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Advantage leads funding round for New Markets investment Voxitas

[Voxitas Inc.](#), formerly known as NetLogic, has closed on \$2.5 million in funding from Advantage Capital Partners and other investors. The funding will provide working capital to fuel Voxitas' continued growth.

Voxitas, headquartered in St. Louis, is a Quality of Service (QoS) Business-Class ITSP (Internet Telephony Service Provider). The company offers feature-rich, next generation VoIP (Voice over Internet Protocol) telephony services, utilizing SIP (Session Initiation Protocol) trunks. In addition, Voxitas provides long distance, internet, toll-free and emergency 911 services to single and multi-site IPBX (Internet Protocol Private Branch Exchange) systems, in-bound and out-bound call centers, small to medium-sized enterprises, and wholesale carriers.

"VoIP is one of the fastest-growing technologies in the telecom industry," said Mark Lewis, principal at Advantage, who has joined the Voxitas board of directors. "Voxitas' strong management team and depth of telephony experience has enabled the company to stay ahead of the curve and provide innovative services to customers nationwide. Our investment will help Voxitas grow and reach another level of customers."

Advantage Capital's investment in Voxitas was made with capital raised in connection with the federal New Markets Tax Credit (NMTC) program, an innovative initiative designed to stimulate economic growth and job creation in low-income communities. Read more about the Voxitas investment [here](#).

In other news about Voxitas, the VoIP services provider announced earlier this month that it has become a national service provider supporting the Linksys One series of internet enabled phone systems. Linksys One is a comprehensive IP hosted communications platform for SMBs.

In addition, Voxitas has partnered with Allworx, the small business voice and network company, to deliver an all-inclusive VoIP solution to small and medium-sized businesses (SMBs). Voxitas' partnership with Allworx will provide resellers that service SMBs with an all-inclusive VoIP solution that delivers significant cost savings, extensive feature sets, and exceptional customer service.

Read more about Voxitas [here](#).

Advantage Capital invests in iCardiac Technologies through New York CAPCO program

[iCardiac Technologies Inc.](#), a leading provider of advanced cardiac safety analysis technologies based in Rochester, N.Y., has raised an undisclosed amount of Series B funding from Advantage Capital Partners and other investors. The funding will be used to support the company's continued research into a Personalized Cardiac Safety system, used to assess cardiac risk with a wide range of on-market and in-development drugs.

iCardiac Technologies develops and implements advanced ECG-based cardiac safety biomarkers. The company's advanced ECG-based cardiac safety analysis stems from more than 30 years of research at the University of Rochester.

"We believe strongly in the potential of Personalized Cardiac Safety to transform the way the pharmaceutical industry and physicians approach cardiac risk," said president and COO Alex Zapesochny. "Obtaining this funding is an important step toward commercializing a concept that has looked very promising in early research studies."

In addition to the recent funding round, iCardiac has joined forces with Spacelabs Healthcare and Charles River Laboratories to form the Cardiac Safety Network to create the drug development industry's most comprehensive and technologically advanced solution for determining how drugs affect the heart. The Cardiac Safety Network will offer drug developers a complete solution with services that span from recruitment and monitoring of clinical trial subjects to the submission of cardiac safety data to the FDA.

Advantage made its first investment in iCardiac in 2006 in connection with New York's Certified Capital Company program. For more on iCardiac, go [here](#).

Advantage Capital continues commitment to D.C.'s AVSmoot with second CAPCO investment

Advantage Capital has invested \$500,000 in [AVSmoot, LLC](#), a provider of restoration and commercial painting services to clients throughout the D.C. metropolitan area. The funding will be used to support the company's continued growth.

AVSmoot provides restoration and commercial painting services to a broad range of government and private sector clients and specializes in the restoration of metal and wood doors and windows, as well as tenant painting, carpentry and millwork.

"Advantage Capital took a chance on a minority-owned company when few others would," said Adrienne Smoot, president of AVSmoot. "The additional financing will allow us to grow and expand through partnerships and the addition of new staff members. We're excited about the opportunities ahead for our company and look forward to expanding our capabilities in the Washington area."

Advantage first invested in AVSmoot in 2006 in connection with the District's Certified Capital Company program. To read more about AVSmoot, go [here](#).

Advantage Capital funds Texas CAPCO investment U.S. Fiduciary

[U.S. Fiduciary Inc.](#), a boutique financial services firm focused on serving high-end financial advisors, has closed on \$9 million in funding from Advantage Capital, Inter-Atlantic Group and other investors. The company will use the funds to promote continued growth.

U.S. Fiduciary (USF), based in Houston, helps financial advisors and financial institutions manage the complex needs of wealthy clients. The company's client-base includes high-end financial advisors who seek to move toward more fee-based services and are interested in providing objective and sophisticated investment advice. USF supports a total of 120 financial advisors with an integrated offering of technology, operations, and compliance services with managed account, broker dealer, and alternative investment solutions.

