

News for August 2009

August 3, 2009

Eli Lilly's VC Arm Spins Out With \$200M Fund

Lilly Ventures, the venture capital arm of Eli Lilly & Co., has spun out from its parent in an effort to compensate its members more like a traditional venture firm.

As part of the spinout, completed May 1, Lilly Ventures secured \$200 million from its corporate parent to invest in new companies and to support its existing portfolio.

- Lilly Ventures – Indianapolis, IN – www.lillyventures.com

August 6, 2009

Longworth Venture Partners Corral \$123M For Fund III

Technology investor Longworth Venture Partners has so far closed on about two-thirds of the \$180 million it targeted for its third fund, according to a regulatory filing.

The Waltham, MA, firm had raised \$122.5 million for Longworth Venture Partners III LP as of Monday. It received its first commitment about a year ago, the filing said. There are 24 investors so far. The filing indicates that Longworth intends to extend fund-raising beyond one year.

- Longworth Venture Partners – Waltham, MA – www.longworth.com

Entropy Raises \$12M In Second Close For Asian Cleantech Fund

With private equity markets in Asia beginning to climb out of the trough, Asian-focused alternative energy and clean-technology investment firm Entropy Ventures has managed to close on another \$12 million for its first fund.

The Hong Kong-based firm is still trying to hit a \$75 million target for its Amadeus Asian Clean Energy Fund, and expects to wrap up its fund-raising by the end of 2009. The firm has two companies in its portfolio from \$7.8 million in investments made last year, when Entropy closed on its first \$23 million.

- Entropy Ventures – Hong Kong – www.entropyventures.com

August 7, 2009

CIBC Spins Out U.S. Investments To Form New Fund

The Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce has spun out its U.S. private equity business, establishing itself as Garvin Hill Capital Fund LLC.

A portfolio of 10 later-stage companies worth about \$120 million of invested capital will be managed by Mark Hastings, previously a managing director of CIBC Capital Partners, from a base in its existing fund, but capital remains for follow-on rounds. A regulatory filing shows the fund totals about \$186 million.

While CIBC has other private equity units, the \$186 million spinout is specific to its U.S. investments. CIBC is the sole limited partner in the fund.

The portfolio of Garvin Hill Capital Fund consists of software and Internet companies that received investment between 2004 and 2008.

- [Garvin Hill Capital Fund – Edmonton & Winnipeg, Canada – www.cibc.com](http://www.cibc.com)

August 10, 2009

Opus Seeks \$250M For Latest Early-Stage Fund

Opus Capital Ventures, which specializes in providing seed and Series A funding to technology companies, is back in the fund-raising market, hoping to track \$250 million for its latest vehicle.

In addition to the \$250 million target for Opus Capital Venture Partners VI LP, the firm has instituted a \$350 million hard cap.

The Menlo Park, CA, firm, formerly known as Weiss Peck & Greer Venture Partners, closed Fund V in 2006 with \$280 million in capital commitments.

- [Opus Capital Ventures – Menlo Park – www.opuscapitalventures.com](http://www.opuscapitalventures.com)

August 11, 2009

Domain Stays The Course With Closure Of Smaller Eighth Fund

Life science investor Domain Associates has become the latest victim of the harsh fund-raising environment, trimming back its \$700 million goal to close its eighth fund at \$500 million.

The firm, which set the original target at the end of 2008, began formal fund-raising for Domain Partners VIII LP in January, seeking the same amount it raised for its seventh fund in 2006, but determined that investor capacity was weaker than anticipated.

Domain is one of several venture funds to lower its fund-raising expectations due to the recession. IDG Venture SF recently closed a \$100 million fund, lower than an original \$180 million target. OrbiMed Advisors is looking at a slightly smaller fourth fund of \$500 million, after raising \$530 million in 2006. And New Enterprise Associates has ratcheted down the target of its 13th fund to \$2.5 billion from \$3 billion.

- Domain Associates – Princeton, NJ/San Diego, CA - www.domainvc.com

Mohr Davidow Ventures Closes New Funds

Menlo Park, CA-based Mohr Davidow Ventures closed its MDV VIII Parallel fund at \$25.5 million, its MDV VII Parallel Fund at \$27.1 million, and its MDV IX Parallel Fund at \$45.3 million. The firm invests in information technology and healthcare companies.

