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## **Environmental Business Cluster Receives Incubation Industry's Highest Honor**

San Jose, CA – The Environmental Business Cluster of San Jose, CA, received the National Business Incubation Association's 2008 Randall M. Whaley Incubator of the Year award this week at NBIA's 22nd International Conference on Business Incubation in San Antonio, TX. The Randall M. Whaley Incubator of the Year award is NBIA's most prestigious honor, recognizing overall excellence in business incubation, and is awarded to the nation's top incubator. Accepting the award along with Jim Robbins was John Weis, Deputy Director of the Redevelopment Agency of the City of San Jose.

The Environmental Business Cluster combines business incubation best practices with extensive client mentoring and an industry-recognized clean technology commercialization program. Since its inception in 1994, the incubator has helped 145 companies commercialize environmental technology and create clean-tech jobs. In partnership with the City of San Jose and San Jose State University, the EBC has become the largest private clean-energy commercialization center in the United States for start-up companies. A recent UK study of 110 clean energy commercialization centers around the world over a two year period ranked the Environmental Business Cluster #1 in the number of technologies successfully commercialized.

The National Business Incubation Association is the world's leading organization advancing business incubation and entrepreneurship. NBIA estimates that in 2005 alone, North American incubators assisted more than 27,000 start-up companies that provided full-time employment for more than 100,000 workers and generated annual revenue of more than \$17 billion. Approximately 5,000 business incubators operate worldwide. For more information go to [www.nbia.org](http://www.nbia.org)

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