



News Release
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Startup Texas Launches to Support State's Young Companies

November 30, 2011, AUSTIN — Today, the [Austin Chamber of Commerce](http://www.austinchamber.com) announced the launch of Startup Texas, a regional initiative working in conjunction with the [Startup America Partnership](http://www.startupamerica.com), the national organization dedicated to helping startups grow in order to jumpstart job creation in the country.

The Austin-based launch of Startup Texas is both a celebration of the work of the Austin entrepreneurial community to date and a call to action for entrepreneurial leaders across the entire state to unite in order to maximize the growth of the regional ecosystem. Thus far, six other regions have launched across the country.

Using the national resources of the Startup America Partnership, and supported with staff and resources through the Chamber's Opportunity Austin funding, the ultimate goal of the Austin entrepreneurial community and the [Startup Texas](http://www.startuptexas.com) initiative is to help more startups succeed in order to create jobs in Central Texas and throughout the state, and to serve as a catalyst for involvement from the entrepreneurial communities across the entire state.

"Austin is recognized as a successful business destination around the world and the Opportunity Austin strategy has done a great job bringing jobs to the region," said Tim Crowley, Regional President of Frost Bank and Chair of Opportunity Austin. "Our Startup Texas site embraces the region's entrepreneurial spirit and helps us support the growth of companies in Central Texas."

South by Southwest (SXSW) will kickoff on March 9 at the ACL Moody Theatre with a special event recognizing Startup Texas. More details on this will follow as the event nears.

"Cities like Austin prove that as young companies are founded and grow, they create the jobs America needs right now," said Scott Case, CEO of the Startup America Partnership. "We're thrilled to work with the Austin team to initially launch Startup Texas, and look forward to integrating our resources and reach throughout all of Texas, with its formidable and well-established culture of entrepreneurship."

By leveraging the Startup America Partnership's national network, entrepreneurs across Texas will gain access to business resources throughout the state and country, enabling them to grow faster, be more competitive and create more jobs. Startup Texas will work to provide assistance to entrepreneurs in the following areas:

- Expertise: Connect entrepreneurs with training, mentors, advisors and accelerators
- Services: Provide entrepreneurs access to critical services at reduced costs
- Talent: Assist entrepreneurs in recruiting and training the people that can help them grow
- Customers: Help to scale startups through new and existing markets
- Capital: Highlight sources of capital available to entrepreneurs in various regions and sectors

“I am confident that Startup Texas will accelerate the already prosperous entrepreneurial business community in Austin and throughout the state, ensuring that we compete on a global scale,” said John Price, CEO and President of Vast.com and Chair of Startup Texas.

The Chamber’s [Tech Partnership](#) spearheaded this effort to galvanize the entrepreneurial community. To get involved with Startup Texas in Austin or in other communities throughout Texas, young companies, entrepreneurial leaders and potential partners should visit TX.StartupAmericaPartnership.org.

About the Austin Chamber of Commerce & Opportunity Austin

Opportunity Austin is the [Austin Chamber of Commerce’s](#) five-year economic development initiative to foster sustainable growth through the creation of new jobs and increased payroll in the Central Texas region. For more information visit opportunityaustin.com. The mission of the Austin Chamber of Commerce is to provide leadership that facilitates the creation of a prosperous regional economy and effective advocacy for its members. For more information about the Austin Chamber of Commerce visit austinchamber.com.

About the Startup America Partnership

The Startup America Partnership was launched at the White House in response to President Obama’s call to celebrate, inspire, and accelerate high-growth entrepreneurship throughout the nation. The Partnership is bringing together an alliance of major corporations, funders, service providers, mentors and advisors working to dramatically increase the prevalence and success of high-growth enterprises in the U.S. AOL co-founder Steve Case chairs the Partnership and the Kauffman and Case Foundations are founding partners. American Express OPEN, Dell Inc., Intuit Inc., and Microsoft are sponsors. The Partnership will identify, measure and report on the effectiveness of cross-sector collaboration in support of entrepreneurial ventures and its effect on job creation and growth. For more information on the Partnership, visit www.startupamericapartnership.org

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