

ADVANTAGE CAPITAL PARTNERS

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Advantage Capital News

Advantage Capital invests \$9.75 million in Mid America

[Advantage Capital](#) has provided \$9.75 million of a \$21.9 million total project financing for the much anticipated effort to re-open a brick manufacturing plant in rural Mexico, Missouri. [Mid America Brick](#) & Structural Clay Products, L.L.C. will use the funding from Advantage Capital, Rand Capital, Environmental Liability Transfer and other investors to acquire, re-commission and operate the former A.P. Green plant as a face brick manufacturing facility. The plant will provide approximately 80 new jobs once it is fully operational in 2011. To continue reading, go [here](#).

A celebratory event was held last month on Mid America Brick grounds that included Governor Jay Nixon, Senator Kit Bond, and a representative of the U.S. Treasury's CDFI Fund, Rosa Martinez, as well as a number of state and local elected officials. To view a short video from the event, go [here](#).

Advantage Capital's investment in Mid America Brick was made in connection with the federal New Markets Tax Credit program and the Missouri New Markets Development program.

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Advantage Capital invests \$7.8 million in Chicago-based Protein Solutions

Advantage Capital recently announced that it provided \$7.8 million in financing to [Protein Solutions](#), a processor and distributor of portion controlled meat products. The company employs 375 people and operates a state-of-the-art, USDA-certified facility on the southwest side of Chicago. To read more, go [here](#).

Advantage Capital's investment in Protein Solutions was made in connection with the federal New Markets Tax Credit program and the Illinois New Markets Development program.

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Advantage Capital leads investment in Decatur-based Mason Manufacturing; funding enabled through Illinois New Markets Development program

Advantage Capital announced that it has led a multi-million dollar investment in [Mason Manufacturing](#), a leading manufacturer of high quality, ASME heat exchangers and vessels for major national and international clients, including the biotechnology, biofuels, grain processing, chemical, petroleum, power and water treatment industries. Mason Manufacturing, based in Decatur, Illinois, will use the funds to position itself for continued

has partnered with its portfolio companies to help create more than **15,000 jobs nationwide** and our investments have resulted in more than **\$6 billion in follow-on capital.**

growth. To read more, go [here](#).

Advantage Capital's investment in Mason Manufacturing was made in connection with the federal New Markets Tax Credit program and the Illinois New Markets Development program.

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Portfolio Company News

Advantage Capital portfolio company SensorTran receives Frost & Sullivan New Product Differentiation Award

[SensorTran](#), producer of the world's most advanced Distributed Temperature Sensing (DTS) systems, announced last month that it has received a New Product Differentiation Award from Frost & Sullivan, a global research and consulting firm. SensorTran was recognized for having demonstrated excellence in new products and technologies within the DTS and instrumentation market. SensorTran's broad line of innovative DTS systems apply the latest fiber optic sensing technology to event detection for the oil & gas, geothermal, and electrical utility industries. To continue reading, go [here](#).

Advantage Capital first invested in Austin-based SensorTran in 2007 with funds raised in connection with the federal New Markets Tax Credit program and the Texas Certified Capital Company program.

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New York CAPCO investment SOMS Technologies works with City of Oxnard, California to convert fleet to microGreen oil filter technology

[SOMS Technologies, LLC](#) recently announced that the city of Oxnard, California has converted its vehicle fleet to the company's microGreen® Extended Performance Oil Filter. The city's decision comes after a year of testing extended oil drain intervals using the microGreen® Extended Performance Oil Filter. The city projects that converting its vehicle fleet to the product will result in oil and labor savings of \$145,000 and an annual reduction of 24,000 quarts of oil. To read more, go [here](#).

Advantage Capital's 2008 investment in Valhalla-based SOMS Technologies was made in connection with New York's Certified Capital Company program.

