

General Counsel Cabrales Presents ETF Award to Mayan Pigments
\$250,000 in First Installment of \$1Million Awarded

El Paso, Texas (September 18, 2008) The glitterati were out in number for the official announcement of the State's Emerging Technology Fund (ETF) award to Mayan Pigments on Thursday afternoon. Among those at the awards reception were General Counsel David Cabrales, ETF Fund Director Mark Ellison, and Regional Center of Innovation Executive Director Ebetuel Pallares.

At the announcement ceremony, Mayan Pigments received \$250,000, the first funding round of the \$1 million award. The ceremony was hosted by the Trans Pecos/El Paso Regional Center of Innovation and Commercialization (TPEP RCIC) at 2:30 p.m. at the El Paso Public Library in downtown El Paso.

“We are very proud to have worked with Mayan Pigments through their vetting and evaluation process, which resulted in a successful presentation to the ETF and made this funding possible,” said Ebetuel Pallares, Executive Director of TPEP RCIC. “Mayan has put a lot of research into their products and they are ramping up production. This funding puts them another step closer to mainstreaming their product lines out to market.”

Mayan produces organic/inorganic, hybrid pigments inspired by Mayan technology and originally developed by researchers at the University of Texas at El Paso. The company is commercializing an eco-friendly manufacturing process resulting in pigments which are not heavy metal-based, yet possess excellent color strength and enhanced properties of chemical resistance, thermal stability, and lightfastness. It is expected that the ETF award will assist in moving Mayan's paint and coatings products out of the lab and into the consumer marketplace.

“We are aggressively pursuing exciting opportunities in the plastics, paints & coatings, cement/stucco, fibers, and artist color markets. We are very proud that our technology and commercialization plan have been recognized in this way,” said Gary Williams, Senior Vice-President of Mayan Pigments, Inc. who accepted the award.

About The Trans Pecos/El Paso Regional Center of Innovation and Commercialization

Established in 2007, the Trans Pecos/El Paso Regional Center of Innovation and Commercialization (TPEP RCIC), a Texas non-profit, serves as a catalyst for economic development. TPEP RCIC acts as a “cashless venture capital organization” and assists business in meeting the requirements to seek funding by the Texas Emerging Technologies Fund and / or private capital sources.

TPEP RCIC's in-depth investigative, research and evaluation processes culminate in the presentation of highly qualified candidates to venture capitalists and private funding entities resulting in a verifiable, consistent track record of reduced risks for investors and good rate of returns on investment, which has earned them the respect from the funding community in a relatively short period of time. In addition, the agency excels in facilitating the transfer of technology from universities and national labs into the commercial sector.

The TPEP RCIC is comprised of qualified specialists and network of partners from the Trans Pecos/El Paso region who possess a unique blend of experience in high technology, start-up operations, economic development, venture funding, and globalization. They also have connections with financial institutions and the financial community at-large, which offers a deeper understanding of the requirements posed by funding entities and provides connections with capital resources. For more information, please visit: www.tpeprcic.org.

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