

IBLF Awards – An opportunity for you to promote your business and offer support to early-stage SMEs

We would like to invite you to sponsor our business competition. Your role will be to provide expertise and/or facilities to the winning SME. The award value will be £10k, £5k of that will be paid to you; the remaining will be matched by yourself through in-kind services, cash or other service/product.

The IBLF Awards and the IB Den

The Knowledge Transfer Network (KTN) is the delivery team for the government-led initiative Industrial Biotechnology Leadership Forum ([IBLF](#)) to drive a biobased economy in the UK. We want to support early stage SMEs access the resources they need to springboard their business – resources they may not have the finances to cover or simply unaware they can benefit from it.

The competition is a two-stage process: SMEs will submit a video pitch, which will be assessed by a panel of investors and industry leaders. The shortlist will then be invited to give an oral pitch in the IB Den on 12th February 2015 at QEII Conference Centre London as part of the IBLF's Industrial Biotechnology Showcase (11-12th February 2015).

The prize is a £10k voucher £5k of which will be paid to you; the remaining will be matched by yourself through in-kind services, cash or other service/product. This means that you will be that resource the SMEs will be pitching for. However, there will be other companies like yours supporting this scheme and the winning SME will choose which company to work with; therefore it will be in your interest to make your offer as attractive as possible.

What benefit do I gain from sponsoring?

Being a sponsor of this scheme will undoubtedly raise the profile of your company. Your **logo will be widely distributed at the event** venue over the two days and you can place a half page advertisement in the event programme – even if you are not chosen by the winning SME. If you are chosen, the output from the collaboration will be disseminated widely through the winning SME and KTN community (reaching a potential 1 million people).

The IB Showcase is the only major event in the UK to bring together industry, academia and government agencies working in the bio-based industry. The first Showcase event attracted almost 300 delegates; the 2015 conference will surpass that.

We are inviting the science minister David Willetts to present the IBLF Awards on the 12th February 2015 and your company will receive further exposure as trade press will be present to cover the awards ceremony. Plus the ceremony will be disseminated through the IBLF newsletter and on the KTN website (potentially reaching around 1 million people).

Business services we are looking for:

- PR
- Web design
- App design
- Business mentoring/coaching
- Market Research
- Incubator facilities (lab or office space for a set time – please specify this in your offer on application)
- Legal advice
- Process facilities
- Or..... feel free to suggest a service we have missed

If you would like to be a sponsor of the IBLF Awards, or would like to know more, please contact Michelle Carter michelle.carter@ktn-uk.org



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