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THE FUNDING STOP ANNOUNCES PROJECTIONS FOR ILLINOIS VIDEO GAMING MARKET
New Marketplace Will Create Thousands of Jobs for Small Businesses Across State

Burr Ridge, Illinois (April 20, 2010): The Funding Stop, LLC, a specialty finance company that provides direct lending for video gaming terminal (“VGT”) markets nationwide, estimates the new Illinois market to be between 30,000 and 60,000 units. As the machines roll out quickly over the next three years, the industry will create thousands of new permanent jobs including route drivers, certified technicians, security guards, accountants and others. The Video Gaming Act, approved in July, 2009, designates tax revenue to fund capital improvement projects throughout the state creating thousands of additional construction jobs.

“The Illinois VGT market will be one of the most competitive we’ve seen,” said Edgar Colomb, President of The Funding Stop. “Not only will this mean more money for the state, but it will mean more jobs and more small business growth throughout the state.” The Funding Stop estimates annual tax revenues of approximately \$394 million to almost \$800 million (see chart below).

In addition to the tax revenue, the legalization of VGTs will catalyze small business growth throughout the state. Taverns and restaurants, hurting from the recession and smoking bans, will now have VGTs that can provide additional entertainment amenities. “We’re projecting local establishments to realize \$460 million to almost \$920 million in incremental revenue right to the bottom line,” said Colomb. “However, what most people overlook is that small business owners are the most likely group to reinvest money into their businesses and their communities. Whether it’s hiring additional staff, renovating their facility, or opening additional new businesses; this money will be a recurring part of the state economy.”

The Illinois VGT operators that own and service the machines will also be making significant investments in infrastructure and staffing to support the initiative. “There are already dozens and dozens of small businesses going through the due diligence to collectively borrow and invest over \$500 million, maybe as much as \$1 billion into VGT machines, transportation, warehouses, surveillance equipment, cash vault systems, electrical and networking systems, furniture and more,” said Colomb.

All of the machines will be sold by licensed distributors in Illinois, collectively employing thousands of people. In addition, there are several manufacturers of VGT’s in Illinois.

“This is an entirely new multi-billion dollar industry that will have a long-term positive effect on Illinois for decades,” said Colomb. “And it comes at a time when the state economy is in desperate need of a shot in the arm.”

Illinois Video Gaming Terminal (VGT) Potential Projected Market Size			
Number of Machines	30,000	45,000	60,000
Equipment Investment*	\$450,000,000	\$675,000,000	\$900,000,000
Machine Net Daily Winnings**	\$120	\$120	\$120
<u>Annual Cash Flow to:</u>			
State via Taxes	\$394,200,000	\$591,300,000	\$788,400,000
Licensed VGT Operators	\$459,900,000	\$689,850,000	\$919,800,000
Licensed Local Establishments	\$459,900,000	\$689,850,000	\$919,800,000

* Benefits distributors and manufacturers.

**Assumptions vary from \$90-\$150. Actual results will depend on location demographics and number of machines at the site.

About The Funding Stop LLC: Based in Burr Ridge, IL, The Funding Stop provides flexible equipment financing programs and innovative sources of capital to help all VGT operators compete and grow. With nearly two decades of niche experience in the video gaming marketplace The Funding Stop is experienced at structuring creative financing solutions, providing solutions to qualified operators seeking machine finance. For more information: info@thefundingstop.com; (630) 320-3166 or www.TheFundingStop.com.

