and technologies to advance the health and well-being of families. For more information go to [www.branamsmile.com](http://www.branamsmile.com).

TEL 419-252-2700

300 Madison Ave. Suite 270 Toledo Ohio  
www.rgp.org

FAX 419-252-2724