Baton Rouge Area Chamber names Companies to Watch

Source: Renita Young; Nola.com — The Baton Rouge Area Chamber named its annual Companies to Watch, honoring second-stage companies, those that have moved beyond the start-up phase into a period of growth, in the nine-parish Baton Rouge area.

BRAC's awards event concluded its <u>Big Think</u> <u>program</u> during <u>Baton Rouge Entrepreneurship Week</u> (BREW) on Nov. 19.

"The six companies honored stood out among a group of very strong applicants and highlight the strength and diversity of the Capital Region economy. The selected companies have experienced tremendous growth and are innovators in their fields," BRAC President and CEO Adam Knapp said. "Honoring these outstanding companies was a great ending to a full day of events celebrating entrepreneurs and startups. These companies have successfully moved out of that phase and into a period of growth, providing inspiration and knowledge to those in our region aspiring to do the same."

Companies to Watch winners will receive exposure among and the regional business community and their peers, inclusion in post-event publicity, and the opportunity to brainstorm and network with other winners and sponsors.

To be considered part of the Companies to Watch, companies must have been a privately held commercial enterprise with between six and 99 full-time employees in 2013. The companies must have achieved revenues between \$750,000 and \$50 million in 2013, be headquartered in the nine-parish Baton Rouge area and be facing issues of growth and not survival.

BRAC's 2014 Companies to Watch are:

Marucci Sports - specialty baseball bats, baseball gloves,
baseball gear and baseball apparel manufacturer and retailer

<u>A+Corporation</u>, <u>LLC</u>—provides solutions for complex sample extraction and conditioning problems, as well as providing analyzer protection technologies

Composite Effects—silicon masks and movie prop maker

<u>General Informatics</u>—IT services company specializing in infrastructure, managed services, business solutions, and technical support

Pod Pack International - creator of individual compostable
coffee and tea pods

<u>Tin Roof Brewery</u>—craft beer brewery