

ADVANTAGE CAPITAL PARTNERS

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Ticker Tape Update:

To date, Advantage Capital has partnered with its portfolio

Advantage Capital News

Advantage Capital Partners invests in St. Louis-based Computime, Inc.

[Advantage Capital Partners](#) announced that it has provided \$2 million in financing to [Computime, Inc.](#), a leader in electronic signature fulfillment and support services. Advantage Capital made the investment in connection with the federal New Markets Tax Credit Program and the Missouri New Markets Development Program. Computime will use the funds to continue the growth and development of its sales and marketing services in the St. Louis area. To continue reading, go [here](#).

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Missouri New Markets investment in Carbolytic Materials Co. spurs job growth in Maryville

One year after Advantage Capital Partners' investment in [Carbolytic Materials Company](#) (CMC), the carbon black alternative manufacturing facility is fully operational and receiving very positive feedback about its products. In October 2008, CMC received \$12.4 million in Missouri New Markets Development program financing, enabling the company to build a new manufacturing facility in the rural community of Maryville, Mo. To continue reading, go [here](#).

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Portfolio Company News

Advantage Capital portfolio company iCardiac Technologies awarded cardiac safety study by global pharmaceutical company

[iCardiac Technologies, Inc.](#), a global leader in advanced cardiac core lab services and QT analysis, has announced that an international pharmaceutical company has awarded iCardiac a comprehensive cardiac safety study. iCardiac will provide end-to-end study management, equipment deployment and scientific reporting, as well as advanced ECG analysis. The study will utilize iCardiac's Highly Automated QT and Dynamic QT beat-to-beat service offerings to dramatically improve study precision and reduce false positives and negatives. To continue reading, go [here](#).

Advantage Capital was a participant in iCardiac's latest round of funding in November 2007.

companies to help create more than 14,168 jobs nationwide and our investments have resulted in more than \$6 billion in follow-on capital.

Advantage Capital made its investment in iCardiac with funds raised in connection with New York's Certified Capital Company program.

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Missouri biotechnology company Kereos highlighted in the *Wall Street Journal*

Advantage Capital portfolio company [Kereos](#) was recently highlighted in a September 28 *Wall Street Journal* article titled "The Buzz; Targeting Cancer with Bee Venom." Kereos is cited for having the license to a new type of nanotechnology that uses bee venom to shrink or slow the growth of cancerous tumors. Researchers at Washington University are currently testing the power of "nanobees" on mice.

St. Louis-based Kereos develops targeted molecular imaging agents and therapeutics designed to detect and treat cancer and cardiovascular disease earlier and more specifically than currently possible. Advantage Capital first invested in Kereos in 2005 in connection with the federal New Markets Tax Credit program.

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GridPoint named to Global CleanTech 100 List by the Guardian and Cleantech Group

[GridPoint, Inc.](#), an established leader in smart grid software, recently announced that is has been named to the Global CleanTech 100 by The Guardian and Cleantech Group™. A field of more than 3,500 companies was considered. GridPoint demonstrated its software solutions in September at the annual gathering of smart grid thought leaders in Washington, D.C. To continue reading, go [here](#).

Since the company's inception in November 2003, GridPoint has raised more than \$200 million in equity capital. Advantage Capital was an early investor in GridPoint, having invested in the company in 2005.

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Missouri New Markets investment Butler's Pantry to open premier event venue in historic Lafayette Square

[Butler's Pantry](#), St. Louis' most innovative and creative catering company, is transforming the former laundry facility of the City Hospital into a premier event space - [Palladium St. Louis](#). Built in 1937, the building had languished in Lafayette Square for over 20 years. Now a comprehensive restoration of this historic building is underway, and the Palladium's first event is scheduled for November 2009.

Advantage Capital, in partnership with Southwest Bank, provided \$2.65 million of a total \$3.25 million transaction to Butler's Pantry in 2008. The funding will enable the creation of Palladium St. Louis, as well as supporting the caterer's office relocation to a larger adjacent facility, allowing room for company expansion and additional jobs. Butler's Pantry currently employs 300 people. To continue reading, go [here](#).

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Advantage People

Tony Toups and Justin Oblatz serve as guest speakers at

(Inno)State: Louisiana's Innovation Summit in Baton Rouge



Advantage Capital's Tony Toups and Justin Oblatz recently participated in panel discussions at the Baton Rouge Area Chamber of Commerce (BRAC) [\(Inno\)State: Louisiana's Innovation Summit](#). Held on October 21st at the Lod Cook Conference Center in Baton Rouge, (Inno)State is BRAC's annual summit focused on the future of the innovation economy in Louisiana.

Toups, senior vice president at Advantage Capital, served as moderator in a presentation on how Louisiana companies have benefited from state incentives. Toups also introduced keynote speaker Dr. Robert Atkinson, president of the Information Technology and Innovation Foundation and author of the *State New Economy Index* series and the book, *The Past and Future of America's Economy: Long Waves of Innovation that Power Cycles of Growth*. Oblatz, an Advantage Capital vice president, participated in a panel discussion about the current status of access to capital and the investment environment.

(Inno)State brings together entrepreneurs, investors, companies who specialize in emerging fields, economic developers, business advisors, incubator directors, and others interested in the creation of an innovation economy in Louisiana.

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Jeremy Degenhart participates in New Markets Tax Credit webinar

Advantage Capital senior vice president Jeremy Degenhart, along with Steve Kramer from U.S. Bank, participated in a New Markets Tax Credit (NMTC) webinar held by the [Missouri Department of Economic Development](#) (DED). The October 14th webinar gave viewers an introduction to the NMTC program, including the types of projects receiving allocations, the geographic areas that qualify for funding, and the ways in which the program can work in rural areas. To learn more about the NMTC program and to view the webinar presentation, go [here](#).

The Missouri DED administers a wide array of programs designed to enhance Missouri's economy in the 21st Century. It is composed of agencies that execute statutory requirements and department policy in the areas of community, economic and workforce development.

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About Us

About Advantage Capital Partners

[Advantage Capital Partners](#) is a venture capital and small business finance 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 other U.S. cities, Advantage Capital has raised more than \$1 billion in capital since 1992.

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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 and Florida.

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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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