



## PRESS RELEASE

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### **\$250K awarded to Eden Technologies by Utah Innovation Fund**

*Funds to support St. George startup whose technology produces clean drinking water*

The [Utah Innovation Fund](#), a state-based venture capital firm, awarded \$250K to St. George-based startup [Eden Technologies](#) for their Reverse Osmosis Centrifuge (ROC) technology that improves the efficiency of brackish and ocean water desalination, producing clean, drinkable water using the same energy as current methods.

This is the first investment made by the year-old Utah Innovation Fund, which is dedicated to investing in innovative solutions by high-impact startups statewide – and Eden Tech’s ROC technology holds great promise for Utah’s growing need for fresh, clean, drinkable water.

"Growing up in water-scarce Las Vegas, I witnessed the urgency of addressing our planet's water crisis," said Hunter Manz, Eden Tech CEO. "I realized the untapped potential in brackish and undrinkable underground water and refined my ideas at Utah Tech University, which led to the development of the ROC. The investment from the Utah Innovation Fund is crucial and gets us closer to a future where accessible, clean water is a reality for all."

Inspired by how ice skaters can increase or decrease their spinning velocity with the placement of their arms, Manz applied that concept to develop Eden Tech’s ROC. The technology produces 30-40% additional drinking water with less waste and can be retrofitted into existing desalination plants as well as incorporated into new builds. Manz expects to soon be testing the ROC in the Navajo Nation and Saudi Arabia.

"As one of the driest states in the US, it is exciting to see innovative companies in Utah taking a leadership role in tackling water scarcity head-on and producing solutions that will augment water supplies in the West and globally," says Dr. Jeremy Pearson of the San Rafael Energy Research Center. "Ultimately, it's technologies like this that can supply all the water needed for Utah's agriculture and population growth and has great potential to help replenish the Great Salt Lake."

"We invested in Eden Technologies because their technology addresses a critical need – especially in drier climates where populations continue to grow," said Gabi Tellez of the Utah Innovation Fund. "They're aligned with our mission of investing in our future and solving problems in innovative ways that benefit us all."

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**Contact:**

Gabi Tellez, Utah Innovation Fund, [gabi@utahinnovationfund.com](mailto:gabi@utahinnovationfund.com)

Hunter Manz, Eden Technologies, [hunter@edentechinc.com](mailto:hunter@edentechinc.com)