

News for May 2011

May 2, 2011

Meritech Capital Partners: Closes \$425 Million Meritech Capital Partners IV LP

Palo Alto, CA-based Meritech Capital Partners closed its Meritech Capital Partners IV LP fund at \$425 million. The firm focuses its investments in the information technology industry.

- Meritech Capital Partners – Palo Alto, CA – www.meritechcapital.com

Cleantech Investment Grows in First Year

U.S. venture capital investment in cleantech companies increased by 54% to \$1.14 billion in the first quarter of 2011 from \$743.3 million in last year's first quarter, despite a 13% decrease in deals year on year from 79 to 69, according to an Ernst & Young LLP analysis based on data from *Dow Jones VentureSource*.

The top 10 deals in Q1 2011 totaled \$683.1 million, 60% of the total raised for the quarter, and two deals accounted for 18% of the total dollars raised.

The energy/electricity generation segment, led by strong solar investments, raised \$450.3 million through 16 deals in Q1 2011. The solar sub-segment accounted for 32% of the total dollars raised for the quarter with \$362.7 million, a 162% gain from Q1 2010.

May 4, 2011

Braemar Energy: Fund Targets \$300M

Braemar Energy Ventures is raising a new fund targeted at \$300 million. Braemar Energy Ventures is focused exclusively on technology and communications opportunities in the energy sector. Its standard investment in a company is between \$5 million and \$250 million.

- Braemar Energy – New York, NY – <http://www.braemarenergy.com/>
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May 5, 2011

SV Angel: \$40M Fund

Palo Alto, CA.-based SV Fund has raised \$11.7 million toward a targeted \$40 million fund, SV Angel III L.P., according to a Securities and Exchange Commission filing.

- SV Angel – Palo Alto, CA – www.svangel.com

Nature Elements Capital: First Close of \$80M

Clean technology investor Nature Elements Capital will hold a close of \$80 million for a fund that is targeted at around \$350 million. It previously raised \$38.5 million in partnership with government agencies in China.

- Nature Elements Capital – Hong Kong - www.elementscap.com
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May 6, 2011

Longitude Capital: Raising \$325M for Next Fund

Longitude Capital Management Co. is targeting \$325 million for a new fund. Longitude targets life science companies in sectors that span medical devices, biotechnology and pharmaceutical product development, diagnostics and research and development tools, according to its website. The firm typically invests \$10 million to \$30 million over the life of each portfolio company although its initial investment can be much smaller.

- Longitude Capital – Menlo Park, CA – www.longitudecapital.com

Red Abbey Venture Partners: Opens Druid BioVentures I LLP

Baltimore, MD-based Red Abbey Venture Partners, an investment firm focused on the life sciences, has opened its Druid BioVentures I LLP fund.

- Red Abbey Venture Partners – Baltimore, MD – www.redabbey.com
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May 12, 2011

Tenaya Capital: Opens Tenaya Capital VI LP

Menlo Park, CA-based Tenaya Capital, a venture capital firm that focuses on mid- to late-stage venture investments in technology companies, has opened its Tenaya Capital VI LP on May 1, 2011.

- Tenaya Capital – Menlo Park, CA – www.tenayacapital.com

May 13, 2011

Tandem Entrepreneurs: Second Fund Targeting \$40M

Tandem Entrepreneurs, a seed fund venture capital firm, has set a target for its second fund, Tandem Fund II L.P., of \$40 million and has raised \$18.45 million, according to an SEC filing. Tandem invests under \$1 million in seed-stage companies.

- Tandem Entrepreneurs – San Mateo, CA – www.tandementrepreneurs.com
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May 16, 2011

Elm Street Ventures: Targets \$40M For Early-Stage Fund

Elm Street Ventures plans to begin raising \$40 million for its second fund next year. The firm invests in seed and early stage life sciences companies, specifically those developing laboratory tools, diagnostics, medical devices, and therapeutics. Elm Street, which makes about 70% of its investments in life sciences and the rest in technology and other industries, plans to use the new, larger fund to take and hold larger stakes in its companies.

- Elm Street Ventures – New Haven, CT – www.elmvc.com

BioGeneration Ventures: First Close On Second Fund

BioGeneration Ventures held a first closing on BioGeneration Ventures II, a fund with a target size of 30 million euros. The firm that backs early-stage life sciences companies in the Netherlands.

- BioGeneration Ventures – Naarden, Netherlands – www.biogenerationventures.com
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May 18, 2011

Montreux Equity: \$250M Targeted For Life Sciences Fund

Montreux Equity Partners is raising its fifth fund, targeting \$250 million. Montreux Equity Partners, which is based in Menlo Park, CA, targets health-care companies.

