



14th September 2007.

**Life Incubator And Oxford Innovation Announce Collaboration
- New Collaboration Aims To Take Share of \$5.4 trillion World Energy Market**

LIFE, the South Yorkshire-based business incubator that assists low carbon and energy efficiency start-up companies to develop their products, has signed a collaboration agreement with Oxford Innovation, the UK's biggest provider of business incubation services.

The agreement will see LIFE and Oxford Innovation combine their expertise to support the next generation of companies tackling the worldwide energy market.

Oxford Innovation runs a dozen innovation centres around the UK and has unrivalled access to funds for new businesses. LIFE brings to the deal its great expertise in the new energy sector.

Philip Johnson, Chief Executive of LIFE, said: "This collaboration ideally suits the next stage of development for LIFE. We already enjoy substantial support from the energy industry, and from organisations such as The Carbon Trust and Objective One in South Yorkshire, and are looking to expand our business and to work with a wider range and larger number of start-up businesses in the low carbon and energy efficiency area.

"By working with Oxford Innovation we will better serve the companies with which we already work, as well serving other companies on a much wider scale. LIFE will benefit from Oxford Innovation's scale of activity in business incubation and fundraising and Oxford Innovation will tap into LIFE's great depth of expertise in an area of business of rapidly increasing importance.

"The business opportunities for new energy technologies have never been better in the face of global warming and increased energy costs."

Dr David Kingham, Chief Operating Officer of Oxford Innovation, said: “The collaboration agreement we have now signed with LIFE is the start of a partnership which will combine LIFE’s specialist and highly respected abilities within the energy sector with Oxford Innovation’s broader range of business incubation expertise.

“Members of our Investment Networks are sure to be interested in some of the emerging technologies that LIFE is backing.”

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About LIFE

The LIFE Incubation Cluster www.life-ic.com is the first dedicated incubator focused exclusively on new energy economy products and services. When complete, the incubator building will be a pioneering development representing the future of UK business. LIFE accommodates and supports organisations developing sustainable energy products and technologies including fuel cells, hydrogen infrastructure technology, photo-voltaic technology, wind energy, wave/tidal energy and bio-fuels. LIFE also provides access to resources, networks, information and ICT infrastructure, training and start-up services including grants, debt and equity finance where applicable.

The LIFE Incubator was originally developed by Steve Dore at Sheffield-based International Innovation Services Limited before being established as a separate company.

About Oxford Innovation

Oxford Innovation provides services to innovative start-up companies, and to government bodies that promote enterprise. The company operates 12 Innovation Centres that provide flexible office and laboratory space to over 400 technology, knowledge-based and creative companies. For further information: www.oxin.co.uk

Oxford Innovation also manages four highly successful investment networks. They include: Oxfordshire Investment Opportunity Network (OION www.oion.co.uk), Europe’s most successful technology business angel network that links investors with entrepreneurs seeking funding from £150,000 to £2 million; Oxford Early Investments (www.oxei.co.uk), which helps very early stage companies raise finance of up to £150,000; and Thames Valley Investment Network (www.tvin.co.uk), which links entrepreneurs seeking funding of up to £1m with investors in Reading and surrounding areas. These three networks have helped over 90 companies raise £19.5m during the last five years. In 2006, Oxford Innovation launched Silverstone Investment Network (www.silverstoneinvest.co.uk), which helps technology and other companies involved in the motorsport sector to raise funding of up to £2m. Oxford Innovation employs 75 staff and is headquartered at Oxford Centre for Innovation.

About the world energy market

The worldwide energy market is worth a staggering \$5.4 trillion based on a consumption of 10,537.1^(a) million tonnes of oil equivalent in 2005 and oil priced at \$70 per barrel.

(a) BP Statistical Review of World Energy June 2006.