- Mohr Davidow – Menlo Park, CA – www.mdv.com
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August 12, 2009

Renaissance Closes On \$40M For Michigan VC Fund-Of-Funds

With the aim of helping to boost the Michigan economy, hard-hit by problems in the beleaguered auto industry, newly launched Renaissance Venture Capital Fund has raised \$40 million of a planned \$100 million fund of funds.

The fund - with offices in Ann Arbor, MI, and Detroit - launched earlier this year, and held a first closing on its debut investment vehicle last week.

Renaissance has already invested in three Michigan venture firms that extensively back companies in the Midwest. Most recently, Renaissance provided \$4 million to Ann Arbor-based regional venture firm RPM Ventures for its second fund, RPM Ventures II LP. Renaissance also provided \$5 million to Ann Arbor-based Arboretum Ventures, an early-stage life-sciences firm, and \$3 million to Kalamazoo, MI-based TGap Ventures, a Midwest-focused medical technology firm.

- Renaissance – Ann Arbor and Detroit, MI – www.renvcf.com
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August 14, 2009

Khosla Ventures Closes \$250 Million Khosla Ventures Seed LP

Khosla Ventures, based in Menlo Park, CA, closed its Khosla Ventures Seed LP fund at \$250 million. The firm focuses its investments in early and late-stage companies in the Internet, computing, mobile, and silicon technology arenas as well as clean technology areas such as bio-refineries for energy and bioplastics, solar, battery, and other technologies.

- Khosla Ventures – Menlo Park, CA – www.khoslaventures.com

August 17, 2009

EDF Ventures Takes \$4M In Possible \$15M Life Science Fund

After delaying fund-raising on its debut life science-only fund last year, EDF Ventures has closed on \$4 million of a \$15 million health care opportunity vehicle, according to a filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

The filing said that EDF Ventures III Healthcare Opportunity Fund LP had 16 investors, but none were listed. EDF Ventures, based in Ann Arbor, MI, last raised a \$55 million life science and IT fund, the firm's third, in 2004.

- EDF Ventures – Ann Arbor, MI – www.edfvc.com

August 18, 2009

NGP Energy Technology Partners Closes \$348M Fund

NGP Energy Technology Partners has closed its second private equity fund above target at \$348 million.

NGP Energy Technology Partners II L.P., which had a target of \$300 million, will preserve the same strategy as Fund I, investing in technology products and services in the oil & gas, power, alternative energy and energy efficiency sectors.

- NGP Energy Technology Partners – Washington, D.C. - www.ngpetp.com

August 24, 2009

Advantage Capital Partners Closes \$55 Million Illinois New Markets Development Program

New Orleans -based Advantage Capital Partners closed its \$55 million Illinois New Markets Development Program. The firm makes equity and convertible debt investments in a variety of emerging, well-managed companies with superior growth potential.

- Advantage Capital Partners – New Orleans, LO – www.advantagecap.com

August 25, 2009

HLM Venture Partners Kicks Off \$200M Raise For Third Fund

Life science-focused HLM Venture Partners has launched fund-raising for a \$200 million third fund, a goal slightly below what the firm raised in its previous fund, according to a filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Based in Boston with an office in San Francisco, HLM focuses on health care information technology and services and medical devices, and does some business services and technology deals as well. The firm last raised a \$216 million second fund in November 2006. That fund closed higher than its \$200 million target, and was significantly larger than the firm's \$88.3 million first fund raised in 2002.

- [HLM Venture Partners – Boston, MA/San Francisco, CA – www.hlmvp.com](http://www.hlmvp.com)

August 27, 2009

Asset Management Spinoff Helix Ventures Raising \$150M Debut Fund

Two medical investors at Asset Management Co. have left to co-found Helix Ventures, a health care firm raising \$150 million for its first fund.

Graham K. Crooke and Evgeny V. Zaytsev, who together led the health care practice at Asset Management from 2001 until July, have joined entrepreneur Philip M. Sawyer to form Helix, a medical device and biotech firm. Though they launched the Palo Alto, CA-based firm in August 2008, and began raising Helix Partners LP in the spring, Crooke and Zaytsev didn't join full-time until last month.

- [Helix Ventures – Palo Alto, CA – www.helixventure.com](http://www.helixventure.com)

Source: VentureWire and VentureSource