

MedFIT confirms its position as the leading European partnering event in the MedTech, diagnostic and digital health sectors

The next edition of MedFIT will be held in Grenoble on June 30th and July 1st, 2020

June 27, 2019, Lille (France) – Over 700 attendees from over 25 countries attended MedFIT's 3rd edition: 80 exhibitors, 60 speakers, 1 start-up from the sector elected as “the most innovative Start-up in Europe”: SepTec and 1 project elected as “the most promising technology in Europe” in the sector: Mikro Biyosistemler.

Organised by Eurasanté and the three competitiveness clusters, the NHL Clubster, BioValley France and Medicalps, MedFIT was held for its 3rd edition in Lille, and has gathered more than 700 participants from more than 25 countries representing MedTech, digital health and diagnostic companies, TTOs, research institutes, academics, investors, clusters, associations and suppliers or subcontractors.

A strong increase for MedFIT, the leading European event in the MedTech, diagnostic and digital health sectors

Launched in June 2017 in Grenoble, MedFIT enables partnerships between big companies and start-ups/big companies and academic actors. MedFIT is also the place for start-ups to find investment opportunities by pitching in front of investors and big companies. MedFIT was created to encourage academic and industrial actors to build partnerships, to source innovative and competitive early-stage R&D projects, to facilitate the emergence of collaborative projects, to increase licensing opportunities, to obtain funding and to facilitate market access.

The 3rd edition of MedFIT demonstrated an increase in terms of participants: over 700 attendees in 2019 compared to 600 in 2018, and 500 in 2017. Also, the number of one-to-one meetings which have been held reached a total of 1,500 meetings, a 30% increase compared to last year.



SepTec, elected as the most innovative Start-up in Europe

Among 80 applications, 30 start-ups were selected to pitch during the Start-up Slams at MedFIT in different categories such as cardiovascular, AI/Big data, cancer, generic tools, diagnostic, monitoring and coating / implants / wound. **SepTec**, an Irish start-up represented by **Dr. Elaine Spain**, co-founder and co-inventor, is the winner of this year's edition of the Start-up Slams, from the diagnostic category.

“SepTec was honored to be accepted to pitch at MedFIT 2019 in the Start-up Slams as well as being awarded a stand to showcase our technology. This not only gave us the opportunity to highlight the benefits of SepTec but to interact with international key opinion leaders and experts in MedTech and diagnostics. Winning the “most innovative start-up” award has already significantly enhanced SepTec’s visibility in all of these sectors.” Dr. Elaine Spain – Co-founder and co-inventor



SepTec is developing a sample-to-answer IVD test that can rapidly detect sepsis causing pathogens in whole blood within 15 minutes. SepTec is composed of highly accomplished, aspiring entrepreneurial scientists, engineers and clinical key opinion leaders with a clear focus to address unmet clinical needs, such as empowering an ICU Consultant to rapidly detect infection in a seriously ill patient. In collaboration with Science foundation Ireland, Enterprise Ireland, Dublin City University, Business Experts and International Manufacturers, SepTec has created a powerful microfluidic device that can address the specific unmet clinical needs as expressed by their network of clinicians. SepTec is currently completing clinical device validation using suspected sepsis patient samples in collaboration with two Dublin based hospital locations and is determinedly working to accelerate the SepTec device to the next stage of commercialisation.



Mikro Biyosistemler, elected as the most promising technology in Europe

35 TTOs, universities, research institutes and companies applied to the Collaborative and Licensing Opportunity Presentations to showcase their technology in front of potential partners in order to entail a collaborative project and / or a licensing deal. 11 of them have been selected to pitch during MedFIT in 4 different categories: cardiovascular/nutrition, imaging, injection/needle and diagnostic. **Mikro Biyosistemler**, founded in 2015 and represented by **Özge Zorlu**, CTO, received the “Most promising Technology” award.

“We applied for a presentation at the Collaborative and Licensing Opportunities Presentations to introduce our new technology to our potential collaborators and investors. I was honored that we were granted with this prize among many brilliant ideas and presentations. We are very happy that we will be at MedFIT2020 as a result of this award. This will be the 3rd time in a row, and we already feel as a part of MedFIT.” Özge Zorlu, PhD – CTO



Mikro Biyosistemler is a university spin-off developing biomedical microsystems. Their core product is a liquid biopsy platform which uses a simple blood sample for cancer diagnostics and cancer research. The patent-pending microfluidic technology enables isolation and enumeration of Circulating Tumor Cells from the blood samples of cancer patients. Mikro Biyosistemler plans to launch their first products in late 2020. Mikro Biyosistemler recently started working on a new product which is a rapid point-of-care diagnostic finger prick blood test which gives White Blood Cell differential count to assess whether the infection is bacterial or viral, aimed to reduce unnecessary prescription of antibiotics. Mikro Biyosistemler is in collaboration with several Turkish and other European hospitals and companies for the validation of their products.

Three dynamic and innovative ecosystems in France are joining their forces to support MedFIT's growth

Thanks to an unprecedented partnership between the NHL Clubster, BioValley France and Medicalps competitiveness clusters, as well as Eursanté and the local authorities of these three French regions, MedFIT is organized annually and alternates between Lille, Grenoble and Strasbourg.

