



JUNE 2009

## News From the 8th Continent

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### Chamber Benefits: Free Job Listings, Free Publicity, Free Events

We have focused recently on increasing the value that 8th Continent Chamber membership provides for businesses. Starting in August, we will run a series of before- and after-hours seminars on topics of interest to startups: 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'd like to use webcasting to turn them into virtual networking opportunities for Chamber members around the country. Chamber members, send your news along so we can post it on the [8th Continent Blog](#). We also have a comprehensive calendar of tech and business events along the Front Range of Colorado and just added events in greater Boston to go with our mid-June launch. The 8th Continent Career Center is

### Greetings!

Amaresh Kollipara of Earth2Orbit spoke at the recent Space Investment Summit in Orlando. He said something that convinced us he understands our Space 2.0 paradigm: Space is not a destination. Instead, it's an enabler for various business verticals.

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

### Still time to reserve a spot at the RVC dinner June 9

One of our key initiatives is to reach the startup community through speaking engagements. On Tuesday, the June 9 dinner meeting of the Rockies Venture Club at the Denver Athletic Club will feature "Space 2.0: The Entrepreneurial Frontier," a panel discussion about what space-derived technology means for economic growth in Colorado.

Discussing how space technology translates to entrepreneurial ventures will be Burke Fort, director of the 8th Continent Project; Gene Branch, partner at Townsend and Townsend and Crew's Denver office; Steve Murchie, director of the Keiretsu Forum's Denver chapter; and Paul Jerde, executive director of the Deming Center for Entrepreneurship at the University of Colorado Boulder's Leeds School of Business. John Metzger, CEO of Metzger Associates and a former president of the Rockies Venture Club, will moderate the panel.

The RVC's monthly dinner meetings have moved to the Denver Athletic Club, 1324 Glenarm Place. They begin at 5 p.m. with cocktails and networking and finish by 8 p.m. Tickets are \$39 for RVC members, \$49 for nonmembers. Information and reservations: [www.rockiesventureclub.org](http://www.rockiesventureclub.org)

waiting to be populated with both resumes and job opportunities. We envision this center as a resource for positions at any space-derived technology company, not just engineering jobs. These listings remain free for employers. If you have a permanent or contract position or an internship to fill, please add them to the database. Chamber membership is itself still 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 <http://www.8cproject.com> to sign up for trial membership.

### **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.*

or 303-831-4174.

## **Expanding Locally, Nationally, Then Globally**

Our message is resonating in Colorado, and we're working on a comprehensive workforce development program, in concert with local, state and federal agencies, that will promote aerospace education along the spectrum of needs from high school students to career-changing adults. Later this month, we begin outreach to our second geographic market, the tech-intensive New England region. In the fall, we will expand outreach to metropolitan Washington, D.C. Starting with more resources on the 8th Continent website, and outreach to recipients of NASA small business innovation grants, we hope to make 8th Continent's offerings more relevant on a national level. We also are speaking with economic development experts in Europe who are interested in reciprocal visits to learn more about Colorado's aerospace sector and new energy economy.

## **Onward and upward**

Although the students here at the Colorado School of Mines have disappeared for the summer, we are staying very busy. While we're tracking ahead of expectations, a year and a half through our initial three-year buildout, the 8th Continent Project still has an ongoing need for corporate support.

If you see the economic wisdom of creating companies from space technology, won't you commit to supporting the 8th Continent Project financially? Please join the 8th Continent Chamber of Commerce and consider a larger sponsorship. Contact Burke for more information or visit the "Do More" section of our website.  
<http://www.8cproject.com/displaycommon.cfm?an=1&subarticlenbr=33>

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

Until next month,



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