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**Regional Centers**

- Capitol
- Genesee & Lapeer
- Great Lakes Bay
- Greater Washtenaw
- Macomb & St. Clair
- Mid Michigan
- Northeast Michigan
- Northwest Michigan
- Southeast Michigan
- Southwest Michigan
- Upper Peninsula
- West Michigan

**Michigan SBTDC Announces  
 Tom Donaldson as State Star**

**Lansing, MI** – The Michigan Small Business and Technology Development Center (MI-SBTDC) State Director Carol Lopucki announced that Tom Donaldson has been selected as the 2011 State Star of the Michigan SBTDC network.

“I am pleased to make this announcement, and to recognize Tom Donaldson for extraordinary contributions to the work of the statewide Michigan SBTDC network and small business in the Capitol Region,” said Carol Lopucki.

Tom Donaldson is the Regional Director at the SBTDC Capitol Region located at Lansing Community College. Donaldson was chosen by the Michigan SBTDC network for being an exemplary performer, making a significant contribution to the Statewide and Regional SBTDC program, and showing a strong commitment to small business in the Lansing area.

Donaldson joined the MI-SBTDC in 2004. Since that time, he has been responsible for the successful establishment of several of the state’s most important initiatives and programs. Donaldson was integral in the establishment of the MI-SBTDC’s Manufacturing Assistance Team, which assists small to medium-size manufacturers with financial planning, access to capital and strategic assessment. Through his expertise and dedication, Donaldson has helped achieve the state’s goal to bring relief to the economic stress faced by many of Michigan’s small manufacturers. In addition, as Region Director of the Capitol Region, Tom coordinates the efforts of the MI-SBTDC with its key partners, to provide the best resources for small businesses and entrepreneurs in the area.

“It is an honor to accept this award,” said Donaldson, “and to have the opportunity everyday to assist so many entrepreneurs achieve the dream of starting and succeeding in their own business.”

**About MI-SBTDC**

The Michigan Small Business & Technology Development Center is the Feet on the Street providing counseling, training and market research for Michigan’s new business ventures, existing small businesses, expanding new businesses, new technology companies, and innovators.

The MI-SBTDC is located at the Grand Valley State University, Seidman College of Business in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

(More)

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As host of the MI-SBTDC State Headquarters, the Seidman College of Business oversees the twelve-region MI-SBTDC network. Entrepreneurs and small business owners may access the services of their nearest MI-SBTDC by calling 517.483.1921 or visiting [www.misbtdc.org](http://www.misbtdc.org).

### **About the ASBDC**

America's Small Business Development Center (ASBDC) Network is a partnership uniting private enterprise, government, higher education and local nonprofit economic development organizations. It is the Small Business Administration's largest partnership program, providing management and technical assistance to help Americans start, run and grow their own businesses. With about 1,000 centers across the nation, America's SBDC network provided business consulting to approximately 200,000 clients, training for more than 400,000 attendees, and other forms of management and technical assistance to approximately 600,000 small businesses and aspiring entrepreneurs last year.

A special awards reception honoring the ASBDC 2011 State Stars was held on Friday, September 6, 2011 in San Diego, California in conjunction with ASBDC's 31st Annual Conference. The reception was graciously sponsored by **Constant Contact, Inc.** Constant Contact, Inc. helps small businesses, associations, and nonprofits connect with their customers, clients, and members. Launched in 1998, Constant Contact champions the needs of small organizations and provides them with an easy and affordable way to build successful, lasting customer relationships. Learn more at <http://www.constantcontact.com>.

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