

A DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVE, A BROADER VIEW

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Technology Update - May 2011

Success for new co-investment fund

We are delighted that our client, Oxfordshire Investment Opportunity Network Limited (OION), was recently successful as part of a 5 partner bid submitted by Capital for Enterprise Limited to the Regional Growth Fund for the £50 million business angel co-investment fund. The partners expect to set up a co-investment fund that will provide capital to match investments from business angels in high growth companies.

OION was one of the first angel networks in the UK and in the last three years has helped over 40 companies to raise more than £27 million.

For more information: <http://www.oion.co.uk/>

New Grant Scheme

Amongst the Government's support for technology businesses, as part of the Strategy for Growth, has been the launch at the beginning of April, of the new Grant for R&D scheme organised by the Technology Strategy Board. The scheme bears quite a resemblance to the old DTI Smart Award Scheme which was very successful in supporting SME research projects.

Three types of grants are available – for proof of market projects; proof of concept and development of prototype. Funding levels range from £25,000 to £250,000.

For more information: <http://www.innovateuk.org>

BioTrinity success

The BioTrinity conference for 2011, organised by James Cowper client, Oxfordshire Bioscience Network, has emerged as the UK's largest partnering event and the largest gathering of the UK Bioindustry.

Held at Newbury racecourse, the event attracted more than 750 delegates (up 21% on last year); 458 companies (up 20%); 1,700 formal partnering meetings were held (up 32%); and there were 388 licensing opportunities there (up 30%).

As participants at the conference ourselves we are delighted to congratulate Jon Rees and the OBNTeam on their continuing success in driving forward the sector through both BioTrinity and the other meetings and initiatives they facilitate.

For more information about BioTrinity or the Oxfordshire Bioscience Network:

<http://www.obn.org.uk>

Solent Technology Breakfast Club – Next meeting 8 June

The next meeting of our Solent Technology Breakfast Club will take place at Chilworth Manor Hotel, Southampton on 8 June. Vivienne Cassley from PLUS Markets will speak to the group on the opportunities for technology based businesses in floating on the market. If you haven't yet registered we do have a few places available, please contact Kirsty Hatton on southamptonevents@jamescowper.co.uk for more information.

For more information on any of the articles above contact:

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