



THE INNOVATION FUND

NEWSLETTER #11 ————— DECEMBER 2018



THE WHOLE TEAM OF INNOVATION FUND THANKS YOU FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTION TO A SUCCESSFUL 2018 AND WISHES YOU HAPPY HOLIDAYS AND A VERY ENJOYABLE 2019!

HOST OF THIS AUTUMN

Sioen Industries was host to the board and investment committee meetings on September 17th.

We had the pleasure to have lunch with CEO Michèle Sioen and with CTO Joost Wille, who led us in a site visit.



MEET JOOST WILLE, CTO SIOEN INDUSTRIES



AS A CONSCIENT MOTHER DOES, IT'S UP TO THE INNOVATION FUND TO TAKE CARE OF THOSE PRECIOUS EMBRYO'S, TO GIVE THEM A LIVE THERE PARENTS ALWAYS DREAMT OF.

What is your background and your function within Sioen?

I got my PhD at Leuven University in 1991. After a research career at Siemens AG, and Philips NV, I started at Sioen Industries as research director in 1999. Today I lead a multidisciplinary research team of over 81 researchers in the field of technical textiles, specialty chemicals and prote.

What is your experience with Innovation Fund?

As a board member of the innovation fund, it is inspiring to meet young innovative entrepreneurs taking the risk to invest in their and our future. Our multidisciplinary approach experience and support can help them to overcome the primary hurdles in their exiting but turbulent experience. Their fresh ideas on the other hand might be seen as a catalyst for embryonic networking in the era of a revolutionary new chemical industry.



VISITS TO INSEAD AND HUTCHINSON

On October 29th, we were invited at a round table on innovation by Professor Ben Bensaou at Insead. After an overnight stay in the beautiful premises of Insead, we were the guests of Jacques Maigné, PDG of Hutchinson, in Montargis. Hutchinson shared with us the main programs of its largest Research & Development centre in the world. All participants were delighted by this enriching exploration in new material science development.

NEW INVESTMENTS

DAPHNE TECHNOLOGY Daphne Technology is a spin-off from The École polytechnique fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL) incorporated in 2017 with headquarters at the EPFL Innovation Park.

The company is developing a catalyst-free scrubber technology to help the petrochemical, power and transportation industries to reduce air emissions to the levels required by international and national regulations. Daphne Technology's patented nanotechnology based solutions can be miniaturized and is especially well-suited to meet the requirements of marine vessels. The technology is being developed with support from the Swiss Plasma Center and the European Center for Nuclear Research (CERN). Main new co-investor is Saudi Aramco.



PURVER PurVer produces and sells vermicompost. Its ambition is to become the European leader in this segment.

Since 2012, the company has developed know how in worm farming and expertise in vermicompost. They have demonstrated with 6 active lines in Pecq the efficiency of their technology and the market's potential for their high quality soil amendment.

The new money, coming from IF, SRIWE and Chemium, along existing shareholders, will be invested in a tripling of the production capacity in Pecq and in the building of a new site in Wallonia in 2021.

NEWS OF OUR START-UPS See Press & Publications on www.innovationfund.eu



REIN4CED receives the 'Most Disruptive Innovator' award on Deloitte's Technology Fast50 & Rising Star competitions.



BLUE FOOT MEMBRANES wins International Water Association's Emerging Technology Award – Tokyo 2018



IRISTICK selected by USAid and DFID as finalist in "Creating Hope in Conflict: a Humanitarian Grand Challenge"



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