

Utah Veteran-Owned Startup DARKWING TECH Wins 2025 Minnow Tank

Utah-Based Veteran Startup Recognized for Groundbreaking Public Safety and Outdoor Safety Products



Spanish Fork, Utah May 18, 2025 ([IssueWire.com](https://www.issuewire.com)) - DARKWING TECH, a veteran-owned safety technology company founded by Marine Corps combat veteran and retired **police sergeant** Dan Thomas, has been named the **2025 Minnow Tank Pitch Competition winner**.

The Minnow Tank, Utah's premier pitch event for veteran entrepreneurs, is hosted annually by the [Utah Veteran Business Resource Center \(VBRC\)](#) and supported by organizations such as Comcast, Alpha Coffee, and the Institute for Veterans and Military Families (IVMF). This year's competition featured six finalists pitching live at the Loveland Living Planet Aquarium.

Dan Thomas launched [DARKWING TECH](#) in 2023 after retiring due to **serious health issues that required him to work from home**. The company's mission is clear: create affordable, field-tested visibility and warning tools for those who work or recreate in dangerous environments.

"As a patrol supervisor and SWAT operator, I was constantly frustrated with how hard it was to get reliable, high-visibility gear that didn't break the budget," said Thomas. "So I built it myself."

DARKWING TECH's product line includes the [O.W.L. \(Operational Warning Light\)](#), the [Portable Arrow Safety Light](#), and the new [DARKWING Synchronized Flare System](#). The brand has quickly earned attention from law enforcement, fire departments, road crews, and outdoor enthusiasts across the country.

DARKWING TECH's high-visibility safety products are designed with versatility in mind. From tactical lighting for SWAT teams to emergency visibility gear for police, firefighters, and roadside crews, the company provides durable, compact solutions that meet the demands of real-world users. Outdoor enthusiasts, motorcyclists, and pet owners have also embraced the OWL safety light series for nighttime visibility and emergency preparedness. By offering gear that bridges public safety, recreation, and emergency use, DARKWING TECH continues to set itself apart in the growing safety technology market.

By winning Minnow Tank, DARKWING TECH receives seed funding and mentorship to continue scaling operations and product innovation. The company has already begun national outreach and product expansion with the launch of its new OWL Ultra Series.

"This may be a small business, but it has a big mission—keeping people safe by improving visibility in high-risk situations," Thomas added.

To learn more, visit: www.darkwingtechnology.com



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Source : DARKWING TECH LLC

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