

Technology Strategy Board

Driving Innovation

13 April 2011

Press Release

Funding agreed for four collaborative research and development projects in industrial biotechnology

Four projects that will develop and commercialise innovative processes to generate high value chemicals through industrial biotechnology are to share £1.5 million of support funding from the Technology Strategy Board (www.innovateuk.org).

The research and development grant awards follow the conclusion of the second part of a funding call, Manufacturing High Value Chemicals through Industrial Biotechnology, run by the UK's national innovation agency.

The projects will be led by Albany Molecular Research (UK) Ltd, Ensus Ltd, PML Applications Ltd and TerraVerdae Bioworks Ltd. The total cost of the projects, including contributions from the companies, will be in the region of £3 million.

The use of industrial biotechnology offers the potential to develop new, efficient and sustainable methods of obtaining a significant proportion of our energy, chemical and material needs. Agricultural feedstocks, novel biocatalysts and bioreactor technologies have the potential to meet a number of challenges, such as replacing existing petrochemical-derived products like lubricants and plastics or creating active pharmaceutical ingredients through novel bio-transformations.

In February the Technology Strategy Board announced that it would invest £1 million in ten feasibility studies in industrial biotechnology.

Ends

Notes to Editors

1. The Technology Strategy Board is a business-led government body which works to create economic growth by ensuring that the UK is a global leader in innovation. Sponsored by the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS), the Technology Strategy Board brings together business, research and the public sector, supporting and accelerating the development of innovative products and services to meet market needs, tackle major societal challenges and help build the future economy. For more information please visit: www.innovateuk.org

2. Further information about the *Manufacturing High Value Chemicals through Industrial Biotechnology* funding competition can be found at:
http://www.innovateuk.org/assets/pdf/tsb_highvaluechemindustrialbiochaincompbrieffinal.pdf
3. The press release announcing the funding for feasibility studies can be found at: [Industrial Biotechnology feasibility studies](#)
4. The offer of funding to the projects is conditional and remains subject to the successful completion of the Technology Strategy Board's compliance and financial review processes.
5. Companies and other organisations seeking further information about Technology Strategy Board funding opportunities should visit the Competitions page of the Technology Strategy Board website – www.innovateuk.org, email competitions@tsb.gov.uk, or phone the Competitions Helpline on 0300 321 4357.
6. Media enquiries **only** should be addressed to the Technology Strategy Board's media relations consultant or manager: Nick Sheppard, Media Relations Consultant - Mobile: 07824 599644, Email: nick.sheppard@tsb.gov.uk or Claire Cunningham, Media Relations Manager - Tel: 01793 442901, Mobile: 07554 115745 Email: claire.cunningham@tsb.gov.uk
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