

September 10, 2009

New Ohio Bioscience Resource Directory keeps pace with industry sector's growth

BioOhio and the Global Cardiovascular Innovation Center (GCIC) have launched an expanded and improved Ohio Bioscience Resource Directory, the most comprehensive online collection of Ohio companies, organizations, and research centers involved in the biosciences. The web-based directory (<http://directory.bioohio.com> or accessible at www.gcic.org) now includes profiles of more than 1,900 entities and 2,600 location listings, including market-facing companies, value-chain suppliers, research organizations, and B2B service providers.

A mutual desire to catalog and promote Ohio's bioscience industry value chain prompted BioOhio and GCIC to combine resources for a major expansion and enhancement of the original directory, which was first introduced in 2003.

Bioscience is a broad and diverse field, but most definitions include biotechnology firms, pharmaceuticals and therapeutics companies, medical device and equipment manufacturers, research institutions, R&D facilities, medical laboratories, diagnostic imaging centers, clinical trial and regulatory consultants, and agricultural biotechnology interests.

The Ohio Bioscience Resource Directory is intended to help companies identify and connect with suppliers and resources to meet their specialty needs, as well as to demonstrate the extensiveness of these resources within the state.

Ohio has tremendous strength in materials, parts, test and measurement, manufacturing companies, marketing resources and service organizations which supply a rich and growing bioscience industry in the state. In concert with world-class clinical and academic institutions, a very favorable business economic climate, available venture capital, skilled workforce resources, and a rapidly growing core of companies, Ohio has become a desirable location for bioscience business and research.

A visitor to the directory is first presented with two options of discovery— a word search engine operates similarly to popular web search tools, while category index browsing offers nine bioscience industry sectors and dozens of subsectors to get started. Organization profiles include address, web site, phone and general email addresses, as well as in-depth descriptions. Members of BioOhio will receive exclusive access to individual contact information associated with company profiles.

BioOhio and GCIC expect the directory will be accessed by organizations and individuals both inside and outside of Ohio seeking partners, suppliers, consultants, and potential clients. Both organizations believe such a comprehensive directory can make doing business easier for companies already in Ohio and can become an effective introduction to Ohio's bioscience infrastructure for companies that might look to Ohio for expansion.

"We believe Ohio will become a magnet for bioscience companies as they discover the breadth and depth of resources available here to serve them," commented BioOhio Director of Business Development Scott Osborne.

"GCIC is pleased to sponsor the Ohio Bioscience Resource Directory," said Mark Low, Managing Director of GCIC. "We have found that the extensive pool of skilled and talented value chain providers in Ohio, all within very close proximity and easy reach of companies located here, has been a tremendous advantage to the companies that we are incubating in the state. The enhanced resource directory will be a valuable tool to all in the growing bioscience industry."

BioOhio will hold a webinar on September 16 at 10:00amEDT to demonstrate a series of different searches and queries possible through the directory and answer questions. More information on the webinar can be found at <https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/736442699>.

Based on the original directory's visitor traffic, Osborne expects the new Ohio Bioscience Resource Directory to attract up to 1,500 users each month.

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About BioOhio. BioOhio (formerly Omeris) is a non-profit organization supported by the Thomas Edison Program of the Ohio Department of Development and by BioOhio members. Its mission is to accelerate bioscience discovery, innovation and commercialization of global value, driving economic growth, and improving quality of life in Ohio. BioOhio is headquartered in Columbus, with regional business development affiliates in Cleveland, Columbus, Cincinnati and Athens.

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The Global Cardiovascular Innovation Center (GCIC) is a multi-institutional product development and commercialization consortium made possible through a \$60 million grant from the State of Ohio's Third Frontier Project. Founded in 2007, the consortium is led by the Cleveland Clinic and is comprised of Case Western Reserve University, The Ohio State University, The University of Cincinnati, The University of Toledo and University Hospitals of Cleveland along with leading industry and economic development partners. GCIC is focused on developing, incubating, and commercializing innovative cardiovascular technology for the benefit of patients worldwide and to facilitate economic development in the State of Ohio. <http://www.gcic.org>

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