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AusBiotech looks beyond GFC

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This year's national biotech showcase, AusBiotech 2009, is hoping for 1400 attendees from Australia and overseas as it tries to look beyond a horror year under the pressures of the GFC.

Officially announcing the event today, Australia's national biotech organisation, AusBiotech, said, "Australia's biotechnology sector has matured into an internationally recognised industry, ranking sixth in the world in innovative biotechnologies. AusBiotech 2009 will bring together the who's who of biotechnology from Australia and around the world in one world-class event."

Before this year's event gets underway, potential investors will participate in the inaugural AusBiotech Australasian Life Sciences Investment Summit, an invitation-only, one-day event "designed specifically to demonstrate to investors the high calibre of investment potential in Australia's biotechnology industry," AusBiotech said.

This year's conference promises to canvass topical subject matter such as Biopharmaceuticals in a Post-GFC World, Global Regulatory Challenges and Opportunities, Product Development and Regulatory Aspects in Asia Pacific and Changing Business Models and New Financial Opportunities and Health Technologies. It will also feature a Business Matching program and Bioindustry Exhibition.

Major speakers include Governor of Victoria, Professor David de Kretser; Alan Oster, Group Chief Economist, National Australia Bank; Dr Victoria Elegant, Vice-President, Asia-Pacific, Regulatory Affairs/Pharmacovigilance, Baxter Healthcare Corporation; CSIRO Chief Executive, Dr Megan Clark; Dr Johnsee Lee, President, Industrial Technology Research Institute, Taiwan, and Dr Ganesh Kishore, CEO Malaysian Life Sciences Fund, Burrill & Company/Malaysian Technology Development Corporation, United States.

The 2008 event attracted 1327 delegates from 32 countries and involved 159 speakers of whom 54 were international. AusBiotech says that 627 Presidents, VPs, CEOs, EOs, CFOs, MDs and CSOs from national and international companies attended last year.

AusBiotech 2009 takes place from Wednesday 28 to Friday 30 October with the AusBiotech Australasian Life Sciences Investment Summit set for October 27. Cost for attendance this year is \$1870 for AusBiotech members and \$2057 for non-members;

early bird and other discounts are available. More information at <http://www.ausbiotech2009.com.au/>.

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