- Montreux Equity Partners – Menlo Park, CA – www.montreuxequity.com/

Greensphere Capital LLP Opens Greensphere Capital I LP Fund

Greensphere Capital LLP, a venture capital firm focusing on sustainable infrastructure, clean technology and renewable power sectors, has opened the Greensphere Capital I LP fund.

- Greensphere Capital – London – www.greenspherecapital.com

May 19, 2011

Polaris Venture Partners: Deploying \$375M Fund

Polaris Venture Partners will begin deploying its recent \$375 million fund. Polaris will maintain its current investment strategy, with one third of the fund allocated for venture investments in technology, one third for health care, and another third targeted for growth-equity deals.

- Polaris Venture Partners – Waltham, MA - www.polarisventures.com

May 20, 2011

Khosla Ventures: Raising \$1B Fund

Khosla Ventures is raising a new fund with a target of just over \$1 billion, according to a new Securities and Exchange Commission filing from the firm. The firm has been investing mostly in clean technology, with some information-technology deals.

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

May 23, 2011

Greener Capital: Hold First Close On Fund

Greener Capital will hold a first close on the firm's second venture fund, focused on clean technology. The fund, Greener Capital Partners II, is targeting \$125 million, and the first close is for between one-third and one-half of that amount.

- Greener Capital – San Francisco, CA

May 24, 2011

Asian Development Bank: Invests \$60M Into Clean-Tech Funds

The Asian Development Bank said it has made commitments to three venture capital funds focused on financing companies developing technologies to reduce fossil fuel consumption and combat the effects of global climate change. The bank selected three funds: Aloe Environment Fund III, Keytone Ventures II and VenturEast Life Fund III.

Lerer Ventures: \$25M Second Fund

Having just closed a \$25 million seed fund, Lerer Ventures has just closed its \$25 million seed fund. The firm invests between \$100,000 and \$250,000 per company and invests in areas such as consumer Internet, e-commerce, online advertising technology and infrastructure software.

- Lerer Ventures – New York, NY – www.lererverventures.com
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May 25, 2011

IPV Capital: \$125M For Second Fund

IPV Capital, a Chinese early-stage investor, closed its second fund at \$125 million. Formerly, Infotech Pacific Ventures, the VC firm will continue to back technology companies from the new fund while expanding into clean-technology and health-care investments.

- IPV Capital – Shanghai – www.ipvcap.com

Qiming Weichang Venture Capital Management Company Ltd.: Closes USD 450 Million Qiming Ventures Fund III

Shanghai, China based Qiming Weichang Venture Capital Management Company Ltd., a venture capital firm focused on high growth Chinese companies in the media and internet, information technology, consumer and retail, healthcare, and cleantech industries, has closed the \$450 million Qiming Ventures Fund III.

- Qiming Weichang Venture Capital Management Company – Shanghai – www.qimingventures.com
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May 26, 2011

Shenzhen Co-Win Venture Capital Investments Ltd.: Closes RMB2.5 Billion Fund

Shenzhen, China based Shenzhen Co-Win Venture Capital Investments Ltd., a firm targeting pre-IPO companies, has closed the RMB 2.5 billion Nanhai Growth Fund V.

May 27, 2011

Comcast Ventures: New \$750M Fund and SF Location

Comcast Ventures has a new location in San Francisco and a new \$750 million fund. Amy Banse, former head of Comcast Interactive Media, will relocate to San Francisco to serve as Comcast Ventures'

Managing Director and Head of Funds. The office will focus on digital media, e-commerce and entertainment.

- Comcast Ventures – San Francisco, CA – www.comcastventures.com
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May 31, 2011

NEA: Establishes Seed Stage Fund

New Enterprise Associates has started a formal fund to invest in seed-stage consumer technology deals. The firm recently announced that it has established NEA Seed Fund, using money from its \$2.5 billion New Enterprise Associates XIII LP.

- New Enterprise Associates – Chevy Chase, MD – www.nea.com

Venture Industry Shrinkage

The number of active U.S. venture firms continued its steady decline in 2010 despite the boom in technology investing.

A total of 844 venture firms or corporate venture groups made at least one investment last year, a 4.7% drop from 2009, according to an analysis by *VentureSource*, an industry tracker owned by Dow Jones & Co., the publisher of this blog.

That's down significantly from the 1,312 active VCs in 2000, during the dot-com bubble, but the venture industry remains nearly twice as large as it was in 1996, when 451 firms did at least one deal. The pace of decline, however, slowed from 2009, when the ranks of active VCs fell 10.6% from the prior year, the latest data show.

Epic BioVentures: Raising \$125M For First Fund

Epic BioVentures is raising a \$125 million first fund aimed at medical start-ups that appear to be acquired within three year

- Epic BioVentures – Philadelphia, PA - <http://epicbv.com>

** Source – VentureSource and VentureWire for each article.*