



JULY 2009

News From the 8th Continent

Greetings!

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Colorado Calendar: Creative Innovation Boot Camp

"Learn the 12 Rules of Creative Innovation:" Creativity expert Peter McLaughlin will lead a morning workshop designed to get your brain and body tuned

Here's how the 8th Continent Project is working this summer to "bring space down to Earth."™

8th Continent seminar series begins Aug. 12 in Denver

Starting in August, we will run a series of before- and after-hours seminars on topics of interest to early-stage ventures: how to protect intellectual property, figuring out the risk capital landscape, negotiating research grants, and so on. These seminars will be free to members, and we're exploring webcasting to turn them into virtual networking opportunities for Chamber members around the country.

Here's the schedule:

Patent Reform: Are we headed in the right direction? A view from the trenches: Wednesday, Aug. 12, 7-9 a.m. MDT: Gene Branch, a partner in the intellectual property law firm [Townsend and Townsend and Crew](#), will discuss the shortcomings of America's antiquated patent system, why it needs to be overhauled and what it means if you have an idea you need to protect.

With degrees in engineering and business as well as law, and stints as an officer in the U.S. Air Force, an engineer for Lockheed Martin and a patent attorney for Displaytech, Gene brings both knowledge and

for high-quality output. Organized by the DaVinci Institute, the Boot Camp runs from 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Saturday, July 11 at the Wolf Law Building on the University of Colorado, Boulder campus. Cost is \$119. Get the details and register at <http://www.davinciinstitute.com>

New England Innovator: iShoe

Cambridge, Mass.-based [iShoe](#) won the 2008 8th Continent Business Plan Competition (then called the Lunar Ventures competition) with its NASA-derived insole. Developed to help astronauts readjust to gravity, the iShoe insole was repurposed as a medical device by a student team from the Harvard-MIT Division of Health Sciences and Technology. It uses sensors to measure pressure distribution across the sole of a person's foot, fed through a diagnostic algorithm to assess balance. The iShoe insole can help physical therapists teach stroke and injury patients how to walk better, or predict an older person's risk of injury from falling. It can even notify caregivers if the wearer falls. A smart bathroom scale, which tracks balance along with weight and BMI, is also on the drawing board.

perspective to the topic.

August's seminar (limited to 40 people) will be a breakfast meeting at TTC's Denver office, 1400 Wewatta St., Suite 600. Cost is \$20 for nonmembers, free for 8th Continent Chamber members. RSVP to news@8cproject.com.

Shades of Green: Risk Capital 101, Wednesday, Sept. 30, 5-7 p.m. MDT: Jason Mendelson, managing director at Boulder-based Foundry Group, will talk about navigating the risk capital landscape, what the current outlook is, and how to get attention, either positive or negative, from potential investors.

Before co-founding Foundry, Jason was managing partner and general counsel at Mobius Venture Capital, an attorney at Cooley Godward Kronish, and a consultant and software engineer at Accenture. Jason posts regularly at [AsktheVC.com](#) and his blog, [Mendelson's Musings](#), and plays bass guitar and drums in a couple of bands.

September's seminar (limited to 100 people) will be a cocktail event at Gordon Biersch Brewpub, at the northwest corner of FlatIron Crossing Mall (next to the theaters) in Broomfield. Cost is \$20 for nonmembers, free for 8th Continent Chamber members. Food and drink will be available to purchase. RSVP to news@8cproject.com.

Watch this space!

The 8th Continent Project hosts several information venues where anyone interested in entrepreneurial uses of space-derived technology should look for news and information:

- 1) Along with the Career Center, Funding Network and Business Incubator, our Web site (www.8cproject.com) features calendar listings for events of interest to entrepreneurs, in both the Colorado Front Range and Boston regions. Job listings are still free to members.
- 2) The 8th Continent Blog (8cproject.wordpress.com) features stories about 8th Continent sponsors and Chamber members, news and links to interesting articles. If you have news to

About The 8th Continent Project

The Colorado School of Mines' 8th Continent Project is the world's most comprehensive effort to integrate space technology and resources into the global economy. 8th Continent provides the infrastructure and resources to solve a wide range of challenges from global warming to biomedical to renewable energy development. 8th Continent brings space down to Earth with the industry's first trade association, incubator, funding network and research hub, all working together to develop the next generation of space-derived business ventures.

share, or want to write a guest blog, drop us an email at news@8cproject.com.

3) We launched this monthly newsletter in April. Again, we welcome news and suggestions about companies, people and upcoming events.

Among the opportunities coming our way for July is an appearance by Burke Fort on [InterstellarTV.com](http://www.interstellarTV.com), on "Space and Security News for Space Entrepreneurs," assembled and hosted by 8th Continent Chamber member Dave Hook of Planehook Aviation Services in San Antonio. To commemorate the 40th anniversary of the Apollo 11 moon landing, we'll be discussing how reaching the moon influenced the next phase of space exploration. The one-hour show airs at 8 p.m. EDT July 20 at <http://www.interstellarTV.com>.

Word of mouth still fuels our growth ... and yours

Chamber membership remains free for the first three months. If you know of emerging companies, service providers or investors who should be included in our growing community, direct them to www.8cproject.com to sign up for trial membership. If you see the economic wisdom of creating companies from space technology, and the benefit of connecting with other companies in this industry, please consider a larger sponsorship. Contact me personally (burke.fort@8cproject.com) for more information or visit the "[Do More](#)" section of our website.

Thank you again for your interest and support of 8th Continent. As always, if you have any questions, ideas or suggestions, we welcome your email.

Until next month,



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