

MEDIA RELEASE
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Learn What It Takes to Become an Angel Investor

High net worth individuals interested in exploring the possibility of investing in early stage, higher risk business opportunities now have an opportunity to attend a world class seminar drawing on the experience of both international and local investors in this sector.

The Angel Association NZ is presenting “The Power of Angel Investing” seminar at the Ibis Hotel, Hamilton on Monday 12th October.

Nationally, angel activity is on the rise. Angel investors have invested a record \$30 million into young New Zealand companies over the first six months of 2009, taking the amount invested over the past three-and-a-half years to over \$100 million, according to the Young Company Finance Private Finance Index.

The \$30 million invested in the first half of this year is more than was invested throughout all of 2008. It is 50 percent higher than was invested in the first half of 2008, and over four times as much for the same period in 2007.

The recent establishment of two investment networks in the Waikato, the Greenfields Network and AngelLink, have prompted the Angel Association to offer the seminar in Hamilton.

“We’re committed to raising the level of understanding and confidence amongst investors in this important but challenging investment sector” explains Andy Hamilton, Chairman of the Angel Association. “Our seminar is specifically aimed at people who have an interest in investing into early stage companies.”

The seminar will be led by Chris Twiss, Investment Manager at NZVIF and entrepreneur. He will be joined by a panel of experienced investors and industry professionals. “Seminar participants will learn a lot from Chris’ direct experiences, as well as the information shared by the range of angel investors and industry experts contributing to the sessions. To sit down in a room with colleagues and discuss the real-time experiences of seasoned investment veterans is quite insightful,” says Mr Hamilton.

The full day seminar will provide information about angel investment opportunities in the current economic climate. Additionally, participants will learn how to avoid common mistakes, build a portfolio, manage the due diligence process, negotiate, and structure deals.

Mr Hamilton cautions that angel investment is not for everyone. “Angel investors are willing to inject capital into start-up businesses or innovative business concepts which are inherently more risky than other types of equity investments. The programme is directed toward people with senior business experience who have the time and interest to invest in early stage companies. Investment support professionals are also welcome at this seminar as they can pass on their insights to client entrepreneurs.”

Mr Twiss will also outline a new fund called Halo Fund No 1 Limited (The Halo Fund). The Halo Fund provides investors with a unique opportunity to gain qualified access in a cost effective manner to a portfolio of New Zealand early stage-stage, high growth investments. It does so by partnering with New Zealand's most experienced angel investors. The Fund is a joint venture between seven of New Zealand's angel groups and the New Zealand Venture Investment Fund. Note this fund is only open to eligible persons or experienced investors as defined under the Securities Act 1978.

The seminar costs \$225 incl GST for a full day. It will be advertised widely through regional investment networks and is jointly coordinated by the Greenfields Network and AngelLink. Interested individuals can register or obtain further information by phoning 07 8570500. Participants must register by 2 October.

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MEDIA CONTACTS:

Peter Maxwell, Greenfields Network
0274 328 872
peter@innovationwaikato.co.nz

Rory MacGillycuddy, AngelLink
021-884 490
rory.macgillycuddy@centralcapital.co.nz

About Greenfields Network

The Greenfields Network is an angel investment group established to successfully connect investors with new innovative businesses requiring early stage finance.

Waikato Innovation Park acts as the conduit to the Greenfields Network – they source, receive and assess deal propositions and can support applicants to become investment ready.

www.greenfields.co.nz

About AngelLink

AngelLink is a national angel investment network to back New Zealand high growth technology ventures, with an emphasis on life sciences, engineering and ICT. AngelLink was formed by WaikatoLink, the commercial arm of the University of Waikato.

AngelLink is a Seed Co-Investment Fund partner. The Seed Co-investment Fund is an early stage direct investment fund aimed at early stage businesses with strong potential for high growth. It is managed by New Zealand Venture Investment Fund.

www.angellink.co.nz

About Angel Association of NZ

The Angel Association was established in 2008 to bring together the business angel networks and early stage funds to work towards an agreed national vision and to deliver the activities required to achieve this.

The Association aims to increase the quantity, quality and success of angel investments in New Zealand and in doing so create a greater pool of capital for innovative start-up companies.

The primary objectives of the Angel association are:

- Promote the growth of angel investment in New Zealand, including encouraging and educating entrepreneurs, new angel investors and angel groups.
- Ensure the ongoing success of the industry through developing industry strategy, encouraging collaboration between members and providing education for those involved.

www.angelassociation.co.nz