SVB Financial Group

Silicon Valley Bank's Showcase II Event Attracts Over 130 Angel and Seed Investors

Santa Clara, CA -- Jan. 29, 2001 - 130 angel and seed investors attended Silicon Valley Bank's Showcase II, an event designed to connect startup companies with angel investors and venture capitalists. The event featured 21 of Silicon Valley Bank's cutting edge startup companies who were given the chance to present a two-minute elevator pitch and receive five minutes of feedback from a panel of five well-known seed stage investors.

The event was hosted by Silicon Valley Bank, the nation's premier emerging technology and life sciences financial institution, and sponsored by Envoy Consulting, Inc., Ireland San Filippo, LLP, Sun Microsystems, Inc., Thelen Reid & Priest, LLP and TriNet Group.

"Showcase II was a tremendous follow-up success to our debut Showcase event in September 2000," said Mark Horn, division manager of Silicon Valley Bank's Emerging Technologies Division. "We had over 130 individual investors attend Showcase II, giving the presenting startup companies an excellent opportunity to pitch their companies to a knowledgeable audience."

Mountain View-based Vocent, Inc., a builder of voice-enabled business applications, received a two day Sun Microsystems Inc. Professional Services workshop for earning the top place finish at Showcase II event.

"We're confident that winning Showcase II will help us close our angel round, and therefore launch our company," said Chuck Buffum, CEO of Vocent, Inc. "The event allowed us to reach a large number of potential investors in one shot and will allow us to expedite product development."

Silicon Valley Bank serves emerging growth and middle market companies in targeted niches, focusing on technology and life sciences, while also addressing other specific industries in which it can provide a higher level of service and better manage credit through specialization and focus.

The Bank operates throughout the Silicon Valley: Santa Clara, Palo Alto and Sand Hill, the center of the venture capital community in California. Other regional offices within California include: Irvine, Los Angeles, Napa Valley, San Diego, San Francisco, Santa Barbara, and Sonoma. Office locations outside of California include: Phoenix, Arizona; Boulder, Colorado; West Palm Beach, Florida; Atlanta, Georgia; Chicago, Illinois; Boston, Massachusetts; Minneapolis, Minnesota; Durham, North Carolina; Portland, Oregon; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Austin, Texas; Dallas, Texas; Northern Virginia; and Seattle, Washington.

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