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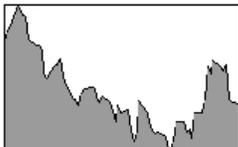
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2/13/2006

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Wednesday, February 01, 2006

After operating quietly for a year, making \$100 million in leases and loans to some 20 start-ups, venture-leasing veteran Jim Labe's

TriplePoint Capital has formerly launched.

Backed by \$310 million in institutional financing, TriplePoint offers entrepreneurs a new source of debt financing to complement any equity money they're already raising or have raised. It provides, for example, equipment leases and loans, growth-capital loans, expansion loans, and other forms of debt and flexible financing options to venture-backed companies in high-growth industries including information technology and life sciences. Leases and loans from TriplePoint will range from \$250,000 to tens of millions of dollars, the company said.

Deal profits will be funneled back into the company so that Labe doesn't see a need to raise more funds later. "The capital that we have comes back in and is recycled," he said, adding that down the road, "I wouldn't rule out a possible IPO."

From the entrepreneur's perspective, TriplePoint may be different from other, more risk-averse sources of debt financing. "A bank would not loan you the money unless you have positive cash flow," said Joe Lacob, a partner at Kleiner Perkins Caufield & Byers. TriplePoint "understands the business, so they're more likely to take risks," he said.

Labe's history with venture leasing and lending stretches back to a 1980's stint with Equitec Leasing Company, a division of the Equitec Financial Group. After Equitec, Labe in 1987 founded Comdisco Ventures, another venture leasing and lending firm that was a division of the technology-services firm Comdisco Inc.

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