

Commercializing R&D Conference and Exhibit

On December 8, 2005, we presented the Federal Laboratory Consortium Mid-Atlantic Region table-top display at the conference/exhibit produced by the TECH Council of Maryland and the Maryland Technology Development Corporation (TEDCO) on “Commercializing R&D: Resources for Emerging Technology Companies.” This all-day event was held at the University of Maryland and attracted about 200 attendees, most of whom saw the FLC MAR exhibit and many obtained information about FLC and FLC MAR.

The conference provided emerging technology companies with information about Maryland and federal resources available to help them take the next steps in developing their technologies or products. The event also offered an opportunity for attendees to meet and learn from other companies that have or are pursuing similar funding and growth avenues.

Conference topics included: seed, angel and venture funding; corporate partnering opportunities with biotech and advanced tech companies; innovative federal funding programs; intellectual property protection and ownership; trends in regulatory requirements; Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) opportunities with universities; and successful commercialization strategies.

“Through this conference, we were able to communicate to emerging companies about the multitude of resources to help them take the next step in developing and commercializing their innovative products and services,” said Julie Coons, president of TCM. “We really feel that we provided these businesses with a comprehensive understanding of how the state and federal government can help them advance.”

“This unique conference was designed to provide Maryland’s emerging companies with insights from some of the top business minds in the region,” said Phillip Singerman, executive director of TEDCO. “It is our hope that the information presented, as well as the networking opportunities, will help these cutting-edge companies take the next step in making Maryland one of the premier places for technology business.”

As part of the hand-out material, TEDCO provided a unique CD containing an organized directory of Maryland companies who have earned SBIR awards from 1999 to 2005. In part, the purpose of this CD is to help organizations identify entrepreneurial, technology companies that are building the businesses of the future.

One of the many new contacts that FLC MAR made is a representative of the Canadian Embassy. This person tracks both Policy and Science & Technology and is enthusiastic about interacting with FLC. We discussed possibilities for increasing linkage among Canadian and US scientists and technology transfer communities. One idea is to pick a topical area of mutual interest and bring the respective players together. Another is to develop a mutual session for the FLC MAR annual meeting. Anyone wishing to join in

this interaction should contact the FLC MAR Support Contractor's office:
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