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Spacecoast Technical Network

Rebuilding Our Community, One Person at a Time

STN Newsletter
Issue 22
February 27, 2013



Friday's Speakers



Victor Dahlquist
STN Staff Writer, on RASSOR Project

Now that NASA is planning to go back to the moon, many new opportunities are on the table.

RASSOR, which stands for Regolith Advanced Surface Systems Operations Robot is a contest for many groups to help develop a lunar digger.

Regolith Dust is material that never had living organisms in it. So, Regolith is not like earth soil which contains organic material.

Regolith properties demonstrate abrasive glassy sharp material which can scratch equipment and is slippery to walk across. It clings to everything by a process similar to static electricity.

For earth-based testing, a simulated Regolith was made from crushed volcanic rock. A total of seven metric tons was used for a demonstration test.

Gordon H. Hogan

Gordon H. Hogan is Director of the University of Central Florida Business Incubation Program. Site Managers report to Gordon who is responsible for day to day operations. The Incubation Program currently has eight sites that are in full operation. One hundred thirty (130) client companies are presently in the incubation program. Gordon reports to Thomas O'Neal, PhD, Executive Director of the UCF Business Incubation Program.

Gordon has a BS in Chemistry from Fort Hays Kansas State University plus graduate courses at the University of Kansas.

He was previously President of Central Florida Innovation Corporation (CFIC), a firm dedicated to creating and building technology companies in the region. Additional background includes 30 years experience as an executive, entrepreneur, and business consultant.

Gordon has assisted over 170 companies in the past 13 years. Two thirds of the companies were early stage technology startup companies. The remaining companies have been second stage companies that needed assistance in moving to a new level of sales and profit.

His areas of expertise include matching technology to a market, preparing technology startups for first outside investment, resolving complex business issues and serving as an interim executive for technology startups.



Gordon H. Hogan, Director
UCF Business Incubator Program

NASA allowed the public to help design a digging machine. Students, enterprisers, and small companies totaling 25 teams competed. Seven judges, including NASA and others set forth the following criteria: Diggers were required to gather 150 Kg in 30 min. The machine must weigh up to 70 Kg, and use less then 150 watts of power, which is about the same energy needed to operate a color TV.

Lunar Regolith has associated materials that can produce, water, air, and fuel. In addition, it can be combined to form "Lunarcrete". It is important to obtain these building and power materials on the moon, to save the tremendous expense of launching the supplies from Earth. Ninety percent of a rocket's mass normally consists of propellant, which can be made on the moon," said a NASA spokesperson.

While still working with the Space Shuttle during the day, I volunteered to help a NASA scientist friend with some lunar studies. There were all sorts of challenges in the Lunar Lander. I suggested that they might want to have a viewing port that could be used in case a landing did not go as planned the way it did with Apollo.

[Read More about Victor's findings](#)

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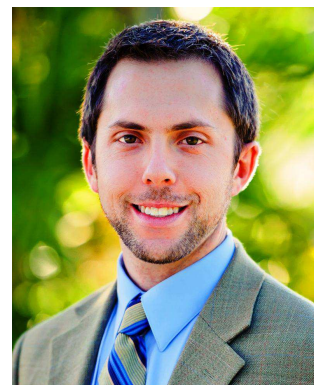
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Jack Henkel

Jack Henkel is the Assistant Director of the UCF Venture Lab, an economic development agency focused on assisting technology startup ventures in Central Florida. Jack received his M.B.A. as well as undergraduate degrees in Marketing and Finance from the University of Central Florida. Jack provides organization and direction to the daily activities of the Venture Lab in addition to working directly with clients. The Venture Lab assists over 200 companies every year, with services ranging from business development assistance to funding opportunity analysis.



Jack Henkel
UCF Venture Lab

Jack has also been principally involved in the creation and management of several entrepreneurial focused programs with cumulative funding of over \$1 million from federal and local agencies. Megawatt Ventures, a Department of Energy funded competition, provides seed capital, mentoring and support to ten renewable energy companies annually. Another program, Startup Orange County, is a county funded accelerator program designed to assist early stage software companies in Orange County, FL. In total these programs have awarded \$450,000 to over 30 Florida startup companies.

Upcoming Speakers

03/01 - Gordon Hogan, Director UCF Incubator (co-presenter)
03/01 - Jack Henkel, UCF Venture Lab (co-presenter)
03/08 - J.B. Kump, President, Joseph's Fund
03/29 - Good Friday, No Meeting
04/05 - Lynda Weatherman, President, EDC

If you are interesting in presenting at an STN Breakfast meeting, please call Martin McClellan, Speaker Coordinator at (321) 759-5955, or email at: litamartin@msn.com

Upcoming Events

03-05 [Free Workshop, Selling to the Government](#)
03-08 [Space Coast Energy Consortium - MegaWatt Ventures](#)
03-15 [Goodwill Industries Job Fair/Career Expo](#)
03-18 [UCF BIP Orlando - Veteran's Initiative](#)
03-21 [Nida Corporation - Facility Tour - Melbourne, FL](#)
04-26 [5th Annual Green Symposium - Stetson University](#)

If you have an upcoming event that may be of interest to our group, please contact Gail K. Peek, by phone 321-383-0664 or by email @ STN.eventcoordinator@yahoo.com.



Spacecoast Technical Network

The Spacecoast Technical Network, STN, meets every Friday to network, share a meal, and learn from informative



speakers. The membership is over one hundred and growing weekly. STN is about securing Employment for its members, enhancing skill sets through Educational resources, and providing ongoing professional support and expertise for new and exciting Entrepreneurial efforts.

Networking begins at 8:00am. A hot breakfast is served at 8:30. Cost for the breakfast is \$4 per person. The SpaceCoast Technical Network meets in the parish hall of St. Gabriel's Episcopal Church, located at 414 Pine St., Titusville. [CLICK HERE FOR INTERACTIVE MAP](#)
For more information, contact Kevin Harrington at (321)302-4787, email: Kevin@STNrebuilds.org

**Join
Now!**

The SpaceCoast Technical Network Offers Two Positions of Membership.

Associate Member - Associate members are seeking to re-establish their income stream. Many of our associate members have since moved on to new positions of employment. Some are starting their own business, while others have re-enrolled in an educational curriculum that will provide them with new skill sets and/or certificates for the next step in their career.

Business Support Member - Business support members offer the expertise and resources of their businesses to aid and assist the STN in its quest to strengthen the economic situation of the community. The support of the local business community is the key to the completion of all STN goals.

One Year Membership is just \$20

For more information contact Herb McElrath, Director of Membership Services at (321) 544-5932

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