

Taipei hosts BioTaiwan 2017 with 600 firms' participation

17 July 2017 | News

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BioTaiwan 2017, the annual biotech-themed convention, organized by Taiwan Bio Industry Organization took place between June 28 to July 2 in Taipei World Trade Center – Nangang Exhibition Hall, Taipei, Taiwan with 1,300+ booths from more than 600+ companies in attendance.

Now in its 16th year, *BioTaiwan* Trade Show has been instrumental in bringing international perspective and creating relationships with local talent. BioTaiwan 2017 is 5 events in 1, including the BioBusiness Asia Conference, Greater China & Asia-Pacific Opportunities Conference, BioTaiwan Exhibition, Company Presentations, One-on-one Partnering and a full Seminar and Workshop program. It is a great platform to discover the opportunities that await in biotech investment, collaboration, innovation and services.

Exhibitor list included leading international companies like Aeco-Pack, Bio Brilliant, Bottlemate, Bridge Top International, Chuanpen International Packing, Epopack, Glaspray, He Shin Plastic, Hung Yueh Enterprise, Li Chia Industrial, RueyTzer Enterprise, Sunlea Label Printing, Taiwan K. K. Corp. and Top Yield.

Taiwan is undergoing a boom in biotechnology, rewarding years of dedicated effort from its stakeholders. More and more locally-developed drugs are entering late-stage clinical trials, and new companies, service providers and manufacturing facilities are emerging to fill rapidly growing industry needs. Overseas interest is picking up as well, with licensing, partnering and investment agreements at an all-time high. The total market capitalization of local publicly-listed biotech companies has soared, increasing 700 percent since 2008's capital market crash, rewarding stakeholders for their patience and support.

Kicking off the week-long calendar of events was the two-day **BioBusiness Asia (BBA) Conference**, one of Asia's leading annual business-focused biotech gatherings. The focus of BBA this year, as in other recent years, was on identifying future technological trends, examining regional niches, and exploring new business models and opportunities.

BioBuisness Asia explores such investment opportunities in Taiwan. The event took an in-depth look at issues regarding bio-

investing and future trends in biomedical and life sciences within the Asia region.

An impressive line-up of international speakers delved deep into some of the most cutting-edge topics of the day, including precision medicine, immuno-oncology, next-generation sequencing, stem and cell therapy, synthetic biology, microbiome and AI, big data-driven mobile healthcare.

Select Speaker introductions

Patrick Flochel, lead author of Ernst & Young's widely anticipated 28th annual global biotechnology report 'Beyond Borders lead the Plenary Session on the first day of BBA with a talk entitled 'Biotechnology Financing and Deal-Making State of the Industry.'

Timothy Lu, with qualifications in engineering, computer science and medicine, has a unique understanding of how and where technologies can come together to form new opportunities. Starting up a number of companies and with a particular interest in synthetic biology, Lu was selected by MIT Technology Review as one of the its 'Top Innovators under 35' in 2010. Lu will talk about next-generation therapeutic platforms at BBA.

Jin-Long Chen, founder of San Francisco-based NGM Biopharmaceuticals was recently profiled as a possible 'next Genentech' by BioSpace. Chen's presentation will focus on how to build a company optimized to discover new drugs.

Allen Chao, founding chairman of Watson Pharmaceuticals, now Actavis, and currently the world's third largest generics drug companies, is one of Taiwan's most successful bioindustry representatives. He also served as the president of US-Taiwan biosimilars developer Tanvex BioPharma since 2008. In his talk among other topics, Chao recalled his journey from generic pharmaceuticals to the world of biologics.

Yuh-geng Tsay, currently with VIVO Capital, was previously Group President of Thermo Fisher's Specialty Diagnostic business through a number of mergers and acquisitions. Tsay talked about building a successful global medical device business.

Larry Hsu, chairman of Lifemax Healthcare International Corporation, and founder of Impax Pharmaceuticals, now Impax Laboratories, will be giving a presentation on Taiwan's current standing and future potential in the niche fields of drug repurposing and new drug delivery technologies.

The BioTaiwan Exhibition is the premier business-focussed platform for Bio-product launch. The exhibition presented various new product launch aiming at different industrial interest. The new product launch session is known for the largest gathering of latest industrial-focussed information. Visitors found value in particular the future of bio business.

The event showcased the “**Witness the Unlimited Potential of Taiwan-Japan Biotech Collaboration**” forum organized by DCI Group. Different perspectives were presented and discussed at this forum, realizing the huge potential and benefits from Taiwan-Japan biotech collaborations. The forum focussed on topics such as:

- Experience from investment and value-adding activities from DCI Group, and its observation of the industry.
- Considerations, business models, and key factors to achieving a successful deal while increasing enterprise value, shared by companies or organizations with stories of successful Taiwan-Japan collaboration.
- Strategic considerations for project or business development in Japan.

BioTaiwan offers a great platform and opens opportunities to-

? Network with top executives, investors, experts and renown leaders from Taiwan, China, and beyond

? Exhibit bioclusters, technologies, unique products and services

? Discover biopharma innovations in Taiwan and Asia

? Capture Greater China and Asia's biotech market opportunities through Taiwan

? Explore R&D, products, services and new partnerships