

Media Coverage

Company: AusBiotech
Publication: Web Voxy.co.nz
Date: 15 August 2011
Page: Online

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Real-world topics discussed at AusBiotech Conference

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Monday, 15 August, 2011 - 17:23

Stem Cells, Food Security and Growing Investment: All part of AusBiotech 2011 This year's AusBiotech conference will change the way you look at biotechnology and its impact on our everyday lives. Australian researchers are harnessing the power of science to alter cells and DNA to provide childhood burn victims with new skin, while also using this technology to ensure we have sufficient food to feed our growing population. There is also fast growing interest from domestic and overseas investors in Australian innovation.

AusBiotech 2011, 16 - 19 October at the Adelaide Convention Centre, will showcase the fascinating scientific innovation and excellent investment opportunities in Australia. The annual event has earned a reputation as the industry's premier biotechnology conference for the Asia-Pacific region and attracts delegates from around the world. This year's theme will be Creativity, Capability & Capital, the key ingredients to a vibrant industry and all characteristics of Australia's biotechnology community.

This year, a wide range of session topics will be offered looking at the impact of biotechnology on our lives and examinations of how the industry is changing and evolving in the current market climate:

Tissue and skin regeneration, Australian innovation creating hope and options for millions

A lack of treatment options has left burn victims to suffer from unstoppable scarring and constant pain. At the same time doctors have been unable to help people living with diabetes or the elderly from developing wounds that become easily infected. Now Australian researchers are leading the way in developing new technologies for tissue regeneration to halt what has been described by one session speaker as a "silent epidemic." Speakers will describe work being done in the Asia Pacific region to develop synthetic skin or to stimulate existing skin cells to heal more quickly.

Food security and uncertain supplies, how biotechnology could eradicate famine and reduce our reliance on toxic pesticides Many around the world are stunned to hear about fellow humans who continue to suffer from famine and mass starvation in this modern age. Australia's biotechnology researchers are looking for solutions. As populations grow and temperatures rise, there will be a fast-growing need for more resilient crops and more productive animals. Speakers at AusBiotech will discuss the challenge of doubling food production in the next 30 years to avoid severe shortages, even in developed countries.

Australia's biotechnology industry, maturing out of a financial crisis: Various sessions will look at how the global financial crisis actually aided Australia's biotechnology industry. Companies were forced to focus on the most promising treatments and innovations. This has meant that many of Australia's biotech companies have entered the final stages of development much faster than originally planned.