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SmartLabs launches global accelerator in Taiwan

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Establishes Taiwan office to support teams, including two with a focus on detection of coronavirus



Boston-based Laboratory-as-a-Service (LaaS) leader, SmartLabs, has announced the establishment of the Global Launch Program, a world-class life sciences accelerator. Through a partnership with the Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST), SmartLabs is expanding internationally with a new biomedical innovation base in Hsinchu Biomedical Science Park.

The Department of Academia-Industry Collaboration and Science Park Affairs will carefully select biomedical innovation teams to participate in the Global Launch Program. The program is open to any promising life sciences start up. SmartLabs has already identified two participants with technologies potentially suited for the detection of novel coronaviruses.

- Hawk Scientific's qPCR nucleic acid detection technologies, such as the portable diagnostic suitcase and the handheld IoT reader with lateral flow strip tests, are designed for emerging pathogen outbreaks and animal diseases for on-site detection. At present, each machine can complete 300 nucleic acid tests in one hour. Both detection systems could apply in rapid COVID-19 virus screening and identification.
- Instant NanoBiosensors uses nano-fiber particles to develop nano-biosensors. Its state-of-the-art fiber optic particle plasmon resonance (FOPPR) technology offers instant and accurate results for a wide range of detection applications, including medical diagnostics and possible early detection of the virus SARS-CoV-2. Using Instant NanoBiosensors technology, diagnostic time has been drastically reduced from 3 hours to minutes.

Through its new Taiwan office, SmartLabs will assist both Hawk Scientific and Instant NanoBiosensors in navigating accelerated commercialization processes and FDA testing in an attempt to mitigate current and future global epidemics.

Through the Global Launch Program, the startups will have access to training, mentorship and residency in SmartLabs' leading, adaptable lab spaces. The three-month curriculum will include guidance on creating a business plan, engaging in fundraising and partnerships, developing intellectual property, and conducting product launches while navigating regulatory environments. Following the initial stages of learning and development, the teams will have access to SmartLabs' facilities and operations across Massachusetts, enabling companies to quickly scale and enter the international market.