Lille and the Hauts-de-France region are a dynamic hub for MedTech in Europe. Indeed, the MedTech sector in the Hauts-de-France region benefits from the presence of both big players such as Bio-Rad, Medtronic, etc. and of a dense network of SMEs. It is boosted by the Eursanté Bio-incubator. The main areas of expertise in the Hauts-de-France region are: Implantable medical devices, innovative textile, hospitech and diagnostic. In 2018, with a turnover of 2.2€ billion, the MedTech sector in the Hauts-de-France region counted 520 biomedical companies (Macopharma, Diagast, Cousin Biotech, MDMS, NewCard, Japet Medical Devices, Lattice Medical...) and a total of 8,900 employees. The Northern France also consist of research teams of excellence in the fields of biosensors, biomedical and hospital engineering, nanotech applied to life sciences, biomaterials and academic institutions of excellence such as the Lille University Hospital, the University of Lille and the University of Compiègne.

Grenoble, locally animated by the Medicalps cluster, is a territory recognised worldwide for its excellence and density in the scientific and medical research, which are two sources of innovation in MedTech. The industrial fabric of the region is also rich. The big companies and start-ups are innovating to meet the health needs of tomorrow, by developing new technologies, such as advanced robotics, diagnostics, imaging, drug delivery and connected devices. The ecosystem sums up more than 10 winners of the Global Innovation Competition in the health field.

The European metropolis of the Great East, Strasbourg, is a territory of excellence of medical technologies animated by the BioValley France cluster. Since 2012 it includes Nextmed, the campus of technologies and medical-surgical devices of Strasbourg. With an overall area of 30 hectares, Nextmed is located in the historical enclosure of the Hospices Civils de Strasbourg. It is a new neighbourhood in the city, combining economic and scientific ambitions of environmental requirements, while sparing undeniable urban, heritage and historical qualities. To date, 900 companies including large companies such as Storz, Siemens, Intuitive Surgical, General Electric Healthcare and Medtronic are located on this campus (within a radius of 200km).

Key numbers of the 3rd edition:

700+ delegates
25+ countries represented
1,500 meetings scheduled
14 conferences
10 hosted events
60 international speakers
80 exhibitors
50 projects presented during the Pitch Sessions
800,000 impressions on Twitter with #MedFIT2019

Organisers



Eurasanté is an incubator, an accelerator, a technology transfer tool and a cluster manager in the biotech, medtech, nutrition and healthcare fields in Northern France. It assists French and foreign companies, entrepreneurs, scientists and clinicians with their innovations and development projects. The regional network includes over 1,000 companies working in Life Sciences and Healthcare. The Health field in the Hauts-de-France region has a total of 30,800 employees. Eurasanté also promotes the Eurasanté Bio-business Park which hosts 7 hospitals, 4 universities, 7 specialised schools, 170 companies and 50 laboratories. Eurasanté also organises four international healthcare-related partnering events intended to increase and improve interaction between academia and industry: BioFIT, NutrEvent, MedFIT and AgeingFit.



The NHL Nutrition Health Longevity Clubster is a dynamic network at the intersection of health, biotechnology and nutrition. The NHL Clubster aims to connect academia and industry partners around R&D projects. It focuses on the prevention and treatment of lifestyle-related diseases, such as metabolic and cardiovascular pathologies, neurodegenerative diseases and inflammatory bowel diseases. Its goal is to bring together and support stakeholders from the health and food sectors in designing, developing and financing their future products and processes.



Competitiveness cluster since 2005, BioValley France aims to federate, develop and promote the healthcare sector in the Grand Est region through innovation. The cluster is based on a dynamic network of companies, a leading academic and clinical research, as well as an integrated network of key stakeholders in innovation. BioValley France supports its members in their R&D Innovation approach and gives them access to high value-added expertise, in a market approach. The Cluster contributes to the networking of the various actors and the creation of regional, national and international partnerships. Finally, BioValley France actively participates in the territory's structuring projects, such as Nextmed, which aims to create a Medical Technologies campus in Strasbourg that hosts an entire ecosystem of excellence dedicated to the development of tomorrow's health technologies.



Founded in 2000, MEDICALPS is an NPO and a cluster of companies in the field of healthcare technologies. It is located in Grenoble, in the heart of the French Alps, known as one of the most inventive cities in the world and a top-notch place to innovate in the high-tech industry. MEDICALPS gathers over 100 members including leading edge start-ups, SMEs, global players, world-class research centres and universities. Although actively supported by local authorities, MEDICALPS is mainly governed by a community of entrepreneurs who aim to ensure the visibility, growth and international development of member companies. With a unique emphasis on the healthcare technology sector, our objectives focus on: gathering stakeholders and promoting the local ecosystem through communication tools and networking opportunities, facilitating member operations by setting up workshops, presence at exhibitions and conventions and a soft-landing programme in US in addition to other services, structuring the local healthcare sector by developing shared industrial resources.

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