



## Points of Interest

### Appareo Systems Named Finalist For International Award

May 12, 2010

Appareo Systems has been named a finalist for the **2010 Outstanding Incubator Graduate** award in the technology category by the National Business Incubation Association. The winner of the prestigious award will be announced May 18th at NBIA's International Conference on Business Incubation in Orlando, Fla.

A graduate of the Technology Incubator at the NDSU Research & Technology Park, Appareo Systems uses relatively inexpensive electronic components in place of the heavy, expensive equipment traditionally used in avionics such as flight data recorders. Appareo's equipment is a fraction of the size and cost of traditional flight data recorders, allowing operators of small aircraft to enjoy the same safety benefits that large aircraft operators have.

Appareo Systems was founded in 2001 by Barry Batcheller, who now serves as the company's president and CEO. The firm, which graduated from the Technology Incubator in 2009, has built a team of nearly 60 employees with an annual payroll of nearly \$3 million and annual revenues over \$6 million.

Business incubation programs like the Technology Incubator's catalyze the process of starting and growing companies by providing entrepreneurs with the expertise, networks and tools they need to make their ventures successful. NBIA estimates that in 2005 alone, North American incubators assisted more than 27,000 start-up companies that provided full-time employment for more than 100,000 workers and generated annual revenue of more than \$17 billion. Approximately 7,000 business incubators operate worldwide.

The National Business Incubation Association is the world's leading organization advancing business incubation and entrepreneurship.

### National Incubation Consultant Visits Incubator

In 2003, Claggett Wolfe Associates, Auburn, CA, was hired to conduct a market feasibility study for a technology-focused incubator at the NDSU Research & Technology Park. This study was part of an effort to capitalize on the region's entrepreneurial activities and the unique intellectual and physical assets at North Dakota State University.

The market feasibility study determined that there were growing business industries in four key clusters that included advanced manufacturing, information technology, biosciences and material sciences. In March 2007, the Technology Incubator located in the NDSU Research & Technology Park opened and now assists entrepreneurs in those four key clusters.

The purpose of the Technology Incubator is to foster the formation of high-growth technology ventures, accelerate their time to market, and ultimately increase their chance for long-term success. Specifically, the incubator provides a full range of services to entrepreneurs including technical and business assistance, coaching/mentoring, educational events/forums, student employee program, networking, and access to capital.

Chuck Wolfe visited the Technology Incubator on Thursday, May 6th to discuss the progress of the incubator, incubation industry, and entrepreneurship trends across the country and around the globe.



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## Incubator Clients

- [Avenue Right](#)
- [Bobcat Company](#)
- [Bolder Thinking](#)
- [Genosys](#)
- [Feed Management Systems](#)
- [FormulaNow](#)
- [Larada Sciences](#)
- [My S Dot Touch](#)
- [Triton Systems](#)
- [NDSU RFID Wireless and Sensor Lab](#)
- [NDSU Research & Technology Park](#)

## Attention Future Entrepreneurs

Aspiring entrepreneurs will learn to identify a possible business, develop a product or service, create a marketing plan and pitch the idea to potential investors.

NDSU  
**researchTECHNOLOGY** PARK INC.  
Entrepreneurship Academy  
June 6-11, 2010

A Five-day Program for 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Students  
(2010-2011 School Year)

Winning teams will receive college tuition vouchers to NDSU  
Program is at no cost to participants with the exception of a \$20 Registration Fee  
Registration Fee Waiver Available

For additional information,  
please contact Paul Tefft  
paul@ndsuresearchpark.com  
701-499-3623

Deadline Friday/May 28th

**ENTREPRENEURSHIP**  
ACADEMY OF NDSU RESEARCH & TECHNOLOGY PARK

## Staff

**Tony Grindberg**  
Executive Director  
tony@ndsuresearchpark.com

**Brenda Wyland**  
Incubator Manager  
brenda@ndsuresearchpark.com

**Jan Sobolik**  
Operations Specialist  
jan@ndsuresearchpark.com

**Sharon Miller**  
Talent Specialist  
sharon@ndsuresearchpark.com

**Paul Tefft**  
Youth Entrepreneurial Consultant  
paul@ndsuresearchpark.com

**James Dravitz**  
RAIN Fund Investment Analyst  
james@ndsuresearchpark.com

**Jennifer Katke**  
Business Development Assistant  
jennifer@ndsuresearchpark.com

