

# Cutting Edge Capital Honored as 'Best for Communities' for Creating the Most Positive Community Impact

85 Businesses Across 35 Industries Recognized for Being Positive Forces in their Communities

OAKLAND, CA, USA, July 22, 2014 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Today, [Cutting Edge Capital](#) was recognized for creating the most positive community impact by the nonprofit B Lab with the release of the third annual 'B Corp Best for Communities' list. The 'B Corp Best for Communities' list honors 85 businesses that earned a community impact score in the top 10% of all Certified B Corporations of their size on the B Impact Assessment, a rigorous and comprehensive assessment of a company's impact on its workers, community, and the environment. Honorees were recognized among micro, small, and mid-sized businesses.

Using a variety of innovative financing tools, including [Direct Public Offerings \(DPOs\)](#), Cutting Edge Capital works with social ventures in communities across the U.S. to raise capital in a way that fits with their mission and goals. These models allow all stakeholders to benefit — not just professional investors. To date, the firm has completed 11 DPOs for clients that raised nearly \$5 million, and has another 25+ DPOs in the pipeline.



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**“We are honored to have been named 'Best for Communities' by B Lab. Our work is all about helping entrepreneurs and communities thrive, and this award recognizes that.”**  
— *Jenny Kassan, CEO of Cutting Edge Capital*

In addition to helping social ventures raise capital, Cutting Edge Capital works to create and develop the capital markets tools, such as secondary markets, markets for the regulation of resource use, financial markets for investment in local food systems, and tools for aggregating community capital, needed to shape a resilient economic ecosystem.

Other honorees include One Pacific Coast Bank, a triple-bottom line, community development financial institution, and RSF Social Finance, which offers investing, lending, and giving services that generate positive social and environmental impact, and foster community and collaboration among participants.

“We are honored to have been named 'Best for Communities' by B Lab. Our work is all about helping entrepreneurs and communities thrive, and this award recognizes that. This is a strong validation of what we do,” said Jenny Kassan, CEO of Cutting Edge Capital.

The 'Best for Communities' companies come from over 35 different industries such as consulting, educational support services, retail, and financial services. A quarter of honorees are based outside North America, with 25% of companies operating in emerging markets including Chile, the Republic of Korea, and Kenya.

Each honored company is a Certified B Corporation. They use the power of business to solve social and environmental problems and have met rigorous standards of social and environmental performance, accountability, and transparency. Today there are over 1045 certified B Corporations, across 60 industries and 34 countries, unified by one common goal: to redefine success in business.

B Lab released the "Best for the World" list (overall impact) in March and the "Best for the Environment" list (environmental impact) in April. The 'Best for Workers' (employee impact) list will be announced in the fall.

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Cutting Edge Capital provides small and mid-sized businesses with the information, tools, and expertise they need to raise capital in a way that fits with their unique business model and long-term goals. As experienced business lawyers, entrepreneurs, and finance experts, the CEC team has identified capital raising strategies that allow businesses to solicit non-traditional sources of funding. In addition to being an effective way to raise capital, these strategies allow businesses to build public support and recognition at the same time they are raising funds.

For more information, please visit <http://www.cuttingedgecapital.com/>.  
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B Lab is a nonprofit organization that serves a global movement to redefine success in business so that all companies compete not only to be the best in the world, but the best for the world.

B Lab drives this systemic change through a number of interrelated initiative: 1) building a community of Certified B Corporations to make it easier for all of us to tell the difference between "good companies" and good marketing; 2) passing legislation to accelerate growth of social entrepreneurship and impact investing (20 states have already passed benefit corporation legislation); 3) developing B Analytics, a customizable platform for investors to benchmark and report the impact of their global private equity portfolios; and 4) providing free, powerful tools for businesses to measure, compare and improve their social and environmental performance (more than 16,000 businesses use B Lab's free B Impact Assessment).

For more information, please visit <http://www.bcorporation.net/>.  
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