



Investment Focus

PrairieGold Venture Partners is an early stage venture capital firm focused on life sciences and green technology investments.

Investment Strategy

By partnering with entrepreneurs early on in their companies' lifecycles, we are able to take meaningful ownership positions in those companies with less capital and play an active role in formulating company strategy. Early participation gives us the opportunity to help those entrepreneurs build sustainable value throughout each phase of development.

Companies in which we invest have exceptional management teams, compelling value propositions, proven business models and large market opportunities. When we partner with companies meeting those criteria, we seek to add value through our network of contacts and our experience. Many of PrairieGold's investors are successful entrepreneurs in their own right, and we utilize this valuable experience whenever possible. As a value-added investor and board member, we support our portfolio companies in setting strategic direction, building out management teams and solving challenging business problems.

Portfolio Companies

PrairieGold's current portfolio companies include: Grand Prairie Foods, Game Plan Technologies, Chronix Biomedical, Agrivida, General Compression, Orasi Medical, ZeaChem, tenKsolar and Lineagen.



Mike Jerstad, Partner

Mike Jerstad oversees all aspects of the firm's investment activities, from sourcing, structuring and negotiating investments to serving as a board member for portfolio companies. Jerstad focuses on life science opportunities, and represents PrairieGold on the boards of Grand Prairie Foods, Chronix Biomedical, Orasi Medical and LineaGen. Prior to joining PrairieGold, Jerstad worked in Piper Jaffray's Investment Banking Group in its Minneapolis and San Francisco offices, specializing in merger and acquisition advisory services and public and private equity financing. Before Piper, he was an attorney at Briggs and Morgan in Minneapolis, specializing in business litigation, employment law and contracts. He received his B.A. from Tufts University, his J.D. from Georgetown University and his M.B.A. from the University of Chicago.



Paul Batcheller, Partner

Paul Batcheller oversees all aspects of the firm's investment activities, from sourcing, structuring and negotiating investments to serving as a board member for portfolio companies. He currently serves on the boards of Game Plan Technologies, Agrivida, ZeaChem and tenKsolar. Prior to joining PrairieGold, Paul served as an advisor to Senator Tom Daschle, where he worked on economic policy, science and technology issues. He received his B.A. in economics from Macalester College.

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