

# Press Release



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## 11 Tech Startup Teams Pitch Ideas to Judges and Compete for Cash Prizes

**CLEARWATER (November 13, 2014)** – Eleven teams of entrepreneurs will compete for top place and cash prizes as they pitch their startup ideas for commercializing a technology on Wednesday, November 19<sup>th</sup> at Safety Harbor Resort and Spa from 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm. The Startup Quest™ Pitch Contest, hosted by CareerSource Pinellas, is free and open to the public.

This will be the 2<sup>nd</sup> Startup Quest™ Pitch Contest held in Pinellas County.

The Pitch Contest is the conclusion to the 10 week training program designed to train aspiring entrepreneurs and job seekers the elements of starting a business as they work in teams to commercialize technologies from NASA, USF, FSU, UCF, and UF. Each team works with mentors as they learn about market analysis, intellectual property, financial requirements for taking a product to market, sources of funding, and more, all while developing a business plan and pitch.

Business plans and pitches will be judged by Steve Tingiris, founding board member of Tampa Bay WaVE and current co-chairman of TechNova; David Buckel, current partner with TechCXO; Matt Mullarkey, managing partner for Patina Solutions; Susan Kelly, EVP/Chief Marketing Officer for Apollidon Learning; Kirk Burton, founder of Innovation & Technology Solutions LLC; Nancy Bostock, former County Commissioner and CEO of Chemical Standards Laboratory Inc.; Alfred Goldberg, founder and President of the Americas Absolute Mobile Design.

Anyone interested in attending the Startup Quest Pinellas Pitch Contest should register on [www.Eventbrite.com](http://www.Eventbrite.com).

### **About Startup Quest™**

Both the Pinellas and Hillsborough Startup Quest programs are part of a \$12 million statewide grant from the U.S. Department of Labor. The goal is to train job seekers for new skill sets to become entrepreneurs while educating them on opportunities to commercialize technologies from Florida's public universities and NASA. Startup Quest is open to underemployed or unemployed individuals with college degrees. Startup Quest is no cost program to those who qualify, with priority of service for veterans. For more information, visit [www.startupquest.org](http://www.startupquest.org).

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### **About CareerSource Pinellas**

For more information on CareerSource Pinellas' programs and services, please visit [www.careersourcepinellas.com](http://www.careersourcepinellas.com). CareerSource Pinellas is an equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. All voice telephone numbers on this document may be reached by persons using TTY/TDD equipment via the Florida Relay Service at 711.

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