



Lexington, Ky. (February 1, 2013) - Each year the Lexington Venture Club recognizes entrepreneurial companies in the Bluegrass Region that have contributed to the long-term growth and prosperity of the region. The founders of these companies are launching and growing new technology based businesses which, in turn, create high-paying jobs and form the basis for the knowledge-based economy in Lexington and surrounding counties. These early-stage companies represent industry sectors in biotechnology and healthcare, advanced manufacturing, IT and software development, game development, energy technologies and business services.

On January 31, the Lexington Venture Club hosted its annual celebration, which was themed “The Toast of the Town” at Paulie’s Toasted Barrel downtown. Many of the recognized companies attended the event, as well as community leaders including Mayor Jim Gray who networked with the companies. Dr. Eli Capilouto and Bob Quick, Commerce Lexington Inc. President & CEO, were the featured speakers and they toasted the successful endeavors of the companies. The attendees enjoyed three video features on Allylix, Stadionaut, and the Lexington gaming community.

During the celebration the Lexington Venture Club announced the results of its annual survey of early-stage companies. This year 87 early stage companies responded that their company received funding and/or created jobs in 2012. The highlight of these companies’ self-reported successes include:

- **\$83.8 million** in funding received from, friends and family investors, angel and venture capital investors, federal funds, including SBIR and STTR grants; Kentucky state funds, including SBIR/STTR matching grant funds and investment from strategic partners.
- **823** people were employed by these companies either in full time or part time positions. This number includes **201** new full-time and **103** part-time hires.
- **\$68,067** was the reported annual average salary for all full-time jobs maintained and created by these companies.
- **\$141.4 million** in total revenue was produced by these companies.

The Lexington Venture Club was established to bring entrepreneurs, investors and service providers together to share information of common interest and to learn more about new business opportunities. The Lexington Venture Club was co-founded in 2002 and is managed by Commerce Lexington and the University of Kentucky’s Von Allmen Center for Entrepreneurship and the Lexington Innovation & Commercialization Center (ICC), which is a part of the statewide Innovation Network supported by the Kentucky Cabinet for Economic Development.

For more information about the event and to see a full list of the companies recognized, please visit [www.lexingtonventureclub.com](http://www.lexingtonventureclub.com).

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