



London Technology Network
Ideas into Action

Accessing unique expertise via LTN Technology Matching

Bioengineering



smiths

KING'S
College
LONDON

University of London

CASE STUDY 9

Bioengineering

World-leading sensor technology firm Smiths Detection sought answers on the immobilisation of antibodies for a new device, and London Technology Network helped to identify the expertise they needed at King's College London.

When Paul Gascoine, Principal Biotechnologist at Smiths Detection, sought a fresh outlook on an ongoing innovation, he sought the help of LTN Technology Analyst Amelia Suarez-Garcia. "The problem we have is we're trying to immobilise antibodies onto a surface, and this is part of a very long production process," Paul said. "It's a long process that Smiths inherited from another company ... and so a lot of the background work hadn't been done." Amelia put Smiths Detections' technology request out to LTN's extensive network of academics and made direct contact with experts in the field. Biochemist and biophysicist David Barlow from King's College London recognised that the collective knowledge of selected colleagues would be the best fit for Smiths and Paul agreed, choosing King's from a variety of responses. With the assistance of KCL Enterprises, King's commercialisation and knowledge exploitation company, the scientific team from the School of Biomedical and Health Sciences met with Smiths Detection to brainstorm the problem. Led by Dave Barlow, with spectroscopist, Alex Drake and peptide chemist, Sukhi Bansal, they offered concrete ways Smiths could move forward with the technology, and the result may be the beginning of an ongoing relationship between the two partner organisations. "What was useful was getting an independent view from someone who was knowledgeable in the field ... and having access to expertise and hardware and analytical techniques," Paul said. "I think the fact that King's College London has quite a lot of instrumentation that we don't have at Smiths, may also be useful in the future." And so LTN introduced a range of solutions to Smiths Detection, who chose one with a unique combination of multidisciplinary skills.

For more information on LTN and how we can help your business, contact:

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