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**Oregon Entrepreneurs Network Celebrates 20 Years of Supporting  
Entrepreneurs in Oregon and Southwest Washington**

*Since 1991, local entrepreneurs receive extraordinary access to education,  
networking and fundraising opportunities*

**Portland, Ore., August 2, 2011**— This summer, the Oregon Entrepreneurs Network (OEN) celebrates its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Since 1991, the OEN has helped foster the flow of entrepreneurial ideas, services, and capital to entrepreneurs, as well as connected emerging Northwest businesses to growth-stimulating expertise and valuable resources.

“We take great pride in the past 20 years of serving our valued members and helping Oregon and Southwest Washington entrepreneurs and businesses get to the next level,” said OEN’s President and Executive Director Linda Weston. “As the entrepreneurial spirit flourishes in the Pacific Northwest, we look forward to continuing to provide value to our members for the next 20 years and beyond.”

To honor the 20 year milestone and its members, OEN will offer its members \$20 off membership throughout August, September and October of 2011. Information about the OEN and the 20 year anniversary is available at <http://www.oen.org/> and the microsite <http://oen20year.org/>.

In recent years, the OEN has developed or helped spawn a variety of capital access programs statewide, including Portland Angel Network, OEN’s Angel Oregon, OEN’s Venture Northwest and the Oregon Angel Fund, as well as statewide investment conferences including, The Bend Venture Conference, The Southern Oregon Angel Investment Network, The Willamette Angel Conference, The Gorge Angel Investment Conference. With the leadership of Jim Huston, OEN’s Angel Oregon 2011 chair, these conferences were granted the opportunity to get partial matching funds from the Oregon Growth Account (OGA) for angel investment capital raised for the 2011 investment pool in each investment conference.

The OEN recently launched new initiatives to support entrepreneurs. In 2010, the OEN acquired Entrepreneurs Foundation of the Northwest (EFNW) to provide community services and corporate philanthropy opportunities to entrepreneurs of emerging companies. OEN also launched the OEN Tom Holce Endowment for Entrepreneurship. The endowment creates a fund of restricted monies for the long-term sustainability of OEN’s ability to nurture the entrepreneurial community in Oregon.



This year, the OEN launched the OEN Catalyst Fund to expand its core mission of promoting economic development and job creation to help companies grow throughout their lifecycles—from concept through growth stage.

### **About Oregon Entrepreneurs Network**

Founded in 1991, celebrating 20 years of service to entrepreneurs, the Oregon Entrepreneurs Network (OEN) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation and the largest entrepreneur assistance organization in Oregon and Southwest Washington. OEN fosters the flow of entrepreneurial ideas, services, and capital to entrepreneurs and helps connect emerging Northwest businesses to growth-stimulating expertise and valuable resources.

OEN is a people-oriented network that helps cultivate, nurture and develop emerging businesses and entrepreneurs. Our network of members and breadth of services, offers business education, access to capital networks, support and contacts who can mentor and nurture startup companies' growth and development. OEN also helps small and mid-sized companies develop and implement strategies for community involvement that jointly meet the goals of the company, the passions of the employees and the needs of the community via its program, EFNW. For more information on OEN and its programs visit [www.oen.org](http://www.oen.org).