Discover News based on what your friends are reading and publish your own reading activity. You have full control over what you publish.

**Going National Greenovation and Green Products**

PRWeb – Tue, Oct 11, 2011

What began in a small segment of Pennsylvania has now grown to national proportions. In the Greenovation Competition of Central Pennsylvania, a regional competition among local innovators, encourage and create green products meant to conserve natural resources and the environment, providing a grand prize package of services to turn the winning innovations into a reality.

**Williamsport, PA** (PRWEB) October 11, 2011

What began in a small segment of Pennsylvania has now grown to national proportions. In the Greenovation Competition of Central Pennsylvania, a regional competition among local innovators, encourage and create green products meant to conserve natural resources and the environment, providing a grand prize package of services to turn the winning innovations into a reality. With “Greenovation” such as design services, prototyping and provisional patent applications, IMC’s mission is to help regional Pennsylvania manufacturers grow and flourish. IMC is part of the Resource Center Network and the National Institute of Standards and Technology’s Manufacturing Partnership (NIST MEP) program. These programs help small and mid-sized U.S. manufacturers increase profits, and save time and money. They provide a variety of services, from innovation improvements to green manufacturing.

IMC has hosted Greenovation Contests over the past few years. During that time the prize package, time period, and many green product ideas have emerged from innovators and companies in the competition. They realized the concept they created could be easily replicated, and could provide other organizations and framework to host similar contests across the U.S. to encourage green product development.

In 2010 Katie Bell, the coordinator of the Greenovation Competition, introduced the concept of going national.
MEP National Conference. She was asked to present on the subject again at their 2011 Conference. By then IMC turned the concept into a “toolbox” of resources to help organizations regional Greenovation Contest. The toolbox includes a national portal website, http://www.greenovationcontest.com, a Greenovation Partner Starter Kit which includes materials, applications, checklists, and events that a Greenovation Partner will have the framework to host a successful contest.

After the Conference Alabama Technology Network (ATN), Texas Manufacturing Assistance Program (TMAP) Texas Small Business Development Center (NTSBDC) came onboard as the first Greenovation Partner. Greenovation Contests have successfully yielded “Greenovations” (green innovations). Equinox Outdoor and environmental gear in Williamsport, PA, created fruit, veggie and nut bags (proprietary, chemical-free nano and beehive mesh. Progressive Green Industries, a startup company, developed the Aversa energy-saving shower valve that restricts water by introducing air to the user with a full-feeling shower. And finally, PowerCents is still under development by Ran energy saving device shuts off standby power, saving about 10% of electricity normally used.

Greenovation began as a motivator for local manufacturers and innovators to develop green products and helpful in the conservation of natural resources. It has now become a national initiative encouraging innovative thinking in companies and communities. Participation in a regional competition, finalists, winners, the coordinating organization, and sponsors and service providers.

Greenovation partner, Tom Pryor, TMAC Growth Coach & Director of UTA's SBDC stated, "We take advantage of a proven program and its successes, and offer it in our region. The tools and time, and their team has been helpful in the launch of our Greenovation Contest this fall." I'm excited to see people’s ideas come to fruition to help preserve the planet’s resources.

Becoming a Greenovation Partner is easy, and will provide you with tools to support your success. Organizations can become Greenovation Partners, such as but not limited to MEPs, Small Business and Universities. Good Partners have established relationships, or want to build connections, supporting innovation and product development activities for business.

For information in becoming a Partner of the Greenovation Contest initiative, please contact 1 ext. 8083 or katieb(at)imcpa(dot)com. For success stories and more information please visit http://www.greenovationcontest.com.
###
Katie Bell
IMC, Inc.
570-329-3200 8083
Email Information