



## **Press Release**

For immediate release

# **Launch of the London Technology Fund Competition offers expert training and up to £1m investment**

“Bridging the technology equity gap”

**LONDON, UK, 18 February 2009** – London Technology Fund (LTF), London’s specialist investor in new technology companies, today announced the launch of the London Technology Fund Competition 2009. The Competition offers exciting London-based early stage technology companies the chance to share up to £1m of investment, join specialist workshops worth over £100,000 and meet major technology companies. It is sponsored by Company Guides Venture Partners (managers of LTF), Oracle Corporation UK Ltd, PricewaterhouseCoopers and The Royal Bank of Scotland. Winners will be announced at an Awards Ceremony in November.

The Competition is open until 30 May and all shortlisted companies will be given the opportunity to join a programme of specialist workshops during the summer and make their case to LTF for a share of up to £1m of investment, which will be subject to LTF’s usual investment criteria. The workshops will help companies improve their business plans and hear from experts about market research and product design/development, sales and marketing, raising finance, legal documentation, IPR and presentation skills. There will also be the opportunity to meet multinational technology companies at a speed-dating event and present to a panel of judges who will select the finalists. Finalists will receive further training and a chance to improve their proposal before presenting to the final judging panel who will select the most promising companies in design & engineering, ICT and life sciences. There is also the chance for a company from any sector to win the Environment Award.

David M<sup>c</sup>Meekin, Chairman of the London Technology Fund, said: *“The competition was set up last year to help technology entrepreneurs in London and we are delighted at the support it has won from the global technology sector. A highlight of the programme is the chance to meet major corporates at a ‘speed-dating’ event, which last year saw 140 ‘brief encounters’ – this year we hope to beat that number. We are very grateful to our sponsors and supporters and look forward to another successful programme this year.”*

## Contact details

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## - Notes to editors -

### 1. LTF Competition 2009

### Sponsors and Supporters

The London Technology Fund Competition 2009 is sponsored by Company Guides Venture Partners (managers of the London Technology Fund), Oracle Corporation UK Ltd, PricewaterhouseCoopers and The Royal Bank of Scotland.

Supporters include BAE Systems, BASF Venture Capital, BP, British Library Business & IP Centre, BT, Cambridge Consultants, Capgemini, Cisco, College Hill, Eli Lilly and Company, groupH, ICAEW, Intel Capital, Johnson Matthey, Kilburn & Strode, Kodak, Lockheed Martin, Marriott Harrison, Messagelab, Motorola Ventures, Pera, PharmaVentures, Procter & Gamble, Qi3, Rolls-Royce, Shirlaws, Smith & Nephew, SR One (GSK's Venture Fund), Symantec, Trinamo Consulting, and Unilever Ventures.

For further information or to apply please see [www.londontechnologyfund.com/competition/](http://www.londontechnologyfund.com/competition/)

### 2. London Technology Fund

[www.londontechnologyfund.com](http://www.londontechnologyfund.com)

The London Technology Fund (LTF) is London's specialist investor in new technology companies. LTF is focused on the funding gap for new, high growth technology companies based in Greater London and bridges the gap by leading and building a syndicate of investors or by completing the gap in an existing syndicate. It invests from £50,000 to over £1m in individual investment rounds, resulting in investment rounds from LTF and co-investors ranging from £100,000 to over £10m.

To date, LTF has completed 16 investments in seven companies, acting as a key investor to help secure over £18m of funding for London-based high technology companies. These investments range from a seed-stage software company raising a total of £355,000, where LTF invested alongside business angels, to a company developing a vaccine for mutating viruses raising £4m, where LTF was the only UK venture capital fund alongside a major overseas corporate venture capital fund and two specialist overseas life science institutional investors.

The London Technology Fund is funded by the London Development Agency and the European Regional Development Fund. It is managed by Company Guides Venture Partners Ltd, which is authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority.

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