



National Venture Capital Association

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**FOUR NVCA MEMBER FIRMS RECOGNIZED FOR OUTSTANDING
SUPPORT OF WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS**

Mobius Venture Capital, New Enterprise Associates, Vanguard Associates, and Versant Ventures Honored by the Women's Technology Cluster

May 24, 2005, Arlington, VA - The National Venture Capital Association (NVCA) is pleased to announce that four of its member firms will receive the first set of annual Women's Technology Cluster (WTC) Venture Capital Awards for their significant investments in women-led companies. Mobius Venture Capital, New Enterprise Associates (NEA), Vanguard Associates, and Versant Ventures were selected for having the largest number of deals with women-led companies, the largest total dollar amount invested in women-led companies, or the greatest total number of women in executive management positions within their 2003 portfolios. The awards will be presented by the WTC along with SDForum, Springboard Enterprises, and the VC Task Force VC Women's SIG.

"Women entrepreneurs create, build, and manage viable, successful companies that contribute to the U.S. economy in terms of job creation, revenue generation and innovation," said Mark Heesen, president of the NVCA. "We applaud the recognition of these NVCA members by the WTC and encourage the entire venture community to continue seeking smart deal opportunities that support the best and the brightest individuals across all spectrums," Heesen added.

"I am honored that WTC is recognizing Mobius Venture Capital as one of the venture firms leading the charge in funding women entrepreneurs," said Heidi Roizen, managing director, Mobius Venture Capital and NVCA board member. "But make no mistake about it, we don't fund women out of some sort of 'diversity cause.' It is just the opposite. We funded these women because they are great entrepreneurs and it made smart business sense to do so. Any VC not being open to women entrepreneurs is missing out on half the population, a lot of smart, talented people, and a lot of

opportunities to generate great returns,” Roizen added.

“We are delighted to honor these VCs for their leadership in identifying opportunities presented by women entrepreneurs in technology and life sciences,” said Jennifer McFarlane, CEO of the Women’s Technology Cluster. “The role of the WTC is to contribute to the successes of women entrepreneurs and to raise investor awareness of the opportunities they present. We are fortunate that the Bay Area was home to the 30 women-led companies that received VC investment in 2003, making it the largest of any region in the nation.”

Mobius, NEA, Vanguard, and Versant were chosen from a comprehensive analysis of more than 1800 venture-backed companies. The award will be presented on May 25, 2005, at the Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts in the Silicon Valley (or Mountain View, California).

For more information about the awards, visit www.wtc-sf.org.

The National Venture Capital Association (NVCA) represents 470 venture capital and private equity organizations. NVCA's mission is to foster the understanding of the importance of venture capital to the vitality of the U.S. and global economies, to stimulate the flow of equity capital to emerging growth companies by representing the public policy interests of the venture capital and private equity communities at all levels of government, to maintain high professional standards, facilitate networking opportunities and to provide research data and professional development for its members. For more information, visit www.nvca.org.