

For Immediate Release
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Ron Neumann joins Communitech as next Executive-in-Residence

WATERLOO REGION, ONTARIO, July 16 2007 – High-calibre resources for the entrepreneur get another big boost forward in Waterloo Region, as Ron Neumann becomes the next serial tech CEO to join Communitech's Executive-in-Residence in-house, startup mentorship program.

"I'm excited to be able to apply my significant expertise in startup and business management to the benefit of tech firms across Waterloo Region," says Neumann, "providing advice and guidance on everything from a bullet proof business plan to a manageable exit strategy."

On July 25, Neumann joins Carol Leaman, CEO-in-Residence, who was appointed as the first such mentorship role for Communitech earlier this year. At full capacity, the Executive-in-Residence program will accommodate up to three seasoned CXO-level executives working out of the Communitech offices on a part-time basis, sharing their considerable experience and expertise by coaching small firms at no cost to startups.

Neumann brings over twenty years of successful management experience to the role of Executive-in-Residence at Communitech. His entrepreneurial spirit and strong technical skills have driven SlipStream Data's phenomenal growth and penetration in new markets, such as the market for Mobile Service Providers (MSPs). Under Neumann's management, SlipStream remained highly profitable, won over 2000 service provider customers in 45 countries, and tripled employee size in two years. Neumann led the successful acquisition of Slipstream Data by Research In Motion (RIM) earlier in 2006.

Prior to joining SlipStream in 2001, Neumann held other local positions as President at LivePage, (which was sold to Janna Systems) and was the founding President at Waterloo Maple, profitably growing it from a startup to over 50 people. He has also held senior positions at Cebra (the electronic commerce division of the The Bank of Montreal), Tallgrass Technologies and MicroWare Distribution. Neumann is a graduate of the Systems Design Engineering program at the University of Waterloo.

"With additions like Ron Neumann to our line-up of stellar resources, Communitech continues to build on Waterloo Region's resources dedicated to entrepreneurs," adds Iain Klugman, President and CEO, Communitech. "Another powerful step toward realizing our vision of becoming a tier-one tech cluster in North America."

Neumann begins his tenure as Communitech Executive-in-Residence July 25, and can be reached at Communitech offices in the Accelerator Centre, University of Waterloo Research + Tech Park, Waterloo, at 519-888-9944.

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About Communitech's Executive-in-Residence program

The Executive-in-Residence program gives Waterloo Region tech companies access to the experience and expertise of high-calibre C-Suite leadership. The program is supported in part by the Ontario Research Commercialization Program, working in partnership with Ontario Centres of Excellence, local venture capitalists and investors, the MaRS network, the Centre for Business, Entrepreneurship and Technology at the University of Waterloo, the Schlegel Centre for Entrepreneurship at Wilfrid Laurier University, and the Accelerator Centre. The goal of the ORCP is to strengthen Ontario's economy by improving the links between researchers at universities, colleges and other facilities, and the business community, where innovations are transformed into products and brought to market.

About Communitech: Waterloo Region Technology Association

Communitech is an industry-led association driving the growth and success of Waterloo Region's tech sector through a vibrant network of leadership, connections and promotion. For more information please visit www.communitech.ca.

Driving dynamic growth and success for Waterloo Region technology companies.