



Regional Growth Partnership
BUILDING A HIGH-TECH, HIGH PERFORMANCE ECONOMY



NEWS

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RGP Client Beyond Gaming to Lease from Summit Street Incubator

The Regional Growth Partnership (RGP) recently facilitated a lease between Beyond Gaming, LLC (Beyond Gaming) and the Summit Street Incubator (the Incubator) at 1301 N. Summit. Beyond Gaming is in beta testing of its web based portal that allows its members to engage in stakes-based competitions using console gaming systems including Sony Playstation, Xbox 360 and Nintendo Wii. Beyond Gaming has been working with the Launch and Rocket Ventures programs of the RGP to commercialize its world wide web gaming console technology and is the second client to take advantage of the facility's agreement between the RGP and the Incubator. The business relationship between Beyond Gaming and the RGP has also led to a development grant as well as approval of the 25% tax credit under the Ohio Department of Development's Technology Investment Tax Credit program whereby investors get an immediate .25 cent tax credit against Ohio state taxes for every dollar invested.

Beyond Gaming co-founder Justin Yamek said about the space, "It's great for our three person office, and there is space flexibility and room to expand as we plan on hiring at least three more people by year's end. Our space is secure. And with a NOC, high ceilings and brick walls, there is just a lot of energy and creativity being shared by the five companies and 16 people co-renting the space right now."

The Summit Street Incubator, which includes a network operating center for high tech communications, caters to Information Technology companies, but is open to any early-stage venture. Several companies have benefited from the collaborative culture and contemporary setting before graduating to permanent space, the most successful of which was Gateway Defender, Inc., that was eventually sold to MX Logic (now McAfee) in 2006. The Incubator has a total of 8,500 feet to offer start-ups in a variety of configurations from open floor plan workspaces to private offices. As recent business activity has increased, the Incubator only has six workstations available. The Incubator also boasts a long-standing relationship with Ohio's IT Alliance, a non-profit 501 (c) 3 that was formed in 2000 to focus on economic development in the IT industry in Ohio. During this time period the organization has generated over \$10,000,000 in grants and earned revenue and its development partner organizations have raised in excess of \$50,000,000.

"The Summit Street Incubator provides a unique environment where tenants can interact with each other creating synergistic relationships. This mind sharing has been proven to be a catalyst for

growth and we are pleased to have helped Beyond Gaming find a space in this dynamic incubator,” said Blake Underwood, Project Manager, Launch.

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.

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