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Panel to discuss defense contracting

Tuesday, January 06, 2009

Staff report

The Upstate Venture Association of New York's Syracuse Capital Forum will feature a panel discussion on defense contracting.

The forum, "Defense Contracting: Innovation in the Nation's Interest," will be held from 5 to 9 p.m. today at the Syracuse Technology Garden, 235 Harrison St.

The panel will consist of business development executives from large defense contractors and Department of Defense-funded entrepreneurs. Topics will include licensing and acquisition by prime contractors, the Technology Garden's defense commercialization assistance program and areas of emerging technology needs.

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Panelists include David Ferrara, of the Bond, Schoeneck & King law firm; Vigay Srinivas, director of new product and market development at SRC Tec Inc.; and Leslie Smith, chapter president of Women In Defense and manager of customer relations and protocol at Lockheed Martin Corp.

The forum also will allow entrepreneurs and local businesses to network with Upstate and New York City capital providers, legal and accounting firms, and others interested in venture and private equity transactions.

Entrepreneurs looking for funding will have an opportunity to give a one-minute presentation and should sign up online when registering.

Registration is available online at www.UVANY.com or at the door. The cost is \$30 for association members (\$45 at the door); \$50 for nonmembers (\$65 at the door); and \$20 for students (\$30 at the door).

The Upstate Venture Association is a statewide organization formed to advance the number, scale and quality of venture capital and private equity investments in New York.

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