

PRESS RELEASE
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Mid-Atlantic Innovation Celebration Awards Names Trabus Technologies 2022 Innovator of the Year; KnoNap, People's Choice Winner

The Mid-Atlantic Innovation Awards are a joint production of the Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce and Connectpreneur

Tysons Corner, Va. - The Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce (Northern Virginia Chamber) and Connectpreneur have named Trabus Technologies the 2022 Innovator of the Year, and KnoNap, the People's Choice Winner during today's Mid-Atlantic Innovation Celebration awards (Innovation Awards) held at the AMC Tysons Corner 16 Theatres.

Created to showcase innovations in business, the Innovation Awards highlight ingenuity and creativity in key categories in addition to the overall awards: Education Technology, Biotechnology, Communications Technology, Environmental Technology, Health & Beauty Consumer Products, Home Consumer Product, Workforce, Healthcare IT, and Medical Device. A panel of 12 regional leaders judged applications from a diverse industry and business pool before naming the 26 finalists. Finalists submitted 1-2 minute videos that were then shown during the Innovations Awards and used by the audience to choose the People's Choice Winner.

"Our region's businesses continuously demonstrate their innovation, brilliance and resourcefulness in pushing forward, be it in product development, improving a system or process, or developing technology that saves lives," said **Northern Virginia Chamber President** and **CEO**, **Julie Coons**. "We've all experienced how invaluable an innovative mindset can be in a vibrant, growing economy. The Northern Virginia Chamber and Connectpreneur were excited to recognize our finalists' achievements in a fun-filled, camaraderie-focused event."

Trabus Technologies won the evening's big award with their Spectrally Efficient Peer-to-Peer (SEPP) technology that allows device-to-device communications, an instantaneous private network that does not rely on cell towers or a central controller and can be ported onto commercial mobile devices, allowing communications "off grid." The patented technology uses its own network during loss of power or commercial infrastructure and will be invaluable during times of natural disasters where communication can be maintained through battery operated mobile devices.

"We wish all 2022 award winners a hearty congratulations. It's one thing to be successful in business, but another altogether to innovate and bring fresh ideas and solutions to the community. Through their work, we've become a stronger Mid-Atlantic and a more enticing region for business overall. These awards prove that Silicon Valley doesn't hold the patent on business innovation. It can be found right here in the Mid-Atlantic Region!" said **Tien Wong, Innovations Awards host** and **Founder, Connectpreneur**.

The 2022 Innovation Awards Winners are:

Innovator of the Year: Trabus Technologies

People's Choice Innovation Award: KnoNap

 Education Technology Innovation Award: TechSet Biotechnology Innovation Award: Fzata

Communications Technology Innovation Award: Intelligent Waves

Environmental Technology Innovation Award: Map-Collective

Health & Beauty Consumer Product Innovation Award: Mblue Labs

Home Consumer Product Innovation Award: Revolution Cooking

Workforce Innovation Award: Capango

Healthcare IT Innovation Award: MEDA

Medical Device Innovation Award: CarrTech

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About the Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce

Originally founded in 1925 as a Fairfax county-focused business advocacy organization, the Northern Virginia Chamber has grown into the region's largest Chamber of Commerce, drawing members and impacting policy across the Greater Washington D.C. Metropolitan Region. Today, we represent close to 500,000 employees, the diversity of our community is one of our greatest assets, offering

opportunities to learn from one another and form personal connections that help guide lasting business growth.

NOVA's goal is to be considered not only a business partner but also an agent of change for our members. We do this through our work in government advocacy, education through events and programs, networking, promotion of member businesses, and recognition through awards. We are proud to have worked together over these many years to build a meaningful association that enriches our community and look forward to continuing that good work.

For more information, visit www.novachamber.org.