



BIRD Israel-U.S. Binational Industrial Research and Development Foundation

Press Release

June 18th, 2008

The BIRD Foundation, the Israel-U.S. Binational Industrial Research and Development Foundation, will invest about \$11 Million in 13 advanced development projects in areas such as asthma detection, biofuel from waste, car collision avoidance and an intelligent system for training ice hockey players.

Included among the American partners are companies such as GM, Pfizer, BP Solar and more.

Dr. Eitan Yudilevich, the Foundation's Executive Director: "companies in the Cleantech sector have matured sufficiently to enable them to collaborate with U.S. companies."

Washington, D.C., June 16, 2008- At its Board of Governors' meeting held today in Washington, D.C., the BIRD Foundation approved investments totaling approximately \$11 million, in 13 new, joint U.S.-Israeli projects with a combined budget of more than \$31 million.

The BIRD Foundation acts to encourage collaborations between Israeli and U.S. companies in various technological fields and helps locate strategic partners in both countries for the purpose of developing a joint product. The projects approved in the Board meeting are additional to the 770 projects in which the BIRD Foundation has invested an amount of over \$250 million over the years of its existence. To date, these projects have yielded over \$8 billion in direct and indirect sales.

The surge in the Life Science field continues with a number of remarkable initiatives, such as the project for developing diagnostic systems of fatty liver disease in which **Pfizer** is involved.

For the first time the Foundation will support a project in the sports field, in which the company ACE will develop a system for training ice hockey players applying a new cognitive approach.

The projects approved by the Board of Governors include three projects in the Renewable Energy sector, including one for improving the effectiveness of solar systems and another for the production of cellulosic ethanol.

The Board of Governors discussed and approved an initiative named "BIRD Energy", as part of the increasing cooperation between Israel and the U.S. in the Renewable Energy sector.

Dr. Eitan Yudilevich, the Foundation's Executive Director, who this month completes two and a half years of tenure, praises the quality of the submitted projects. "It is no secret that BIRD's staff is proactive in scouting for opportunities and in making the Foundation known in Israel and in the U.S. A significant percentage of our time is dedicated to visiting companies in both countries. I am a strong believer in running our business this way".

List of approved projects:

Israeli Company	U.S. Company	Project	Area
ACE	USA Hockey	Cognitive Training System for Ice Hockey Players	Software
Actysafe (RDC)	GM	Low cost RF-CMOS based UWB 24 GHz Short Range Radar	Electronics
Airspan	Nextlink	Carrier Class Cognitive Radio Access Devices	Communications
Applied Cleantech	SunEthanol	Efficient ethanol production from municipal and agriculture waste sources	Cleantech/Biofuels
Atox Bio	UMB University of Maryland Baltimore	Novel therapeutics for treatment of severe sepsis and septic shock	Life Sciences/Pharmaceutical
BVR	Intersense	First Responders Independent Navigation Device	Homeland Security/Electronics
Exalenz	Pfizer Inc.	Development of diagnostics for Nonalcoholic Steatohepatitis	Life Sciences/Pharmaceuticals
KarmelSonix	Sandhill Scientific	Monitoring asmathic wheezing versus gastro-esophagal originated cough	Life Sciences/Medical Devices
MediViz Systems (Israel) Ltd.	Cedar Sinai Medical	Operating Room Decision Support Center	Software
SolarEdge	BP solar	Module Integrated power harvesting unit	Cleantech/Energy
Synthatex	Insert Therapeutics	Novel coupled cell division inhibitor and polymer molecule as anti cancer drug	Life Sciences/Biotechnology
Vanadium	P.W.C.	Automating IT & Regulatory compliance	Software
XJet	Danaher Motion Dover	Solar wafer transport system for inkjet printing	Electronics

About the BIRD Foundation

The BIRD (Binational Industrial Research and Development) Foundation works to encourage cooperation between Israeli and American companies in the various areas of technology, and provides free assistance in locating strategic partners from both countries for developing joint products.

During its 31 years, the BIRD Foundation has invested in more than 770 projects, which have yielded direct and indirect revenues of about \$8 billion.

The BIRD Foundation supports projects without receiving any rights in the participating companies or in the project itself. The financial assistance is repaid as royalties from sales. The Foundation provides support of up to 50% of a project's budget, beginning with R&D and ending with the initial stages of sales and marketing. The Foundation shares the risk and does not demand that the investment be repaid if the project fails to reach the sales stage.

The BIRD Foundation works in full cooperation with the Chief Scientist's Office at the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Employment in Israel, and with the U.S. Commerce Department's National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). Visit our website at: www.birdf.com

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