

## NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Lindsey Thiessen  
Phone: 941.484.6060  
E-mail: [LThiessen@cbal.com](mailto:LThiessen@cbal.com)



## CounterBalance Corp. Receives Nomination in the STEMsmart “Next Big Think” Competition

February 14, 2012 – NORTH VENICE, FL – CounterBalance Corporation announced Tuesday it has been nominated in the STEMsmart Next Big Think competition. The Next Big Think competition seeks to recognize any organization, business, product or service that utilizes a STEMsmart approach in the areas of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM). Winners will be honored by receiving a STEMsmart Innovation Award and will be regarded as the “Next Big Think.”

As a nominee, CounterBalance Corporation is featured in a [nomination video](#) highlighting a specially designed counterbalance used to lift heavy armored doors on military tanks. Heavy doors can be a major problem for troops faced with the need to evacuate tanks quickly. Soldiers use the rear door as an escape method when the side doors are blocked or otherwise unusable. CounterBalance Corporation offers a solution for doors that would otherwise be too heavy to lift.

“We are very excited to be a part of this initiative,” said Tim Howard, Counterbalance Corporation President. “It’s great to see so many businesses, organizations and schools come together to help promote STEMsmart. It’s a fantastic way to get the whole community involved.”

CounterBalance is one of four companies nominated for the STEMsmart Innovation Award during the first quarter of 2012. The Next Big Think competition is scheduled to be on-going throughout the remainder of the year.

### **About STEMsmart ([www.stemsmart.org](http://www.stemsmart.org))**

[STEMsmart](#) is a \$2.5 million initiative by the Gulf Coast Community Foundation to encourage local middle and high school aged students to learn and develop comprehensive skills in the areas of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM).

The Gulf Coast’s STEMsmart education initiative aims to:

- Help local schools embrace Florida's new, more rigorous Next Generation standards
- Assist teachers in teaching these new standards through professional development
- Help students apply these standards in the workforce through internships
- Rally the community with a public information campaign about the importance of STEMsmart

### **CounterBalance Corporation ([www.cbal.com](http://www.cbal.com))**

[CounterBalance Corporation](#) is an original equipment manufacturer of modular torsion spring systems used to lift lids, covers, hatches, countertops and electro-mechanical equipment. Counterbalances are used in diagnostic equipment, industrial and commercial applications, corporate offices, restaurants and hotels, foodservice equipment, military vehicles and educational institutions. CounterBalance Corporation provides complete design, application and prototyping services to assist in the development of its products. For additional information about products and services, please visit [www.cbal.com](http://www.cbal.com).

###