

Special Edition

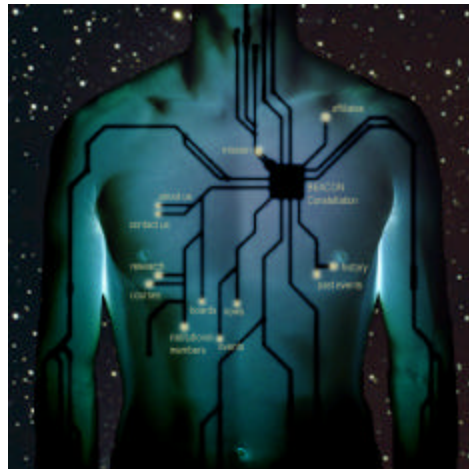
BEACON builds on successful Symposium

Start-Ups and Incubating Companies Exhibit New Biomedical Devices and Systems

Hartford, CT - On October 31, BEACON hosted its 5th annual symposium and technology fair. The event was held from 8:30AM to 5:00PM in Heublein Hall of Hartford Hospital's Education & Resource Center. Hartford Mayor Eddie A. Perez, Mike Levin, chief policy specialist at Northeast Utilities, and Elliott Ginsberg, Congressman John Larson's chief of staff joined BEACON President Dr. Joseph D. Bronzino in opening this event. The BEACON symposium, entitled "Cardiovascular Technologies: Medical Devices and Tissue Engineering," featured six distinguished guest speakers:

- *Chris Kelley, Ph.D., program director at the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute; spoke on "cardiovascular Tissue Engineering"*
- *Edward Berger, Ph.D., vice president for strategic planning & policy at ABIOMED; spoke on "The AbioCor Artificial Heart Program"*
- *Jasjit Suri, Ph.D., director Biomedical Engineering Div., JWT Inc., Cleveland, Sr. Scientist, Biomedical Engineering Department, Case Western Reserve University, spoke on "Angiography and Plaque Imaging"*
- *Michael Lysaght, Ph.D., director of Brown University's Center of Biomedical Engineering; spoke on "Frontiers of Organ Tissue Replacement"*
- *Karl Rosen, M.D., Ph.D., medical director at Neoventa Medical in Sweden; spoke on "Fetal Cardiology"*
- *Ron Sahatjian, Ph.D., vp corporate technology at Boston Scientific, spoke on "Advances in Interventional Cardiology"*

Exhibitors at the Technology Fair included established and well known companies and organizations and BEACON members such as GE Medical Systems, Pfizer, Hamilton Sunstrand Space Systems, UBS Paine Webber, Trinity College, University of Hartford, Hartford Hospital, Saint Francis Medical Center, American Heart Association, and Connecticut Innovations as well as other "hidden gems."



An early look at the new BEACON website being launched January 1, 2003.

MicroTest Labs, a fast-developing bio-testing company located in Agawam, MA. Its business has doubled in three years and can be expected to continue growing substantially as the country accelerates its homeland security efforts. It is certified as a facility to conduct tests for anthrax contamination and numerous other toxins.

Vivax Medical Corp. has developed a product for automatic transport of immobile patients from their hospital beds to an adjacent chair. Vivax also sees potential applications in the home care market, as the transport device would allow a degree of self-sufficiency that might make it possible for patients to recuperate at home rather than in nursing homes or rehab centers. The potential to reduce health care costs has sparked the interest of insurance companies.

Premise Development Corporation, based in Hartford, CT, and founded in 1993, is an award-winning healthcare information technology company that develops, markets and supports products and solutions that meet the unique demands of hospitals and healthcare systems.

BEACON, the Biomedical Engineering Alliance and Consortium Collaborative Team (2002): Trinity College, The University of Connecticut, The University of Hartford, The University of Massachusetts at Amherst, Hartford Hospital, John Dempsey Hospital, Saint Francis Medical Center, Baystate Medical Center, The University of Stuttgart and University of Friburg Medical School. Corporate Sponsors include Pfizer, TYCO Kendall Health Care, GE Medical, Boston Scientific, Court Square Data Group, Pepe & Hazard, Pullman & Comley, The Steinbeis Foundation (Germany), Premise Development, UBS Paine Webber, McCormick, Paulding & Huber, Northeast Utilities, MicroTest, Laschal Surgical and ePals.

Biowave Corporation manufactures a non-invasive, medical device that uses proprietary technology to send an electronic signal into deep tissue in the body, blocking the transmission of pain. The company has won "best in class" in several Connecticut technology shows and recently was featured on the TODAY show. Currently, Biowave is completing FDA-required clinical studies.

Mountain Laurel Biomedical specializes in medical product research and new product development. Its premier product, a cooling vest to be worn in the operating room, was exhibited in conjunction with senior partners **Hamilton Sundstrand/UTC** and **Hartford Hospital**. Mountain Laurel Biomedical designs and tests medical instrumentation for sale or licensing. It also conducts basic and applied research and development in bio-physiology and biotechnology and provides consultative services to other companies and institutions. Mountain Laurel Biomedical partners with local clinicians, the defense industry, and academics to produce solutions to real-world medical problems.

Founded in 2000, BEACON is a 501(C)6 professional organization consisting of academic and medical institutions, corporations, and individuals committed to the creation and commercialization of new medical technology. BEACON serves as a "preferential access network" of, and for, its members, and it facilitates collaborative efforts and industrial partnering among them. All BEACON members enjoy access to the expertise and facilities available within the BEACON network. BEACON established a for-profit subsidiary - the BEACON Technology Network - in 2001 with the explicit and singular goal of facilitating the commercialization of new technologies – biomedical devices and systems.



Come join us!

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Senator Kennedy Unlocks Hidden Assets

On November 21, Senator Edward Kennedy, along with NIH Director Dr. Elias Zerhouni "cut the ribbon" to formally open a state-of-the-art research and development center in Springfield. This new Baystate Medical Center-UMass Amherst Biomedical Research Institute will provide extraordinary resources to support R&D centralized in the center of the I-91 "Knowledge Corridor" and collaborating with its friends at BEACON in the sister city of Hartford.

The new BMC-UMass Biomedical Research Institute will play a central and critical role in tapping "hidden assets" in Greater Springfield and in promoting research that can be expected to spawn not only inventions but also viable business ventures.

In the process, it should contribute substantially to the region's long-term economic vitality. Economic development comes from the bottom up, not top down, and it isn't necessarily led by large companies. Of the 10,000 or so "biomed" companies in the USA today, 80% are staffed with 50 people or fewer. Seventy to eighty percent of discoveries that become products come out of institutions (academic or medical), not companies.

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