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Rapid BioSense wins \$25K in Entrepreneur's Quest

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Biotechnology startup **Rapid BioSense L.L.C.** won the emerging company of the year award Wednesday at the **Great Lakes Entrepreneur's Quest** business plan competition in Ann Arbor. The company will receive a \$25,000 cash prize and free business services. Advertisement

Twenty-seven companies participated in the competition and were judged by members of Ann Arbor-based **Michigan Venture Capital Association**. Six finalists presented during the grand prize competition.

Dexter-based Rapid BioSense, founded by John Cunningham, designs and markets a biosensor able to rapidly detect bacteria and viruses in a liquid sample. The runner-up was Ann Arbor-based **Space Weather Forecasting Technologies**, which is working to incorporate technology developed at the **University of Michigan** to **predict and** assess threats from solar storms and other forms of space weather.

Birmingham-based CheckTheCrib Corp. and **Grosse Pointe Woods-based Environmental Transportation Solutions L.L.C.** won innovation awards for manufacturing and automotive-related technologies. The award consisted of a \$12,500 investment from **Automation Alley** and in-kind services from **NextEnergy**. CheckTheCrib is an Internet-based service for manufacturers and purchasing agents to manage and buy equipment and parts. Environmental Transportation Solutions has designed a vehicle called the EcoV Electric.

The winner of the early-stage new business idea award of \$5,000 was **Blizzard Boost Corp.** of Livonia, which makes an all-electric intercooler-supercharger for cars.

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