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Peak Pitch Back and Better Than Ever

FreshTracks Capital held its 16th Peak Pitch ski and pitch event on March 22 at Sugarbush Resort, welcoming an enthusiastic group of over 100 entrepreneurs, investors, and advisors to pitch and listen to a wide range of business ideas. Many reunions and new connections were made after a two year hiatus from this popular event, and brief presentations from the top pitchers were heard. We would like to thank the entrepreneurs, investors, and sponsors who participated in Peak Pitch 2022.

Congratulations to our winning pitchers:

- Diane Abruzzini and Colin Riggs, [Rigorous Technology](#)
- Veronique Beittel, [Green Slice Foods](#)
- Amir Hasson and David Rose, [Home Outside](#)
- Braden Pan, [Resolve](#)
- Jim Iversen, [Sen-Jam Pharmaceutical](#)
- Alicia Everitt, [RyTek Medical](#)
- Tim Guiterman, [InfiSense](#)
- Lee Bryan, [MicroApps Group Inventions](#)

A big "thank you" to our hosts [Sugarbush Resort](#) for the use of the facility and all that the resort staff does to make Peak Pitch a great event. We would also like to express our appreciation for those who donated prizes for the "pitch-off" winners: [Bivo](#), [Green Slice Foods](#), [Outpatch](#), [Sisters of Anarchy Ice Cream](#), [Treeline Terrains](#), and [Lost Lantern Whiskey](#).

Many thanks to our Premier Sponsor [Gallagher Flynn & Company](#), our founding sponsors [Merritt & Merritt](#) and the [VT Department of Economic Development](#) with additional support from [Flexible Capital Fund](#), [Moulton Law Group](#), [People's United Bank](#), [New England Family Credit Union](#), [North Country Angels](#), [University of Vermont Office of the Vice President for Research](#), [Dinse](#), [Vermont Community Loan Fund](#), [Vermont Center for Emerging Technologies](#), [Mascoma Bank](#), [TD Bank](#), [Hula](#), [Robert P. Stiller School of Business at Champlain College](#), and [NFP Insurance](#).



FreshTracks Newest Portfolio Investment: Lost Lantern Whiskey

[Lost Lantern](#), founded by Nora Ganley-Roper & Adam “Apolon” Polonski, is an independent bottler, blending the best whiskies from across the United States. The company partners with a series of distilleries, sources premium casks, and brings the best blends to the market. Read more here: [FreshTracks Portfolio Company Lost Lantern Whiskey](#) and about [Lost Lantern's Newest Release](#).



THINKMD To Host Global Health Open MIC

In a series of opportunities to provide an accessible platform for global health dialogue, [THINKMD](#) will be hosting a [Virtual Global Health Open Mic](#) on April 14, giving midwives and birthing attendants a chance to share their experiences and insights. The Open Mic will be emceed by Mark Allen, Director of Strategic Partnerships & Global Programs, [Merck for Mothers](#).

**GLOBAL
HEALTH
OPEN MIC**

14 APRIL 2022

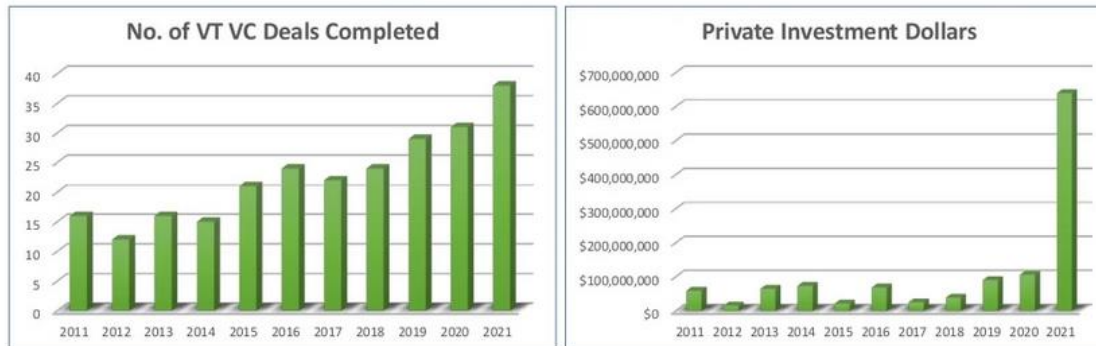
09h00 ET | 15h00 CAT

**Improving Maternal & Newborn Health
through midwives and birthing assistants**

Investment in VT Companies Sees 500 Percent Increase in 2021

Investment in Vermont companies soared nearly 500 percent last year, mostly due to massive capital infusions at the electric-aviation company Beta Technologies and Williston-based Polly, formerly known as DealerPolicy. The year-over-year percentage increase is the largest in the country, said Cairn Cross, co-founder of FreshTracks Capital. Nine of the 38 deals last year were with companies based outside Chittenden County, he said. Read more here: [VT Companies See 500 Percent Increase in Investment](#) and, for a detailed overview of investment activity in Vermont, generated by Cairn Cross, click here: [Vermont Private Investment Landscape](#).

VT VC Deals Completed more than doubled over past decade, Investment Dollars Soared in 2021



- Steady upward trend in number of investment transactions
- Massive 2021 dollar increase due to 9-figure investment rounds at Beta Air and Polly
- FreshTracks participated in approximately 32% of the 2021 investment transactions

Burlington VT Makes List of Highest Paying Cities for Software Engineers

Burlington, Vermont is listed 23rd of 27 cities, ahead of Baltimore, Cincinnati, Bentonville, Arkansas, and Kansas City, for the highest-paying cities for software developers in 2021.

Read more [here](#).



Inventure To Venture (I2V) April 20

UVM's annual Invention 2 Venture (I2V) Conference pulls together dynamic experts, academic researchers, students, entrepreneurs and business leaders from across Vermont and New England to talk about how to protect, develop and finance business initiatives and ideas. See more information and register [here](#).



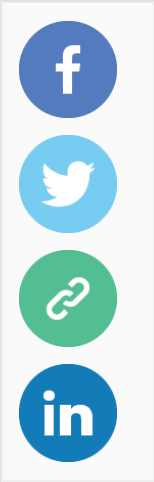
Briefly Noted

[More Tech Startups Gravitating to Vermont](#)

Upcoming Events

- April 20 [I2V Conference](#)
- April 21 [Kickstart NEK Demo Day](#)
- April 27 [MedTech Pitch Competition](#)
- June 9 [VEOC Annual Conference](#)
- June 21 [Save The Date - Launch VT Demo Night](#)

About FreshTracks Capital: Founded in 2001, FreshTracks Capital is a Vermont-focused investment fund that uses venture capital to create positive economic and community impacts. Across its five funds, which total more than \$50 million, FreshTracks has invested in more than 45 Vermont-based companies. Portfolio company information can be found at: [FreshTracks Portfolio](#). FreshTracks' General Partners and Managing Directors are Cairn Cross, Lee Bouyea and T.J. Whalen. FreshTracks is actively investing out of its two most recent funds, FreshTracks Capital IV and the FreshTracks Growth Fund.



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