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News Release

For Immediate Release

Digitec Interactive Named 2014 Florida Companies to Watch Winner

*Award Presented by GrowFL, in Association with the Edward Lowe Foundation
Honors Upcoming Second-Stage Businesses throughout Florida*

Orlando, Florida. Digitec Interactive is proud to be selected as one of fifty leading second-stage companies selected from more than 500 nominations statewide, as this year's *Florida Companies to Watch*SM winners.

Entrepreneur Magazine states that there are approximately 25 to 27 million small businesses in the U.S. that account for 60 to 80 percent of all U.S. jobs. Yet in 2008, the economic downturn deeply affected small businesses both in the state of Florida and across the country, forcing them to adapt, innovate, or evolve to meet the challenges of sustaining long term growth. Since these small businesses are a key driver in our reviving economy, many states are now focusing resources on supporting these small businesses. The *Florida Companies to Watch* program is designed to spotlight businesses that have managed to achieve sustained growth, despite the economic downturns.

One such business, Orlando-based Digitec Interactive, was founded in 1988 as a film and video production company. Responding to economic changes, today, Digitec is a thriving software development company, recognized as one of the 2014 *Companies to Watch* by GrowFL.

"We started out with only three employees, working out of a mail room in our Metrowest studio," explained Digitec president Jack McGrath. "Since then, we've evolved to meet the changing economic climate – from our beginning days in the entertainment business, we moved into the growing online learning sector. Now, we have offices in Orlando, Virginia and Ft. Myers, and we're having our best year ever."

Digitec Interactive creates learning portals, educational games, simulations and mobile learning apps for large corporations and associations, worldwide.

“We are really proud of how we’ve been able to transform over the years,” said company CEO and founder Jack Sherdel. “We’re pleased we’ve been able to continue to make a positive impact on our local economy, and we’re honored to be recognized by *Florida Companies to Watch*.”

Florida has seen steady growth since December of 2010 with 462,100 jobs created in the state, experiencing its lowest unemployment rate since 2008 at 6.2 percent. Employment in the professional, technical and scientific industries has risen 4.0 percent over the past year and has already exceeded its prerecession peak.

Florida Companies to Watch awards privately held second-stage companies headquartered in the state that employ between 6 and 99 full-time equivalent employees and have between \$750,000 and \$50 million in annual revenue or working capital in place. Awardees are selected for demonstrating the intent and capacity to grow based on employee or sales growth, exceptional entrepreneurial leadership, sustainable competitive advantage, outstanding corporate culture, inspired community giving and other notable strengths. Overall, the 2014 winners had \$370 million in total annual revenue in 2013, which was a 36 percent increase in total annual revenue compared to 2012. They employed 1,757 full-time equivalent employees, with 462 net new jobs projected for 2014.

The awards will be held on Thursday, October 23, 2014 at 6:00 pm at the Hard Rock Live, City Walk, in Orlando, Florida. For more details on Florida Companies to Watch, visit fictw.growfl.com or email info@growfl.com.

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About Digitec Interactive

Digitec Interactive is an award-winning eLearning production company and learning management system provider, developing educational products for corporate, association, academic, medical and non-profit clients. Digitec Interactive is best known for the popular learning management system, Knowledge Direct® and has grown to be the leading provider of easy-to-use learning portals and engaging eLearning programs. Website: digitecinteractive.com

About GrowFL:

GrowFL was created in 2009 by the Florida legislature as an economic development program focused on assisting second-stage growth companies prosper in the state of Florida. By providing strategies, resources and support to second-stage companies for next level growth through Strategic Research and peer-to-peer CEO mentoring, GrowFL helps companies overcome obstacles to growth and leads them towards prosperity. Based on the philosophy of Economic Gardening®—to grow existing businesses in a community, region or state—GrowFL, the Florida Economic Gardening Institute, is a critical component to the state’s

economic development strategy and Florida's entrepreneurial ecosystem. GrowFL is a statewide economic development organization certified by the National Center for Economic Gardening through the Edward Lowe Foundation. Website: growfl.com