

April 26, 2023 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Contact: Jenny Rojanasthien, Executive Director, 509-661-9000

## OVER \$300,000 AWARDED AT 2023 FLYWHEEL INVESTMENT CONFERENCE; GemaTEG NAMED CONFERENCE WINNER

**WENATCHEE, WA** – The 2023 Flywheel Investment Conference awarded over \$300,000 on April 20, bringing the total to over \$1.3 million that has been awarded to Washington based companies through the annual event.

The Flywheel Investment Conference is held annually in Wenatchee and generates exposure and resources for early-stage companies by bringing entrepreneurs, investors, and professionals together. The 2023 Flywheel Investment Conference broke all past records with the largest number of applicants to date, an expanded three-day schedule, and the highest-attended conference since its inception.

Over 300 attendees participated in Flywheel Conference events from April 19-21. Flywheel offered a Latina/o/x Founder Journey Workshop, networking pub crawl, entrepreneur and investor panels, keynote presentations, exhibitor booths, and a networking lunch. Speakers included Julie Harrelson, Cascade Seed Fund; Edwin Ortiz, Rejoicy; Raj Thiagarajan, Microsoft; Dave Parker, DK Parker; Minda Brusse, First Row Partners; Robert Pease, Cascade Seed Fund; Jared Byer, gener8tor; Marius Ciocirlan, Techstars; April Needham, SP3NW; Chrismon Nofsinger, Nofsinger Group & Cambridge Leadership Associates; Mark Chopper, AMPS Energy; Juan Barraza, VertueLab; Sarah Studer, Techstars and more.

The keystone of the conference was the investment competition, followed by an Awards Party at Pybus Public Market where GemaTEG was named the winner of the 2023 Flywheel Conference and received a \$150,000 investment award from the Flywheel Angel Network. During the last day of the conference, attendees had the chance to participate in a pitch workshop and enjoy free skiing at Mission Ridge Ski & Board Resort.

A total of 82 companies applied for the chance to compete at this year's Flywheel Conference. Through careful deliberation, the applications were narrowed down by the Flywheel Angel Network to just six who competed live during the conference: <u>Alphi</u>, Seattle; <u>Citizen Mint</u>, Bellevue; <u>GemaTEG</u>, Bellevue; <u>Novuson Surgical</u>, Bothell; <u>Pure Blue Tech Inc.</u>, Anacortes; and <u>SheFly Apparel</u>, Seattle.

GemaTEG develops innovative thermal management solutions for high-performance microprocessors (CPUs and GPUs) in data centers. The company was founded in 2019 in Seattle

with its R&D center in Italy. DaTEG is the latest product in the company's portfolio of sustainable systems. Specifically designed for HPC and high-demanding applications, DaTEG is an active thermal management system with advanced thermoelectric technology. The system allows close control of microprocessor temperature, resulting in a substantial increase in computing power, reduction in power consumption, and noise. The product aligns with GemaTEG's vision, where sustainability and high-performance meet.

During the conference, Alphi and SheFly also received \$50,000 investment awards each from the Flywheel Angel Network. Citizen Mint received a \$50,000 relocation offer from NCW Tech Alliance if they choose to relocate their business to Chelan or Douglas counties. In addition, SheFly was awarded the \$5,000 Audience Favorite cash prize.

SheFly is an outdoor apparel company on a mission to make the outdoors better for all people through innovative clothing design. Their award-winning pants and leggings feature their patented zipper technology, which empowers everyone to answer nature's call and relieve themselves outside without removing any clothing. They design durable, innovative, and functional clothing so that everyone can explore as they are.

Alphi is the first community-powered NFT database built to bring accessibility and transparency to the world of digital collectibles, enabling everyone to make well-informed decisions about the projects they get involved with. Their purpose is to make the digital collectible space accessible.

Citizen Mint provides wealth advisors a trusted, easy-to-use platform to access private market impact investments. With minimums starting at \$10k and a curated list of exclusive opportunities, wealth managers are able to leverage Citizen Mint to help attract younger clients, diversify portfolios, reduce client performance volatility, and minimize their own revenue volatility.

The 2023 Flywheel Investment Conference was presented by Moss Adams, Ogden Murphy Wallace, Confluence Health, and Microsoft. Plans are underway for the annual Flywheel Conference to return in the Spring of 2024 in Wenatchee.

## About the Flywheel Investment Conference

The Flywheel Investment Conference is an annual full-day event that generates momentum and resources for early stage companies. The Flywheel Conference is a unique opportunity for angel investors, venture capitalists, entrepreneurs, startups and professionals to come together to connect, learn, and develop resources for building companies.

The 2023 Flywheel Investment Conference is directed by NCW Tech Alliance and supported by Moss Adams, Ogden Murphy Wallace, Confluence Health, Microsoft, City of Wenatchee, Washington Trust Bank, City of East Wenatchee, Washington State Department of Commerce, Clark Nuber, Karr Tuttle Campbell, Chelan County, GTC Technical Support, Colchuck Companies, AHT Insurance, Chelan Douglas Regional Port Authority, WTIA, LocalTel, GeekWire, Native Network, North Forty Productions, JP Portrait Studio, Cascade Seed Fund, Cambridge Leadership Associates, Nofsinger Group, Wenatchee Valley Chamber of Commerce, Wenatchee AppleSox, Evergreen Bioscience Innovation, Davis Furniture and eqpd. More information at <u>www.flywheelconference.com</u>.

## About NCW Tech Alliance

Since 1999, NCW Tech Alliance has served as the region's tech alliance, championing growth and development in North Central Washington. As a 501(c)3, NCW Tech Alliance's mission is to bring together people and resources in technology, entrepreneurship, and STEM education. For more information visit <u>www.ncwtech.org</u>.

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## Photos:

- 1. GemaTEG COO/Co-Founder Maurizio Miozza and CEO/Co-Founder Manfred Markevitch Flywheel2023
- 2. SheFly COO/Co-Founder Charlotte Massey and CEO/Co-Founder Georgia Grace Edwards Flywheel2023
- 3. Alphi CEO Jesse Bryan and COO Mike Anderson Flywheel2023
- 4. Citizen Mint CTO Marshall Dunford and CEO Josh Hile Flywheel2023
- 5. All Flywheel Winners Flywheel2023