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## **EDC and Groundswell Partner on Moonshot Innovation Series**

*A year-long event series targets innovation founders*

**Space Coast, Fla (June 8, 2017)** – The Economic Development Commission of Florida’s Space Coast (EDC) and Groundswell Startups, Inc. – a regional innovation incubator – announced a strategic partnership to increase the innovation ecosystem on the Space Coast. The announcement was made at the EDC June 7, 2017 Board of Directors meeting.

“The EDC and Groundswell are focused on increasing access to manufacturing, technology development, and business development in our community,” stated Lynda Weatherman, president and CEO of the EDC “This program will bring laser-focus to innovation and serve as a catalyst for economic growth. We are excited to be a founding member of Groundswell and look forward to the opportunities that will result from this partnership.”

Promoted as the Moonshot Innovation Series, this partnership serves to scale the growth of high tech companies through a series of targeted events. The series aims to celebrate innovators who are building next generation products, and provide them with exposure to opportunities and collaborations, as well as industry-expert mentorships and resources.

"This partnership has very little to do with events," said Jenna Buehler, CEO of Groundswell Startups. "It has everything to do with equipping masses of highly talented technologists with the information, resources, and the community they need to attract wealth and build high quality companies here."

Since June 2015, nine companies have received early-stage funding as a result of Groundswell's efforts to increase access to resources and free industry-expert mentorship. The EDC will serve as a promotion and resource partner benefiting tech companies in the Groundswell network.

Startups and high tech companies may apply to receive intensive one-on-one support from Fortune 500 business consultants, serial entrepreneurs, and venture capitalists. Applications are being accepted through June 23, 2017. To learn more and register, visit [spacecoastedc.org/Moonshot](http://spacecoastedc.org/Moonshot).

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### **About the Economic Development Commission of Florida's Space Coast**

The [Economic Development Commission of Florida's Space Coast](http://www.SpaceCoastEDC.org) (EDC) is dedicated to attracting new business and investment, and expanding existing industry throughout the Space Coast; promoting the Space Coast; influencing change on government laws and regulations; affecting economic development; supporting efforts of Space Coast military installations; and relaying new programs and procedures to assist manufacturing and high-tech companies. The EDC is a private, not-for-profit coalition whose stakeholders are business leaders committed to the economic growth and stability of Florida's Space Coast. Visit [www.SpaceCoastEDC.org](http://www.SpaceCoastEDC.org).

### **About Groundswell Startups, Inc.**

[Groundswell Startups, Inc.](http://swellstartups.com/) (501c3) is the largest, privately funded incubator in the State of Florida. The team's mission is to create a strong pipeline to capital, resources, and industry expert support for the benefit of high impact startup companies in Space Coast, FL. Groundswell connects emerging founders with a diverse pool of vetted, pro bono mentors (experts in marketing, business development, intellectual property, software and cybersecurity, etc.). Groundswell launched in June 2015. The team has helped nine early-stage companies secure angel investment. Visit <http://swellstartups.com/>