



STAMFORD HUB

A joint effort of the Stamford Innovation Center and The Business Council of Fairfield County, the hub meets the needs of startups and “Stage II” companies by improving capacity in five areas necessary for business formation and growth: professional services, access to resources in other parts of the state, identifying the right human capital, funding, and infrastructure.

Key Programs Under Construction:

- Provide affordable space and long-term leases.
- *Growth Company Advisor* – will provide assessment, mentoring and referral services to all Stage II firms.
- *SpeedUp Fairfield County* – an integrated set of resources and services to help Stage 2 companies meet needs identified by the Growth Company Advisor.
- *Growth Network* – a group of over 40 accounting, legal, banking, consulting, technology businesses, entrepreneurs and higher education institutions in Fairfield County.
- *The Center for Growth Resources* – a consortium of six statewide economic development service organizations opening offices locally.
- *Mentoring* - experienced mentors to help develop plans, identify likely obstacles and assist with connections to the venture community for additional funding. Since effective mentoring is challenging, referrals are made to qualified members of the Innovation Ecosystem mentor network.
- *Event Hosting* – a series of ongoing community education and awareness programs (including an annual Start-up Weekend).
- *Sikorsky iLab* – winners of the Sikorsky Challenge get space alongside other startups in the Stamford Innovation Center, to build out their technology in a community of other startups.
- *Prototyping & Testing* – can help find a prototype lab or research firm to quickly address needs.
- *Process and Systems Improvement* – for those that need to add new systems and processes to accommodate planned growth for a new contract, the hub can help find experts who have done similar work and assist in obtaining funding.
- *New Service Providers* - growing companies may need additional accounting, legal, banking, or other support/resources. The hub can help with referrals to regional leaders and subject matter experts.

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