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LOCAL COMPANIES WEATHERTIGER AND NHU ENERGY WIN GRANTS AT INNOVATION PARK TECHGRANT PITCH NIGHT

Five local early stage companies competed for a chance to win \$25,000 at Innovation Park's Annual TechGrant Pitch Night

Tallahassee. Fla.- Innovation Park of Tallahassee is pleased to announce WeatherTiger and Nhu Energy have been declared the 2020 winners of the Innovation Park TechGrant Program.

WeatherTiger took home the first-place prize of \$15,000. WeatherTiger is a meteorological predictive analytics company that serves commodity market traders. WeatherTiger developed a proprietary algorithm that utilizes weather and agricultural data to predict seasonal yields, and thus price action, of widely traded crops (corn, wheat, soybeans).

Ryan Truchelut, President and Chief Meterologist at WeatherTiger said, "Receiving the \$15,000 TechGrant will allow WeatherTiger to engage a local developer to build a visualization dashboard that will efficiently communicate our agricultural model projections to users and broaden the marketability of the model."

Nhu Energy took home the second-place prize of \$10,000 this year. Nhu Energy's mission is to develop and deploy de-risked intelligent systems, controls, and analytics to enable more rapid and successful development, integration, and operation of new energy technologies and systems in a future where critical utility and defense applications will require increased flexibility and resiliency while maintaining reliability and affordability.

Rick Meeker, President of Nhu Energy said, "We applaud Innovation Park/LCRDA's work to support growing the innovation ecosystem in Leon county through activities like the TechGrant. We are pleased Nhu Energy has been selected for this award – these

funds will support our activities to pilot our flexible energy controls technology with partners here in Tallahassee."

These grants were awarded during Innovation Park's annual TechGrant Elevator Pitch Night, which was co-presented this year by Hancock Whitney and Danfoss Turbocor, and took place on Wednesday, October 21st on Zoom. This was the first year the event was held virtually, and it was a huge success! During the event, audience members logged in at home to watch five impressive companies compete for a chance to win one of these grants. The other finalist companies were EduClear, MagShark, and Moye Consultants.

Innovation Park initiated the TechGrant Program in 2005, and since then has awarded \$462,000 to 27 companies, several of which are still flourishing in Tallahassee and producing high-wage tech jobs.

Event Sponsors this year also included Lewis, Longman and Walker, NAI Talcor, The Office of Economic Vitality, Thomas Howell Ferguson and Nelson Mullins Broad and Cassel.

For more information about Innovation Park's TechGrant program please visit: <u>http://innovation-park.com/techgrant/</u>.

About Innovation Park of Tallahassee

Innovation Park of Tallahassee and the LCRDA are a unique community collaboration of FSU, FAMU, TCC, County, City and private sector leaders charged with driving innovation based economic development to recruit, retain and develop organizations which capitalize on the distinctive Innovation Park research assets focused on magnetics, aero-propulsion, materials, energy, health, and life sciences. The mission of the LCRDA is to work in affiliation with these partners to promote our region's research and development assets, and to foster the attraction, startup and growth of private innovative companies that create high wage jobs in Leon County. Learn more at <u>www.innovation-park.com</u>.

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