

For Immediate Release
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World Trade Center San Diego to award MetroConnect Grand Prize for international growth
Audience will award \$35k at PitchFest to incentivize continued global expansion, job growth

San Diego – In an effort to help local businesses access foreign markets, World Trade Center San Diego (WTC San Diego), through a grant provided by JPMorgan Chase & Co., and an audience of more than 100 local business leaders will award the MetroConnect Grand Prize to one local business.

Now in its third year, MetroConnect is the flagship export assistance program of WTC San Diego, which equips 15 local small- and mid-sized companies with \$10,000 challenge grants and additional technical assistance to pursue business in foreign markets. The top four companies in the cohort will compete for the Grand Prize – \$35,000 to continue to build on their expansion strategies – in front of a live, voting audience.

The four Grand Prize finalists – [CureMatch](#), [Foxfury](#), [Planck Aerosystems](#) and [Tioga Research](#) – represent San Diego’s innovative business ecosystem, with industry representation in life sciences, defense and technology.

WHAT: Four-company pitch competition; real-time voting by audience. Check presentation and media availability with Councilmember President Pro Tem Bry, WTC San Diego and MetroConnect companies

WHO: **Council President Pro Tem Barbara Bry**, District 1, City of San Diego
Nikia Clarke, executive director, World Trade Center San Diego
Matt Cole, president, Cubic Transportation Systems; corporate senior vice president, Cubic Corporation
Tim West, region manager of San Diego, JPMorgan Chase’s Middle Market Commercial Banking

Four Grand Prize finalists - CureMatch, FoxFury, Planck Aerosystems and Tioga Research - will be available for interviews

WHEN: Thursday, June 7 at 3:00 – 4:30pm

WHERE: Farmer & The Seahorse
10996 Torreyana Road
San Diego, CA 92121

VISUALS: Presentation check, PitchFest competition

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