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Stoel Rives LLP and Wasatch Digital iQ Announce Finalists in 2003 Innovation Awards Program

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By [Pholium Administrator](#), 3/3/2003 11:07:50 AM MT

SALT LAKE CITY – Eighteen high tech innovations and the Utah companies that created them have been selected as finalists in the first annual Stoel Rives UTAH INNOVATION AWARDS program. This statewide program was developed jointly by the business law firm of Stoel Rives LLP and *Wasatch Digital iQ* magazine, in conjunction with the Utah Engineering Experiment Station. Six winners will be announced at an awards luncheon, March 20, 2003 at noon in the University of Utah Olpin Union Ballroom.

A panel of experts from private industry, government and higher education selected the finalists, three in each of the program's six categories:

- * Biotechnology
- * Chemicals, Pharmaceuticals & Nutraceuticals
- * Medical Devices
- * Computer Software & Web Services
- * Electrical Devices
- * Mechanical Devices & Advanced Materials

The tallying of the votes was conducted by the accounting firm KPMG.

“The submissions for this program were extremely impressive and deserve the recognition of the business and venture capital communities,” said program organizer and Stoel Rives attorney Kevin Laurence. “The Utah Innovation Awards program is designed to discover extraordinary innovations by large and emerging Utah companies, and to encourage others to step forward in the future.”

Finalists* include Attensity Corporation; Brigham Young University (three innovations selected as finalists); Ceramatec, Inc.; Echelon Biosciences, Inc.; FatPipe Networks™; MaxStream, Inc.; MedQuest® Products, Inc.; Mirror Image Aerospace; NPS Pharmaceuticals, Inc.; Phonex Broadband Corporation; Rubicon Medical Corp.; SiliconOptics; Soronti, Inc.; Specialized Health Products; University of Utah; and University of Utah and Myriad Genetics, Inc.

Innovations created by these finalists include a medical device that assists the flow of blood through a blood pump for heart transplant patients, computer technology that prevents network failure, a device that turns any electrical outlet into a phone jack, and a lightweight grid structure that supports 170 times its weight.

Winners will be recognized, along with the Experiment Station's Pathfinder Innovator of the Year award, at the March 20 noon luncheon. Tickets to attend the luncheon cost \$30 per person and can be obtained through www.utah.edu/uees/regs.html.

The Innovations Lunch will be the centerpiece event of the Utah Engineering Experiment Station's fourth annual "Inventions to Commercialization Conference," a daylong event that informs inventors and entrepreneurs on state and federal resources available to help convert their high-tech ideas into marketable products. For more information about the conference, contact Terry Chatwin at 801-581-6348, terrence.chatwin@utah.edu.

Utah's high tech and life science industries are burgeoning with innovations that positively impact our state's current and future growth," said Chatwin. "Drawing attention to these innovators' success stories will hopefully also bring more venture capital to Utah to support this growth."

Stoel Rives LLP is a business law firm with significant experience in the area of intellectual property law. The firm's Salt Lake City office has 49 attorneys, including 11 attorneys who help clients obtain patents and trademarks, arrange licensing agreements, and defend and protect intellectual property assets. The firm has attorneys with degrees in electrical engineering, computer science, biology, chemistry and physics.