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AUTOXLR8R PARTNERS WITH CU-ICAR
(Clemson University International Center for Automotive Research)
Clemson AutoXLR8R Partnership to Bring World Renowned Expertise to Auto Entrepreneurs

SPRING HILL, Tenn. – The autoXLR8R program, a 13-week, mentor-driven entrepreneurial boot camp focused on bringing high-potential automotive technologies to market, announced today a partnership with Clemson University’s International Center for Automotive Research (CU-ICAR), an advanced-technology research campus where education, research and economic development intersect to create a global venue for the automotive industry.

During its inaugural program, autoXLR8R companies visited CU-ICAR during a “Tech Tour” on one of several stops throughout the southeast. Largely based on that positive experience and the desire to build upon the success of the 2013 autoXLR8R, officials at Clemson have decided to further engage with the program.

“This partnership with CU-ICAR will allow autoXLR8R aspiring companies to receive additional hands-on training and instruction from some incredibly qualified industry experts and local specialists,” said Jack Sisk, autoXLR8R Program Manager. “Some of the talented individuals at Clemson will help facilitate the program during the two weeks that we spend in South Carolina, and I’m excited to work with them to develop a well-planned agenda.”

Recognizing autoXLR8R as a benchmark driver for automotive innovation and a proven leader at accelerating the development of new automotive technologies, Clemson will help craft the program’s curriculum for weeks eight and 10 of the 13-week itinerary.

Selected autoXLR8R companies, to be announced later this month, are tentatively scheduled to travel to Clemson twice in July. Company founders will engage with local specialists, industry experts and venture capitalists, while also participating in a number of informative and interactive panels.

“Our experience with autoXLR8R last year left us wanting to be involved even more in 2014,” said Suzanne Dickerson, CU-ICAR’s Director of International Business Development. “The partnership will benefit both organizations, and we look forward to putting our stamp on the accelerator for two full weeks. I am confident that CU-ICAR will provide some unique insight and training for everyone involved in this year’s autoXLR8R.”

autoXLR8R will begin on May 19 and culminate on Aug. 15. Demo Day, which features pitch presentations to potential investors, will be held on Aug. 12.

During the program, founders will receive one-on-one mentorship from seasoned auto industry insiders and accomplished entrepreneurs. This mentorship is coupled with a structured curriculum of exercises and challenges designed to help young companies navigate obstacles and speed the path to revenue.

Initial equity investments up to \$25,000 will be available to companies accepted into the program. Additionally, investors will be engaged throughout the program and will consider offering the most promising companies additional bridge financing up to \$100,000 at the end of the 13-week program.

For more information visit autoXLR8R.com, or contact Tara Barnett at tara@autoxlr8r.com.

About autoXLR8R

autoXLR8R is a 13-week accelerator program dedicated to advancing promising new technologies applicable to the automobile industry. The program is located in Spring Hill, Tennessee – the heart of the Southern Automotive Industry.

About the Southern Middle Tennessee Entrepreneur Centers

Southern Middle Tennessee Entrepreneur Centers (SMTEC) is one of nine regional entrepreneurial accelerators established throughout Tennessee to assist entrepreneurs. SMTEC provides mentoring, education and training, strategic and technical support, and assistance identifying sources of capital.

About CU-ICAR

Clemson University’s International Center for Automotive Research (CU-ICAR) is a 250-acre advanced-technology research campus where university, industry and government organizations collaborate. Offering the nation’s first PhD program in Automotive Engineering, the master’s and doctoral programs are among the most exceptional in the country due to the world-class faculty, industry involvement in curriculum development and more than state-of-the-art commercially available research facilities/equipment.

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