

PRESS RELEASE

Babraham Bioscience Technologies Ltd

**Cambridge, UK
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First companies move in as Babraham Research Campus takes possession of latest Bioincubator

The latest Bioincubator Building at the Babraham Research Campus – Moneta – has today been handed over by the main building contractors for the project, SDC. Leases have been negotiated with 10 companies, representing 52% of the overall lettable space, which started moving in on the day the building was handed over.

Funded as a part of the £44M BBSRC Project announced in the 2011 budget, an investment in capital infrastructure to support bioscience innovation, Moneta adds to the extensive facilities on one of the UK's leading innovation campuses. Babraham's heritage supporting early-stage enterprises has attracted 5 new companies to Moneta with 5 campus companies expanding their operations from smaller facilities on the campus.

After starting on site on the 30th May 2011, the building was completed within a 45 week programme working together with their M and E sub-contractor partner, Briggs and Forrester and the design team led by Archial Architects, Cambridge.

Derek Jones, Chief Executive of Babraham Bioscience Technologies Ltd, said, "I am delighted at the rapid progress we have made bringing Moneta to fruition and the opportunity that this building brings to the life sciences sector in the UK, helping bioenterprises to grow and supporting wealth creation. The Babraham Research Campus brings scientists and businesses together in an 'innovation hot spot' to deliver solutions for lifelong health and wellbeing, a reputation that has attracted new tenants and helped to ensure that Moneta is already over 50 % full, on the day it is opened. We are very pleased with the fantastic building that has been constructed, and I'd like to thank all involved from design to build to handover."

The first company to sign, Cambivac® Ltd - a spin-out from the University of Cambridge - researches, develops and out-licenses innovative vaccine technologies that provide novel solutions to current and emerging disease challenges. Grant Austin, Executive Director of Cambivac® Ltd said, "We look forward with optimism to being one of the first tenants of the new Moneta building. We are excited by the potential for innovation afforded to early stage biotech companies, such as ourselves, by the facility and its location on the Babraham research campus. The BBT team should be congratulated on delivering the building on time and we have every confidence that with their help we will settle in smoothly."

The Campus also welcomes some of the F Star activities back to Babraham, along with newcomers TCP Innovations and Imperial Innovations.

The creation of a supportive, entrepreneurial environment promoting bioscience innovation is a key objective as the campus continues to develop. Offering around 20,000 sq ft of laboratory and office accommodation in units of circa 600 sq ft, Moneta completes the development of the south part of the Babraham Research Campus, which now provides a total of 85,000 sq ft lab/office space. Eagle Genomics Ltd, a tenant of the campus since 2009, is one of the companies that has taken advantage of the new facilities on offer as they continue to expand operations.

David Flanders, CEO of Eagle Genomics said, "We are delighted to be one of the first tenants to move into the brand new Moneta building. Eagle has been located on the Babraham Campus since soon after founding the company nearly four years ago. During this time, we have moved four times into new offices or new buildings to accommodate our increasing numbers of staff. Thanks largely to the professional, personable and helpful nature of all the BBT team, combined with flexibility and understanding of the needs of companies like Eagle, all these moves have gone smoothly, efficiently and economically. It's a great campus on which to be located and the support provided by BBT really helps."

Professor Douglas Kell, BBSRC's Chief Executive said: "This is an exciting chapter at the Babraham Research Campus as the strategic investment to deliver innovation, generate economic growth and create even more jobs begins to take shape. The increased lab space, improved infrastructure and new facilities provided by this new building are catalysts for significant contribution to the bioeconomy."

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Notes to Editors:

Babraham Bioscience Technologies Ltd, the commercial arm of the Babraham Institute, promotes, supports and encourages academic and commercial biomedical research locally, regionally and nationally. BBT delivers the Knowledge Exchange and Commercialisation (KEC) remit of the Institute and is responsible for managing the Babraham Research Campus' Bioincubator, currently home to around 30 early-stage biomedical companies. BBT brings together all the elements to support innovation and enable the successful exploitation of research in the life sciences sector based on technologies emanating from the Babraham Institute and bioventures relocating to the campus. BBT has taken a prominent role regionally, initiating and leading partnerships to promote knowledge and skills flow and has established a reputation for successfully translating innovative science into viable business opportunities through partnerships for wealth creation. Website: www.babraham.com
The Babraham Institute, which receives strategic funding (£22.4M in 2010-11) from the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC), undertakes international quality life sciences research to generate new knowledge of biological mechanisms underpinning ageing, development and the maintenance of health. The Institute's research is focused on understanding the biological events that underlie the normal functions of cells and the implication of failure or abnormalities in these processes. Research focuses on signalling and genome regulation, particularly the interplay between the two and how epigenetic signals can influence important physiological adaptations during the lifespan of an organism. By determining how the body reacts to dietary and environmental stimuli and manages microbial and viral interactions, we aim to improve wellbeing and healthier ageing. (www.babraham.ac.uk)

The Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC) invests in world-class bioscience research and training on behalf of the UK public. Our aim is to further scientific knowledge, to promote economic growth, wealth and job creation and to improve quality of life in the UK and beyond. Funded by Government, and with an annual budget of around £445M, we support research and training in universities and strategically funded institutes. BBSRC research and the people we fund are helping society to meet major challenges, including food security, green energy and healthier, longer lives. Our investments underpin important UK economic sectors, such as farming, food, industrial biotechnology and pharmaceuticals.

For more information about BBSRC, our science and our impact see: www.bbsrc.ac.uk
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