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Kionix CEO named Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award Winner

[Kionix, Inc.](#), a global leader in the design and fabrication of high-performance, silicon-micromachined MEMS inertial sensors, recently announced that Greg Galvin, President and CEO, received the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year 2010 Award in the Upstate New York, Western Pennsylvania and West Virginia region. According to Ernst & Young LLP, the award recognizes outstanding entrepreneurs who are building and leading dynamic, growing businesses. Galvin was selected by an independent panel of judges, and the award was presented at the gala event in Pittsburgh, Pa., on Friday, June 18, 2010. To continue reading, go [here](#).

Advantage Capital first invested in Kionix in 2003 in connection with New York's Certified Capital Company program. In October 2009, Kionix was acquired by Rohm Co., Ltd. of Kyoto, Japan. Kionix continues to carry its name and produce products at its headquarters facility in Ithaca, NY.

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Advantage Capital portfolio company TurboSquid featured on MSNBC Sunday

[TurboSquid, Inc.](#), the largest online marketplace for 3D models and an Advantage Capital portfolio company, was featured on MSNBC Sunday on May 9, 2010. The segment showcased TurboSquid, the I.P. Building, and the many other entrepreneurs who are contributing to the revitalization of the Greater New Orleans region. To view the MSNBC clip, go [here](#).

Advantage Capital first invested in TurboSquid in 2001 in connection with Louisiana's Certified Capital Company program. Most recently, the firm made an additional investment in TurboSquid with funds raised in connection with the federal New Markets Tax Credit program and the Louisiana New Markets Development program.

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Advantage People



Jonathan Goldstein participates in New Markets Tax Credit Coalition briefing on Capitol Hill

Jonathan Goldstein, managing director at Advantage Capital in St. Louis, served as a guest speaker at the New Markets Tax Credit Coalition briefing in Washington, D.C. last month. The Coalition released its [2010 NMTC Progress Report](#) at the briefing and asked Advantage Capital and other federal New Markets Tax Credit (NMTC) program allocatees to share a success story. Goldstein spoke about the firm's investment in Morehouse General Hospital, a 60-bed rural hospital facility offering a wide range of both inpatient and outpatient care to northeast Louisiana and southeast Arkansas residents.

To date, Advantage Capital has been awarded \$388 million in NMTC allocations since the program was launched. Advantage Capital has effectively used the New Markets program to invest in 73 businesses in nine states, generating growth in underserved communities and creating or retaining more than 4,000 jobs.

The [New Markets Tax Credit Coalition](#) is a national membership organization that promotes increased economic activity in low-income urban and rural communities through the NMTC program. The New Markets Tax Credit Coalition carries out action-oriented research, policy review and analysis, technical assistance and lobbying in support of the New Markets Tax Credit.

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About Advantage Capital Partners

[Advantage Capital Partners](#) is a leading small business finance firm focused on providing growth capital and other investments supporting state and local economic development efforts. The firm's typical forms of investment include early stage equity, expansion equity, mezzanine financing, senior and subordinated loans and government-guaranteed lending. With offices and partners in New Orleans, St. Louis, Chicago and other U.S. cities, Advantage Capital has raised more than \$1.3 billion in institutional capital since 1992 and invested in companies located in geographic areas underserved by traditional capital.

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About the federal New Markets Tax Credit program

The federal [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 participated in the New Markets program since 2003, raising private capital for investment in low-income communities. These investments have spurred economic growth through innovative business ventures and job creation throughout the United States.

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About the state New Markets Development programs

In addition to the federal New Markets Tax Credit program, Advantage Capital also participates in a number of state-level New Markets programs, which attract investment in low-income communities through a state tax credit modeled after the federal program. The tax credits are only available to highly qualified investors who have been accredited under the federal program. The goal of these initiatives is to attract large, long-term investors to a state's low-income communities, promoting new expansion, creating new job opportunities and building on existing growth in the state. To date, the following states have passed a state-level New Markets Development program: Louisiana, Missouri, Mississippi, Illinois, Florida, Ohio, Oklahoma and Kentucky.

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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.

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