



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Grow Utah Ventures and the NorthFront Entrepreneur Alliance Recognize Three Northern Utah Start-ups

- The NorthFront Entrepreneur Alliance Entrepreneur Excellence Awards Banquet highlights the growth and success of *CampusBookRentals.com*, *Matchbin* and *Ragnar Racing Events* --

SALT LAKE CITY, December 09, 2009 – **Grow Utah Ventures** (<http://www.growutahventures.com>) and the **NorthFront Entrepreneur Alliance** (<http://northfront.org/>) recently recognized *CampusBookRentals.com*, *Ragnar Relay Events* and *Matchbin* as Utah start-ups that are defying the odds and experiencing tremendous success despite the economic downturn .

The recognition came in the The NorthFront Entrepreneur Alliances inaugural *Entrepreneur Excellence Awards Banquet*. The event was a huge success and drew a large crowd from across the business, government and entrepreneurial community. Awards were given in three designated categories including:

- *Best Boot-strapped Business: Ragnar Relay Events* – Based in Kaysville, Utah, Ragnar manages 11 running relay races across the country, including the Wasatch Back Relay.
- *Fastest Growth Business: CampusBookRentals.com* – Based in Ogden, Utah, *CampusBookRentals.com* rents text books to college students across the country. The company expects to see an additional 1,000 percent growth in 2009.
- *Greatest Potential: MatchBin* –Based in Bountiful, Utah, *Matchbin* helps media companies establish and monetize a presence on the web.

“These companies are the exact reason the NorthFront Entrepreneur Alliance was created,” [said Curt Roberts, Northern Utah TOIP Director of USTAR](#). “It is important for Northern Utah to have an organization that establishes regular networking opportunities and instructional presentations pertinent to entrepreneurs in Northern Utah.”

In addition to these three awards, the NorthFront Entrepreneur Alliance recognized serial entrepreneur Alan E. Hall, founder of *Grow Utah Ventures* and *Marketstar*, with its *Entrepreneur Legacy Award*. Among his many contributions to Utah entrepreneurs, Hall has committed over \$15 million of his own money with a goal to invest in 100 Utah start ups. To date he’s invested in nearly 65 businesses.

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“Alan has been and continues to be a tremendous mentor to Utah entrepreneurs,” [said T. Craig Bott, president and CEO of Grow Utah Ventures](#). “One of the most important things an entrepreneur can have is a successful mentor, someone who has walked in their shoes. Alan has provided this mentorship for many Northern Utah start-ups by investing in them and spending countless hours helping these entrepreneurs see the steps they need to take in order to be successful.”

The NorthFront Entrepreneur Alliance was created in 2008 under the sponsorship of SEED Weber/Davis/Morgan and Grow Utah Ventures. Its purpose is to bring entrepreneurs in Northern Utah together to learn, network, share ideas, find needed resources, and to recognize accomplishments among the group.

For more information on the NorthFront Entrepreneur Alliance visit www.northfront.org.

Additional Resources:

Twitter: twitter.com/NFEntrepreneur <http://twitter.com/growutahventure>

Facebook: [NorthFront Entrepreneur Alliance Grow Utah Ventures](#)

About Grow Utah Ventures

Grow Utah Ventures, is a privately funded not-for-profit organization dedicated to stimulate, unlock and develop the entrepreneurial talent and early stage business opportunities for value creation across Utah. Comprised of a team of successful and experienced entrepreneurs, business leaders and private investors, Grow Utah Ventures accomplishes its mission by Identifying, selecting and recognizing accomplished and promising Utah entrepreneurs, Building a statewide community of outstanding entrepreneurs and those interested in promoting entrepreneurial development, Partnering with organizations, companies and investors seeking to support Utah’s best entrepreneurs, Rallying community leadership and financial resources to support entrepreneurial development. For more information about Grow Utah Ventures, visit www.growutahventures.com.

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