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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Regional Growth Partnership and Rocket Ventures Announce the Launch of Plymouth Venture Partners II – Another Regionally-Focused VC Fund

Mark Horne, Managing Partner of Plymouth Venture Partners II, L.P., in conjunction with Steve Weathers, President and CEO of Rocket Ventures, is pleased to announce the launch of Plymouth Venture Partners Fund II, which plans to invest in growth-stage companies within the Northwest Ohio and Great Lakes region. Plymouth Venture Partners, which is opening the firm's new second office in Toledo, recently initiated the Fund's first capital call and expects to complete an initial closing by the end of May. The Plymouth Fund will begin investing soon after the first close.

Of Plymouth's upcoming close, Steve Weathers said, "We are certainly pleased that more capital will be available to further the growth of companies in Northwest Ohio. The caliber of the Plymouth team is impressive and we feel their decision to locate an office here is further validation of the work of the local entrepreneurial community. We look forward to the addition of another nearby, high-quality funding partner." Plymouth Ventures management believes Northwest Ohio is a fertile area for investments. Plymouth Fund I invested in four Ohio companies; including American Broadband & Telephone which is headquartered in downtown Toledo.

Plymouth Venture Partners, whose first fund has yielded a 33.3% realized weighted average annual rate of return and a 1.8X cash on cash return, has completed 29 investments and experienced 12 liquidity events since 2003 (with only one write-off), making the Fund a top quartile Class of 2003 fund. The firm's consistent approach has produced a majority of exits in an IRR range between 25% and 55%. Plymouth Venture Partners Fund I was selected as one of Entrepreneur Magazine's Top 100 Venture Funds for Early Stage Companies in 2007.

Like Plymouth's first fund, Plymouth Venture Partners II plans to invest primarily in Ohio, Michigan and the Great Lakes region. Nearly all of the first fund's investments were in Michigan and Ohio. Plymouth has been able to perform during extremely difficult economic conditions in this area over the past five years and expects this to continue in a low valuation environment with investments in companies with national and/or international sales (i.e. are not overly dependent on the local economy) and low cost structures.

Funds such as the Rocket Venture Fund and Plymouth Venture Partners II play a key role in the region due to the shortage of critical capital available to early- and growth-stage companies in this area. Michigan and Ohio represent 7% of the United States' GDP, but only 1% of the country's venture capital investment. Numerous other measures of funding activity also indicate the importance of furthering the capital base in this region.

Plymouth Venture Partners enjoyed success raising capital in a difficult fundraising environment. Speaking about the fundraising process, Mark Horne said, "Our experience, track record, discipline and growth-stage strategy has resonated well with investors who are uncertain about where to invest dollars today. There is a growing unease with the public markets, and a renewed enthusiasm to back local entrepreneurs who are expanding nationally and internationally."

About Plymouth Venture Partners II, L.P.

Fund II is the firm's second fund, and has attracted capital from individual and institutional investors. The final size of the fund will be near \$40 million, with a second closing scheduled for later this year. PVP I was a \$23 million pledge fund which became fully invested in 2009 after completing its new investment cycle in 29 companies. Fund II will invest exclusively in growth-stage companies in the Great Lakes region, with a special focus on Northwest Ohio and Southeastern Michigan.

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 Rocket Ventures

Rocket Ventures, a division of the Regional Growth Partnership, includes 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.