



Wrocław Technology Park

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A Cluster Grows in Poland

Geographically, the Wrocław Technology Park is located at the crossroads of Eastern and Western Europe as the city sits closer to Prague and Berlin than it does to Poland's capital, Warsaw. The Park has been instrumental in the creation of technology-based businesses in the area and facilitating the emergence of a NutriBioMed cluster which, industrially, rests at the crossroads between nutrition, biotechnology and medicine.

Wrocław is one of the oldest cities in Poland. In 1998 the area's municipality, science sector, and educational and financial institutions saw the wisdom in creating the Wrocław Technology Park (WTP) to support and promote the growth of technology-based companies. Since 2003, the year marking the completion of the park's first building (Lower Silesian Incubator for Science and Technology), WTP has grown to accommodate 100 companies occupying three buildings and employing over 1,000 people. And, in 2010, the WTP started construction on two new buildings. WTP offers office space, laboratories and workshops, conference rooms, guest rooms (for visiting scientists), telecommunications services and

advisory and support services for burgeoning enterprises.

WTP plays an important role in the development of the businesses located in the park. The WTP is a versatile organization that may take part in the creation of a company, supply essential equipment, provide investment capital or help companies find funding, or coordinate the funding for a consortium of companies with synergistic interests. WTP also assists companies with the promotion of products and services and with access the international market.

Capitalizing on Innovations in Nutrition

Within the park's enterprise-nurturing environment, a unique biocluster is growing. Capitalizing on the opportunity at the crossroads of nutrition and human health, the NutriBioMed cluster encompasses interdisciplinary activities aimed at the improvement of health, quality of life and innovations associated with nutrition. Currently, the cluster encompasses 30 Polish companies from the food, pharmaceutical and biotechnology industry and six universities located in Wrocław or nearby in Poznań.

In addition to being a hub for specialized businesses, NutriBioMed serves as a mechanism for stimulating technology transfer and academic entrepreneurship, ultimately resulting in the establishment of spin-off companies focused on product advancement and innovations. WTP was instrumental in obtaining four patents (a fifth is pending) for research related to an innovative approach to food supplements that was conducted at Wrocław University of Environmental and Life Sciences and Wrocław University of Economics.

The development of a supplement product line designed to help prevent so-called civilization diseases has attracted WTP's largest investment, over €2.5 million. Financing for the project came from EU structural funds (2007–2013) within the Operational Programme Industry and Enterprise (OPIE,



Wrocław Technology Park's Business Incubation Center is one example of the support the park provides to growing businesses.

Priority 5.1). Civilization diseases are disorders resulting from the lifestyle and increased life expectancy of Western society. Intellectual property for the business venture is held by WTP, local universities and companies interested in manufacturing and marketing the products. The supplements are produced from natural raw materials (such as eggs and seeds), and the basic composition of the supplement can be adapted to address different deficiencies. A pilot line of products will target vascular disease, osteoporosis and impaired immunological responses to infection. Production of four different products is expected to commence in 2011.

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