

CfBI continues to expand its portfolio of consortia delivering “collaborative advantage” across Europe, the USA and beyond. Leading companies, government departments and research institutes derive benefit from accelerated learning, cost sharing, influencing regulators, designing and promoting best practises, training as well as business development by participating in CfBI’s consortia. Come and join us!

Headlines

- Social Media for Business Consortium (SMfB) launches in Cambridge in January enabling leading organisations to privately compare notes on what works and what not as they apply social media to corporate performance metrics;
- Inclusive Design consortium (ID-2) helps top companies gain competitive advantage by developing iconic designs in packaging, built environment user-interface and beyond, suited to changing consumer demography;
- Nano-Carbon-Enabled-Materials Consortium members won a FP7 bid to develop ‘Ultrawire’ (novel carbon copper blend with exceptional conductivity properties). NCEM-3 launches in the summer of 2014 and is recruiting new members in the USA and Europe;
- The Open Innovation meets Big Data Consortium was invited to meet the European Commission to share its thinking about an important new class of innovation opportunity;
- The Microfluidics Consortium will be hosted by UCSD and Illumina in San Diego in Feb;
- CfBI is investigating potential new consortia including: Carbon Capture, Assisted Living, Nano Medicine and Cyber-Security.

Nano Carbon Enhanced Materials NCEM-2

The NCEM consortium helps its members understand and grasp new business opportunities arising from recent findings in nano-carbon (particularly carbon nanotubes and graphene).

It is led by Dr Bojan Boskovic, an expert in nano-carbon commercialisation, and has held meetings at member sites across Europe. It has worked with leading academic and government institutions and



leading manufacturing companies such as Bayer, SWeNT, Thomas Swan, Applied Graphene Materials & Graphenea. In 2013 NCEM members used the consortium as a vehicle to generate the idea for and win a 3.3M Euro EC FP7 project to manufacture ultraconductive lightweight nanocarbon-copper wires.

NCEM-3, which launches in the Summer of 2014, will follow the path of the Microfluidics consortium – expanding into the USA and widening its membership to represent and support the interests of members in electrical engineering; electronics; structural materials; medicine and beyond.

“I believe that consortia like this are a critical step towards bridging the gap between extraordinary science and products commercialization. We feel privileged to be invited to speak to a group that is interested in doing something as opposed to just talking about something.” - Dr Kyle Kissell, Technology Development Director from NanoRidge Materials, USA

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Social Media for Business SMfB-1

The consortium around the use of Social Media for Business will launch its next 12 month programme on 22 & 23rd January 2014 at Downing College Cambridge.



On the one hand the pervasive use of social media platforms in big multi-nationals as part of internal communications is of strong interest. Some big enterprises have tens of thousands of their staff across many continents collaborating using social media platforms such as Social Cast. In many ways this is a further development of project and knowledge management platforms, but it has a subtle difference in that it underwrites strong relationship and team building and provides foundations for flexible modern business cultures.

The other focus of the consortium will be around the management of external stakeholders using social media platforms. Reputation is a key asset to be nurtured in any organisation, but so easily degraded in today's world of instant comment, both pithy one liners on Twitter, and longer critiques on blogs. Regulators are starting to explore how they can permit critical data sharing in real time via social media, a concept that wouldn't have seemed possible just a few years ago. For many organisations the customer relationship is migrating into the world of social media. For all organisations, being on top of the opportunities in internal communication and the management of external relationships using social media is becoming increasingly important.

So far members have signed up from the aerospace, pharma, banking, food and drink, retail, media and economic development sectors. All will benefit from the dynamic knowledge transfer of better and next practice in this important and fast developing area.

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Open Innovation meets Big Data OI-4

OI4 is stretching the original Chesbrough model of Open Innovation to investigate and grasp a new class of open data innovation where the entity which is traded and embedded is a 'data rich asset'.

With applications covering: Healthcare, Smart Cities, Telecommunications and Retail members of this consortium are finding significant advantages and new challenges. At the heart of the approach is the thought that 'predictive analytics' applying a company's own data to its in-house needs is just the jumping off point for a radical new economy of 'digital innovation'. DG-Connect has asked the consortium to prepare a White Paper describing its hopes and fears for this new class of innovation.



"Insight from the collaboration with other companies and institutions dealing with the same topic really proved to be a jumpstart in many ways. DSM is still getting benefits from that collaboration. It was a non-commercial, non-salespitch initiative, very different from the usual stuff we get from suppliers."
Massimo Mercuri - Royal DSM

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Inclusive Design ID-2

Designing inclusively means delighting more customers and selling more product. As populations get older, this is not just a social requirement but also a major commercial growth opportunity. The collaboration between CfBI and the Engineering Design Centre at the University of Cambridge which delivered in ID-1 insight and opportunities to benefit from this thinking to leading companies such as Nestle, Bosch, BBC, Roche and Royal Bank of Scotland, has been expanded for the next consortium, ID-2, which launches on Feb 6th in Cambridge.



The ID-2 team is also working closely with the European Commission and we hope that (following the example of NCEM-2) its members will be well positioned to bid for upcoming Horizon 2020 calls which are planned in this area. Contact rob.morland@cfbi.com

Microfluidics MF-5



CfBI's largest consortium continues to expand around the world as exciting new applications for microfluidics (aka lab-on-a-chip) come to market. Engaging with leading stakeholders including: Stanford, MIT, Biomerieux, Janssen Diagnostics, NICE, Royal Society of Chemistry, Medicare and the European Commission, the consortium champions opportunities to grow the market for microfluidics enabled products and services and promotes platforms and standards.

Working with the Royal Society of Chemistry this year the MF5 consortium has also created a directory of microfluidics players worldwide and is also preparing whitepapers on 'Microfluidics Design for Manufacture' and 'Getting Started with Microfluidics'. Visit our public domain website at www.microfluidicsinfo.com for more.

In the coming year the MF5 consortium will visit Holland, San Diego (Feb 6 & 7); Switzerland; Cambridge(*); Boston(*) as well as taking a study tour to China.

(*) At each of these meetings we will organise an additional 'Open Day' where members present their products and services to a large, invited, audience with table top demonstrations and talks.

"Thanks-again for the fabulous event" – Ali Tinazli SonyDADC, Boston

"Attending the MF consortium was a very interesting and fruitful experience to me."

- Francois LeBlanc Fluigent, Paris

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Coming Soon!

CfBI is currently “scoping” with our established community of corporate members the possibility of adding the following new consortia to CfBI’s portfolio: “Solid Carbon Capture” (a global consortium working together to understand and evaluate a new class of candidate technologies for addressing global warming); “Assisted Living” (Aligning stakeholder interests in the light of upcoming Horizon 2020 opportunities); “Nano-Medicine” (in the space identified jointly by the microfluidics and nano-carbon consortia); “Regenerative Medicine”; “Cyber Security” and “Flow Chemistry”. For the latest information on our consortia, members and processes please visit www.cfbi.com or contact us on ceo@cfbi.com ++ 44 1223 850173.

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