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Capital Connects Event Seeks to Join Venture Capitalists and Entrepreneurs
Event to be held October 1, 2009 in Greensboro, NC

September 11, 2009 (Greensboro, NC) – The Greensboro Partnership is hosting *Capital Connects!* on October 1 in Greensboro, NC. The event is designed to accelerate the pace of investment in Greensboro and the Piedmont Triad region. As an invitation-only event, *Capital Connects!* links early stage companies with accredited investors from across the nation. Since its inception in 2004, 99 ventures have participated, raising over \$10 million directly from the event and reporting another \$27 million in additional investments. Ten companies will be presenting to over 50 investors during a full-day conference at the O.Henry Hotel in Greensboro. Dr. Basil Peters, the principal of Strategic Exits Corp and the fund manager for Fundamental Technologies II will be the keynote speaker. *Capital Connects!* will be held in conjunction with the southeastern regional meeting for the Angel Capital Association, but the event is open to other investors as well.

Troy Knauss, of the Piedmont Angel Network commented, "There are a number of surprising companies coming to the Piedmont Triad region to pitch their plans. The 2009 *Capital Connects!* promises to be one of the most varied in terms of ideas and ventures from early-stage to later-stage private equity deals. With about 20 companies being presented, the investors involved have a lot of choice – we want investors to realize that the Piedmont Triad has considerable entrepreneurial activity and *Capital Connects!* is a great entre into that community. It doesn't matter if you are a seasoned investor or relatively new to the game."

Capital Connects! is a part of the Entrepreneurial Initiative of The Greensboro Partnership, and was organized previously by the Piedmont Triad Entrepreneurial Network (PTEN). After PTEN dissolved at the end of 2008, the Partnership pledged to continue several of PTEN's programs while developing new approaches to entrepreneurial growth. Programs such as the entrepreneurial education series, the Life Science CEO Roundtable series, and the NC Nanotechnology Conference will be offered over the next several months as the Partnership works to cultivate an environment in the Triad that enables entrepreneurial start-ups to flourish. *Capital Connects!* is co-chaired by Troy Knauss, Piedmont Angel Network and W. B. Rodman ("Roddy") Davis, Hagan Davis Mangum Barrett Langley Hale PLLC.

"This is an exciting event for Greensboro and the Triad region," commented Greensboro Chamber President and Director of Entrepreneurship, Rob Clapper. "Marrying the newest, high-growth ventures with investors from all over the United States is a rewarding process and one that will yield economic dividends for Greensboro and the Triad for years to come."

To attend *Capital Connects!*, register online at www.capitalconnects.net. Contact Stephanie Ashton at 336-387-8316 or via email at sashton@greensboro.org for more information.

The Greensboro Partnership is the principal economic and community development organization in Greensboro through the work of its three member organizations, the Greensboro Chamber of Commerce, Action Greensboro, and Greensboro Economic Development Alliance. The Partnership works to develop a vibrant community that creates, expands and attracts business while advancing the quality of life for all. Signature projects for the Partnership's business units include an initiative to develop an entrepreneurial culture in Greensboro and the Triad, business recruitment projects, community-wide events such as the State of the Community address, advancing Greensboro's legislative agenda to the NC General Assembly, as well as the very visible Center City Park and Action Greensboro Phase II.