



**SEED
VENTURE
FINANCE**

**For Immediate Release: August 3, 2006
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**SEED VENTURE FINANCE CLOSES AN INVESTMENT IN SPEIDEL, INC. /
PROVIDENCE WATCH HOSPITAL**

SEED Venture Finance LLC announced that it provided \$450,000 of a total financing round of \$850,000 for Speidel, Inc. and Providence Watch Hospital of East Providence, RI. SEED Venture Finance partnered with the Business Development Company of Rhode Island to complete this round of financing. The funds will be used to pay-off certain corporate debt and to provide working capital. The investment was made in the form of a Subordinated Note with detachable warrants.

“We are pleased with the opportunity to work with Speidel management as it continues to transform the company and position it for continued success” stated Tom Wooters, Investment Manager for SEED Venture Finance. “We were attracted by the company's strong brand and market position coupled with a proven management team.”

Speidel, Inc. is the leading producer and distributor of watchbands identification bracelets and watch related products in the US. Founded in 1904, the company enjoys a strong brand image and presence in the jewelry industry. Speidel products are sold in over 10,000 independent jewelry stores, major discount retailers and drug store chains, national department stores and the Home Shopping network and QVC. Speidel's products consist of an assortment of leather, metal and synthetic watchbands, identification bracelets and watch attachments under the brands Speidel and Speidel Express. Speidel also distributes high-end watchbands from Di-Modell, lighters from Zippo and batteries from Energizer.

Founded in 1940, the Providence Watch Hospital is the largest watch repair and retail center in Rhode Island. The company has three locations in Rhode Island; Cranston, Wakefield, and a new flagship store in Kennedy Plaza in Providence. PWH is an authorized repair center for most watches including such premier brands as Concord, Movado, ESQ and Swiss Army. PWH sells a wide selection of the finest watches available, with names like Maurice Lacroix, Movado, Rado, Tag Heuer and Longines.

Headquartered in East Providence, RI, Speidel Inc. and Providence Watch Hospital combined employ over 120 people. For more information on Speidel, Inc. and Providence Watch Hospital see www.speidel.com.

SEED Venture Finance, LLC is a private investment firm specializing in making subordinated debt, senior debt and equity investments in small and medium sized businesses. SEED Venture Finance manages SEED Ventures L.P., a \$20 million Small Business Investment Company (“SBIC”) focused on investments in Southeastern Massachusetts and Rhode Island. SEED VF has established strategic partnerships with major commercial banks in the region and is uniquely positioned to provide a company with a full range of capital raising options and related services. For more information about SEED Venture Finance see www.seedventurefinance.com.

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