



Boston-Haifa Life Sciences Initiative (BHLSI)



Boston-Haifa Connection



Haifa Small Business Development Center

PRESS RELEASE

3rd Annual Boston Haifa Life Sciences Initiative (BHLSI) BioBusiness Delegation Visits Boston, Massachusetts Fueling the Vision of Haifa's Life Sciences Innovation Engine

Boston, Massachusetts: November 1, 2007: Nine Israeli life science company CEOs recently joined the 3rd Annual BHLSI BioBusiness Delegation in Boston for a week of one-on-one meetings, business seminars and social events.

These innovative companies included representatives from: BioAim, BioHug Technologies, BrainTech, Hernia Solutions, ImmunArray, JetGuide, Keren Medical, MIM Medical and UltraSurge.

They were joined by leading physicians from Rambam Health Care Campus for a community-wide life sciences reception hosted by CJP, with support from Ernst & Young Global Biotechnology Center, Consulate General of Israel to New England, Massachusetts Office of International Trade and Investment (MOITI) and the law firm of ZAG-S&W, bringing together nearly two hundred leaders from Boston's business, medicine and finance communities.

During the week-long delegation, local representatives and key experts from leading angel and venture groups -- as well as senior executives from biomedical companies (such as Boston Scientific, Stryker, Olympus), biotechnology companies (including BiogenIdec among others) and world renown Harvard physicians and licensing experts -- assisted the entrepreneurs in unlocking market intelligence and exploring opportunities for scientific and business collaborations.

According to Marina Tsadkin-Tamir, CEO of BioAim, "Those five days were the most interesting I have experienced in my professional life. I met the leading specialists in the field in which my company is engaged. I believe that BHLSI is a very important program for Israeli life science companies at all levels of development."

Eli Sahar, CEO of ImmunArray stated, "Thank you again for the wonderful and exciting week I had in Boston. It was way beyond my expectations and I am certain that the contacts I made will bear fruit, as already has. [BHLSI] really did a wonderful job in organizing the event to the last detail and in making sure that everything runs smoothly. I am really grateful, as I know are all the other participants."

According to Robin JR Blatt, BHLSI Director, "Israel is a science and technology powerhouse and internationally recognized as one of the brightest "stars" in the global life sciences universe -- with the northern city of Haifa gaining strategic importance as the gateway for life science companies. Designed to catalyze collaborations and assist early stage companies on the leading edge of innovation in stem cell biology, medical diagnostics, informatics, biomaterials, biosecurity, robotics as well as biotech, nanotech, cleantech, marine biology and other disciplines, BHLSI is a proven model that adds value to early stage CEOs and strategy."

"The selection process for BHLSI 2008 is now underway." stated Avi Faigenbaum, CEO of MATI Haifa. "Each year the applicant pool grows and for MATI Haifa and BHLSI our aim is to achieve targeted and tailored tangible results and customer satisfaction."

BHLSI 2007

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Over the past three years, BHLSI has created a unique cross border regional knowledge network that is continuously catalyzing collaborations between business executives, scientists and investors in Israel and Massachusetts.

According to Barry Shrage, CJP's President, *"The Boston Haifa Life Sciences Initiative has created an unparalleled network, both in Massachusetts and Israel, enabling innovative Israeli scientists and entrepreneurs obtain high level connections and strategic input from leading medical experts, investors and business executives. The commitment of voluntary leaders on both sides of the ocean speaks to the importance of the Boston-Haifa Connection and the tremendous appreciation that exists for health care innovations that Israel offers the world."*

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