"USF's management team has deep industry and entrepreneurial expertise," said Damon Rawie, an Advantage Capital managing director in Austin. "That and the company's ability to provide financial advisors with a one-stop shop for integrated tools make for a winning business strategy."

Advantage Capital's investment in USF was made in connection with Texas' Certified Capital Company program. To read more on this investment, go [here](#).

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT NEWS

Hawaii tax department report says Act 221 generated more than 5,000 jobs, \$1 billion in spending

The [Hawaii High Technology Business Investment Tax Credit Program](#) (Act 221/215) helped generate more than \$800 million in investments in Hawaii from 2002 to 2006, according to a report released by the Hawaii Tax Department last month. Thanks to these investments, Hawaii high-technology companies spent \$1 billion and created more than 5,000 jobs during the four year period.

The report examines the effectiveness of the state's tax incentive program, which was established in 2002. The tax credits aim to diversify Hawaii's tourism-dependent economy with incentives to invest in technology, film and television production companies.

Advantage Capital is a leading participant in the program, having raised more than \$20 million for investment in Qualified High Technology Businesses in Hawaii. To date, the firm has invested in eight high-growth companies, including Hawaii Biotech, a biopharmaceutical company engaging in research and development of human pharmaceuticals and Hoku Scientific, a developer of fuel-cell membrane technology. Hoku completed an Initial Public Offering in August 2005 and became the first Hawaii-based company to go public in more than six years.

To read more about the Department of Taxation report, go [here](#).

PORTFOLIO COMPANY NEWS

Wisconsin CAPCO investment Alfalight receives \$1.2 million from ARL

[Alfalight Inc.](#) has been awarded \$1.2 million from the Army Research Laboratory (ARL) to develop advanced fiber laser pump sources. The 12-month program, entitled "High Brightness Diode Sources" (HiBriDS) will enable Alfalight to leverage the results of two previous programs in order to create laser diode modules with higher brightness and reliability than current technology diode lasers can provide.

Alfalight is a technology innovator and manufacturer of highly efficient and reliable high-power diode lasers for industrial, defense, and telecommunications markets worldwide. The company's advanced Aluminum Free Active region (ALFA) diode lasers provide industry-leading efficiency, reliability, power and brightness.

"Past contracts from ARL have helped Alfalight to improve the spatial brightness of laser diodes," said Manoj Kanskar, vice president of Research and Development at Alfalight. "This new program will allow us to further push brightness and power and enable us to develop high-power arrays which can be cost-effectively fiber coupled."

Advantage first invested in Madison-based Alfalight in 2000 through Wisconsin's Certified Capital Company program. For more on Alfalight's ARL contract, go [here](#).

ADVANTAGE PEOPLE

Advantage Capital's Scott Murphy elected president of UVANY

Scott Murphy, managing director of Advantage Capital Partners, was recently elected president of the Upstate Venture Association of New York (UVANY) for 2007-2008. Murphy has served on the Board of UVANY for five years.

"We are thrilled that Scott Murphy has agreed to serve as our next president. Under his skilled leadership, the organization will continue to work to foster increased capital investment across upstate New York," said Bob Buckley, executive director of UVANY.



UVANY seeks to advance the number, scale and quality of private equity investments across New York State. Working with entrepreneurs, companies seeking funding, private equity firms and professionals, the organization strives to improve deal flow and facilitate greater availability of capital for all investment stages. Read more about UVANY [here](#).

ABOUT US

[Advantage Capital Partners](#) is a venture capital and private equity firm focused on investing in promising companies located in areas underserved by traditional venture capital. With offices and partners in New Orleans, St. Louis, Austin, Washington, D.C. and several other cities, Advantage Capital has raised more than \$800 million in institutional venture capital since 1992.

About the Certified Capital Company program

Advantage Capital Partners is a leading participant in the [Certified Capital Company \(CAPCO\) program](#), a state economic development tool designed to strengthen state economies by stimulating the flow of investment capital to local small businesses, creating high-paying jobs and increasing state tax revenues. Under a CAPCO program, insurance companies are encouraged to invest in certified capital companies; the state allows the insurance companies to claim tax credits for qualified investments in CAPCO funds. Taken over time, the tax credits generate large pools of private venture capital to be invested in the state. CAPCOs leverage the funds received from insurance companies to invest in qualified small businesses in the state.

About the New Markets Tax Credit program

The [New Markets Tax Credit program](#), administered by the U.S. Department of the Treasury, encourages private-sector investment in economically distressed communities through tax incentives. In a highly competitive allocation procedure, the Treasury Department awards the tax credits based on applications submitted for each tax year. Advantage has used the New Markets program to raise private capital for investment in low-income communities since 2003 and its investments have spurred economic growth through innovative business ventures and job creation throughout the United States.

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