FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:

Mark Peterson Peterson Communications 831.626.4400 mark@petersoncom.com



Applications Due Monday, March 10 for Startup Challenge

Last Free Application Workshop Held Saturday for the Fifth Annual Event

Seaside, Calif. – March 7, 2014 – Applications are due on Monday, March 10 by 11:59 p.m. PDT for the 2014 Startup Challenge. The Startup Challenge is a competition for new ventures in the tri-county area with the aim of showcasing the business potential of the area; supporting regional start-ups; attracting business and investors to the region; encouraging business students to become entrepreneurs; and promoting tech transfer, innovation and commercialization.

- All start-ups that can show how they will create jobs in the tri-county area are welcome to apply. One-page entries are due March 10 at 11:59 p.m.
- Semifinalists will be chosen from the Business Pitch event held March 28th at California State University, Monterey Bay (CSUMB).
- The semifinalist companies will be asked to complete a full business plan, which they will
 present to panels of investors, industry leaders and business consultants on May 2nd at the
 Monterey Institute of International Studies.

Prizes range from \$5,000 cash for the winning student team, to \$10,000 cash for the winning main-street company, to \$50,000 in cash and professional services for the winning venture-play company. Information about the Challenge is available at www.thestartupchallenge.org, along with the instructions and entry forms.

More than 10 regional workshops to help applicants complete the application have been held. One final workshop is scheduled for:

• Saturday, March 8 from 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm at the Monterey Institute of International Studies, McGowan Hall Room 320.

For more information about the competition or to get involved as a sponsor, please visit www.thestartupchallenge.org or call 831-831-582-3230.

Updates on the competition can be found on Twitter at www.twitter.com/StrtupChallenge or by liking the Facebook page at www.facebook.com/TheStartupChallenge .