



Venture Center announces flagship technology commercialization workshops in India (5 August 2010)

Venture Center announces a series of workshops focused on commercialization of Intellectual Property (IP) rich research for innovations originating in India as part of strategic partnership with AcceleratorIndia.

ACTIV (Accelerated Commercialization of Technology and Innovation) workshops will help tackle the challenges of commercializing novel technologies from research. The experience of Cambridge, UK in commercializing technology based innovations is well recognized as relevant to the Indian context where entrepreneurs, innovators and incubation centres face similar issues.

ACTIV workshops are run as part of high level collaborations on innovation between India and the UK and are primarily funded by the National Science and Technology Entrepreneurship Development Board (NSTEDB), Department of Science and Technology and UK Science and Innovation Network, British High Commission.

Commenting on the announcement, Dr. Shailendra Vyakarnam, Founder Director of AcceleratorIndia and Director of Centre for Entrepreneurial Learning, University of Cambridge, said "At least 2000 high tech and biotech firms can be traced to the individuals and the research and development performed in the Cambridge ecosystem, resulting in a rich experience of how to take innovations to market. We look forward to bringing this experience, our connections and our deep understanding of how disruptive science and technology has been developed for societal gain in Cambridge to the benefit of Indian scientific research."

According to Dr. V. Premnath, founder-Director of Venture Center, "Technology commercialization, especially via new ventures (spin-offs), is an emerging and critical area of interest for Indian scientific establishments and technology incubators. A variety of stakeholders - such as lab directors, scientists, technology transfer professionals, startup incubator managers, and science/technology agencies of the government - are keen to gain insights into the best practices developed by leading organizations across the world such as Cambridge."

Dr. Premnath also added "Venture Center and AcceleratorIndia seek to cover the entire breadth of the technology commercialization process - including IP creation and protection, proof-of-concept projects, technology valuation, product-market fit, knowledge-for-equity structures, access to early-stage venture funding and collaborating with Indian entrepreneurs".

The first two workshops for 2010 are scheduled in late September, one targeting technology business incubator staff on Sept 27th and Sept 28th and another targeting scientists and researchers from public sector labs and research institutions on Sept 30th and Oct 1st. More workshops are planned for later in this year, targeting start-ups and early stage companies in other locations such as Bangalore and Hyderabad.

More details about the workshops are available at <http://www.venturecenter.co.in/activ>.

About Venture Center

Entrepreneurship Development Center (Venture Center) – a CSIR initiative – is a Section 25 company hosted by the National Chemical Laboratory, Pune. Venture Center strives to nucleate and nurture technology and knowledge-based enterprises by leveraging the scientific and engineering competencies of the institutions in the Pune region in India. The Venture Center is a technology business incubator supported by the Department of Science & Technology's National Science & Technology Entrepreneurship Development Board (DST-NSTEDB). Venture Center's focuses on technology enterprises offering products and services exploiting scientific expertise in the areas of materials, chemicals and biological sciences & engineering. For more information, visit <http://www.venturecenter.co.in>

About AcceleratorIndia

Headquartered in Cambridge, UK, Europe's largest technology cluster, AcceleratorIndia brings the Cambridge experience of building innovative, high-tech global businesses to India. AcceleratorIndia is built upon a foundation of hands-on experience in business building, board level positions in growth companies, raising finance in international markets, in-depth market and technical knowledge and an extended network of leading industry contacts and advisors. Founded by a strong core team and an extended team of resident business builders and advisors, we provide hands-on services to businesses based on or seeking to exploit technologies and markets. For more information, visit <http://www.acceleratorindia.com>.