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## Austin Weekly Deal Highlights

*February 19th, 2024*

Isn't it crazy how 2021 was like 2 weeks ago, yet **South By Southwest 2024** is only 17 days away? Make sure to either lock in your schedule, or lock in a trip outside of the city. Reminder that this conference draws in over 300k attendees, and it is quickly approaching!

Let's see, what happened this week... Well, Elon Musk's **SpaceX** has filed to change its [incorporation from Delaware to Texas](#) in what looks to be a move sparked by his CEO pay package. And what else... So, we of course we know Austin is the 10th largest city in the US and a major technology hub, but did you also know about its major automotive manufacturing presence?? After **Tesla's** massive factory in eastern Travis County, this week we have reports that a major **Toyota** supplier is [building a \\$100M facility](#). A diverse economy is a strong one, so love to see the continued investment in the sector.

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### Texas Weekly Deal Activity

- [CesiumAstro](#), who provides out-of-the-box communication systems for satellites, UAVs, launch vehicles, and other space or airborne platforms, [raised \\$30M](#) in new equity funding. The new funding filing with the SEC

follows [a \\$60M venture round](#) in 2022 that was co-led by **Airbus Ventures** and **Forever Ventures**. The company has raised approx. \$120M to date.

- [Sage Geosystems](#), a Houston-based developer of a geothermal system that stores and dispatches energy with pressurized water, [raised \\$17M](#) in a first close of its Series A round. **Chesapeake Energy** led, and was joined by **Arch Meredith**, **Helium-3 Ventures** and existing investors **Virya**, **Nabors Industries**, and **Ignis Energy**.
- [Merit Medicine](#), an Austin-based provider of software that predicts increases in employer medical costs and health insurance claims, [raised \\$2M](#) in seed funding from **LiveOak Ventures**.
- [Illumine-i](#), an Austin-based sustainable design and engineering firm, [raised a \\$2M](#) Series A round from **Anicut Capital**.
- [Sapience Analytics](#), a Plano-based platform for workforce productivity and work-time trends, [received an undisclosed amount of growth capital](#) from private equity firm **Kayne Anderson Capital**. Existing investors include **Orios Venture Partners**, and **Credit Suisse NEXT Investors**.
- Dallas' **MB2 Dental**, a leading dental partnership organization, [raised a \\$2.3 Billion debt facility](#) with **KKR** to fund acquisitions and growth
- The Woodlands-based medical device company [Autonomix Medical](#) grossed more than [\\$11.1 million in its recent IPO](#). The company's stock now trades on the NASDAQ under the symbol AMIX.

## Austin News

- **SpaceX**, the rocket ship manufacturer founded by **Elon Musk**, files to [move incorporation site from Delaware to Texas](#)
- **Tesla** moves forward with plans to [occupy nearly 1M square feet in Kyle](#)
- **Hanwha Advanced Materials LLC**, a massive global automotive parts supplier that works with **Toyota**, is planning a major investment in

Williamson County, with the intention of [investing \\$100M into a 200,000-square-foot industrial building](#) on 38 acres just outside the city limits of Georgetown.

- [New \\$20M](#) advanced manufacturing and robotics center planned near **Tesla**
- The U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs again recognized **The University of Texas at Austin** for being one of the colleges and universities with the [highest number of students selected for the Fulbright U.S. Student Program](#).
- [Apple inks lease for Westlake-area office building](#) as the iPhone maker grows its headcount in Austin.

Thank you!

[Mason Rathe](#)

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