

UGent Technology Transfer Office

The Technology Transfer Office (TTO) aims to intensify and support the collaboration between Ghent University and the business community. The TTO acts as the central point of contact for industry and as the back-office for the industrial liaison network.

A team of specialists with a broad industrial experience, including business lawyers, IP advisors, licensing managers and business development managers work together to facilitate collaboration.

Technology Transfer Activities

The technology transfer team pro-actively assists the research community in identifying strategies for the commercialization of innovative research. Those strategies can be research partnerships, IP licensing or transfer, or spin-off creation.

Research and service partnerships

Ghent University offers various ways of research collaboration, from simple consultancy assignments to complex multi-party projects. Together with the research community, the technology transfer staff structures the funding mechanisms, assists with attracting subsidies, addresses the IP ownership, and supports the patent prosecution process. For long-term collaborations Ghent University strives for partnerships under a framework agreement.

IP licensing or transfer

Ghent University is investing considerable means in developing an attractive portfolio of patents, software, databases and knowhow. The assets in this portfolio are available for licensing or transfer.

Spin-off creation

Both small service-driven spin-offs that start in a bootstrap mode as well as venture capital funded start-ups that leverage a larger technology platform are encouraged. For researchers

starting a small self-funded spin-off, the university can temporarily act as a host to enable a smooth transition from research to entrepreneurship. For larger spin-offs the university can introduce the startup team to its associated early stage fund QBIC, which exclusively targets university spin-offs.

Ghent University TechTransfer also supports several initiatives to increase entrepreneurship among the students and the research community of the university.

Science Parks and Incubation Centers

Science parks are available in Ghent and Ostend for research oriented companies that want office or lab space in the vicinity of the university association, either to facilitate collaboration and to get access to the available talent pool, or to operate close to like-minded companies. Within the science parks multiple incubators are available to early stage spin-offs and start-ups. They provide a full set of office and business services, and can arrange for access to the university's research infrastructure and pilot plants. The Incubation and Innovation Center (IIC UGent) is the general incubator for start-ups active in various fields. In addition, there are domain-specific incubators, including: Greenbridge (Ostend, clean technology), VIB Bio Incubator (Ghent, biotech), Bio-Accelerator (Ghent, biotech), and iMinds iCUBES (Ghent, ICT).

The Ghent Innovation hub

In Ghent, more than 6.500 researchers covering more than 80 nationalities are involved in fundamental and applied research at the Ghent University Association, the Ghent University Hospital, or at one of the strategic research institutes VIB (Flemish Institute for Biotechnology) or iMinds (Interdisciplinary Institute for Broadband Technology). They together realize an R&D investment of 250 million euros, of which more than 25% financed by industry, indicating the strong collaboration with companies worldwide.

The city of Ghent houses the largest student population of Belgium with about 70.000 higher education students including more than 3.600 PhD students.

The Ghent region is also an important economic hub within one hour drive from the capital of the European Union. It is home to a diversity of commercial and industrial activities thanks partly to the proximity of the Port of Ghent. Established businesses like steel mills, paper mills, car assembly, navigation software, speech technologies and biofuel processing go hand in hand with clusters of new high-tech companies in the fields of biotech, material sciences, ICT and numerous other innovative technologies.

Several applied research centers and semi-industrial pilot plants, created as joint-ventures between industry and academia, stimulate innovation in areas such as biofuels, new steel applications, innovative textiles, data processing and materials.

The co-operation between all these knowledge actors is being stimulated by the networking platform Gent BC. As such, Ghent is one of the most exciting areas for innovation and high-tech entrepreneurship.

We welcome you to join us.

UGent TechTransfer

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Technology Transfer at Ghent University



UGent Industrial Liaison Network

Ghent University (UGent) has created a number of business development centres that group complementary research departments by application area or domain of expertise. Each centre is responsible for technology transfer within its area of competence. About twenty business development centres are active within UGent, constituting the industrial liaison network. The business development manager within each centre can act as your direct point of contact for setting up durable industrial partnerships, be it research services, collaborative research, or IP licensing.

	Innovations for a sustainable aquaculture production www.aquaculture.ugent.be		Future Internet for a Smart Society www.fusion-iof.eu
	Bimetra: Clinical Research Center Ghent www.bimetra.be		Hybrid CT image building technologies for materials and life sciences applications www.hyct.ugent.be
	Validation of biomarkers in cancer and ageing www.biomarked.net		Intelligent Information Processing know.ugent.be
	Chemistry Technologies www.chemtech.ugent.be		Multimedia, Users and Network www.ugent.be/imune
	Cleantech for sustainable chemical production www.cleantech.ugent.be		Metal research from nano to mega, from material to application www.ugent.be/metals
	Innovative technology platform for composites www.compositesconsortium.ugent.be		Center for Nano- and Biophotonics www.ugent.be/nb-photonics
	Biostimulants and Biocontrol agents www.ugent.be/cropfit		Innovation in Animal Health www.provaxs.com
	Drug discovery, drug delivery and continuous drug manufacturing www.discovere.ugent.be		Sustainable Energy Technologies www.set.ugent.be
	Innovative technologies for durable building materials and techniques www.durabuildmaterials.ugent.be		X-disciplinary chemistry and omics based production of value added compounds www.gbev.org
	Conformal and polymer based electronic and photonic microsystems www.e-poly.be		Valorization centre for technological optimization, research and innovation in sports www.victoris.be
	The production of safe and healthy food www.food2know.be		

Technology Transfer at Ghent University

Technology transfer at Ghent University wants to facilitate the commercial application of promising technologies developed within the Ghent University Association. Key technology transfer activities include industrial collaboration programs, IP licensing and spin-off creation. For its liaison with industry, UGent uses a network of specialized business development centres backed by a central Technology Transfer Office.

