

Innovate UK

Results of Competition: ICURe Aid for Start Ups Cohort 5

Competition Code: 1605_SPECPRO_ICURE5

Total available funding for this competition was £1,025,315 from Innovate UK

Note: These proposals have succeeded in the assessment stage of this competition. All are subject to grant offer and conditions being met.

Participant organisation names	Project title	Proposed project costs	Proposed project grant
Stoli Catalysts	Stoli Catalysts	£1,500,000	£500,000
Project description - provided by applicants			
<p>The platform technology of catalyst-coated tube reactors addresses the market segment consisting of 20% of all reactions used in fine chemicals industry, and offers efficient reaction dynamics to reduce manufacturing cost. The recyclable reactors revolutionise the industry, combining catalysts and reactors, to bring a step-change in performance for small to large scale manufacturing of fine chemical companies such as those in nutraceuticals, fragrances, pharmaceuticals. Stoli Catalysts is a University of Warwick spin out company which will develop and manufacture a range of catalyst-coated tube reactors and will engage in high-margin consultancy projects for customers resulting in sales of bespoke products. The technology will initially be based at the University and then move to external premises to scale manufacturing and address a growing customer base. The company provides not only cost advantages but societal benefits of improved sustainability and lower environmental impact.</p>			

Note: you can see all Innovate UK-funded projects here

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Participant organisation names	Project title	Proposed project costs	Proposed project grant
Azul Optics	Azul Optics	£620,000	£500,000
Project description - provided by applicants			
<p>Age-related macular degeneration (AMD) is the leading cause of incurable blindness in the Western World with predictions of 196 million people suffering by 2020. While there is no cure for AMD, in some cases it is preventable, the problem is that most people don't even know they are at risk because the existing tools for measuring one of the main risk factors (macular pigment density) are not suitable for use in regular eye exams. Our solution is the Macular Pigment (MP) -eye screen, which is a small hand held device that enables optometrists and GPs to assess MPs in under a minute. The device is easy to use, gives a one number output, and the elegantly simple technology allows us to produce and sell the device for a third of the price of existing technologies. With InnovateUK Aid for Start-Ups funding we will de-risk our product by finalizing the prototype design, running a validation trial to compare our device to existing gold standards, build a board and team, and secure initial deals with partners, thus positioning the company for venture capital investment in 24 months time.</p> <p>Age-related macular degeneration (AMD) is the leading cause of incurable blindness in the Western World with predictions of 196 million people suffering by 2020. While there is no cure for AMD, in some cases it is preventable, the problem is that most people don't even know they are at risk because the existing tools for measuring one of the main risk factors (macular pigment density) are not suitable for use in regular eye exams. Our solution is the Macular Pigment (MP) -eye screen, which is a small hand held device that enables optometrists and GPs to assess MPs in under a minute. The device is easy to use, gives a one number output, and the elegantly simple technology allows us to produce and sell the device for a third of the price of existing technologies. With InnovateUK Aid for Start-Ups funding we will de-risk our product by finalizing the prototype design, running a validation trial to compare our device to existing gold standards, build a board and team, and secure initial deals with partners, thus positioning the company for venture capital investment in 24 months time.</p>			

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Advanced Epi Materials and Devices Ltd	Advanced Epi Materials + Devices Ltd	£835,200	£500,200
Project description - provided by applicants			
<p>Silicon semiconductors underpin many aspects of modern life, but are reaching their limits as more demanding applications emerge, requiring improved electrical or thermal performance, biocompatibility or chemical resistance. Silicon carbide has long been recognised as a better alternative for these applications but it has until now been difficult and expensive to produce. Recently World-leading Physicists at the University of Warwick have invented a new process to grow silicon carbide on standard silicon wafers by adapting standard, widely used silicon processing equipment. This disruptive technology will unlock many opportunities in areas such as emissions monitoring, electric vehicles, medical sensors and high performance LEDs. Through the ICUR programme, the researchers have become entrepreneurs. They have developed their ideas through contact with over 110 industry experts and are now launching a spin out company called Advanced Epi, which is expected to become an important part of the UK's Compound Semiconductor industry.</p>			

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