

Deepak Nitrite, NCL ink R&D pact

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Deepak Nitrite (DNL) and the National Chemical Laboratory (NCL), Pune have entered into a memorandum of understanding (MOU) that will allow both the organisations to work closely in identifying and pursuing research and development opportunities of mutual interest where fruitful and synergistic collaboration can be achieved.

DNL said in a press release that as part of the MOU, it has set up Deepak Research & Development Foundation (DRDF), a fully-owned subsidiary of DNL, within the NCL Innovation Park.

The agreement between DNL and NCL will represent a new model for public-private partnerships wherein the research expertise, inventive spirit and resources of a leading publicly funded research laboratory, as well as the process engineering and development skills, manufacturing expertise and business insights of an established private sector company will be combined to develop innovative new processes and products, while also delivering end-to-end research services.

The DRDF will be the first such facility to be set up in the newly opened NCL Innovation Park. The park is a 43,000-sq mt facility being developed to support the birth, growth and expansion plans of research and knowledge-based business entities through critical stages of their growth by providing ready-to-occupy space, with easy access to knowledge centres, knowledge workers, business networks and other resources.

The NCL Innovation Park shall also be home to the venture centre, a business incubator, which will initially occupy 10,000 sq ft of built-up area and aim to nucleate and nurture technology and knowledge-based enterprises.

Deepak Mehta, managing director, DNL said, "We are very happy with this partnership as it adds a new dimension to innovation and technology creation at DNL. At Deepak Nitrite, R&D and marketing have been the two drivers of growth. We have always used homegrown technologies to fuel our growth. This partnership will give a further boost to our technology development activities and our foray into contract research and outsourcing. We also hope that this partnership will lead to creation of valuable intellectual property and know-how that will benefit both organisations."