Together Stronger

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Since the network was launched on the 4th of March 2016 at Eindhoven University of Technology (TU/e), the various locations connected through the network have made progress in a number of ways. We are pleased and proud to share them with you.

Today, the ChemieLink network comprises a total of 14 innovative hotspots in the chemical sector in the Netherlands. We recently added the Centre of Expertise Biobased Economy (CoE BBE) to the network. CoE BBE is a cooperation between Avans Hogeschool in Breda and HZ University of Applied Science in Flushing to valorise Biobased opportunities and help stimulate the development of a Biobased Economy. So in fact we are 16 now.

ChemieLink is capable of showing the best practices of the Dutch chemical industry. The network brings university research centres, multinationals and SME entrepreneurs together to develop new products and business models. And it facilitates a natural way to exchange knowledge as well. Different locations can learn from each other and share their network to boost the chemical society with new innovative ideas.

ChemieLink is a valuable resource in the pursuit of a sustainable chemical industry. Its network demonstrates the capability that young and innovative entrepreneurs have to contribute to the development of new products and business models. The network covers a range of themes, from Biobased to nanotechnology, encompassing all kinds of products and technologies. Although the themes are broad, the overall approach that the network uses is fully in line with the goals of the Topsector Chemistry, as defined by the Dutch government.

Both in the mid and long term, this approach will lead to a more sustainable society, which is something the chemical sector is aiming at.

Gerard van Harten
Chairman of Topsector Chemistry

‘ChemieLink is a valuable resource in the pursuit of a sustainable chemical industry’
INTRODUCTION

ChemieLink at a glance

The ChemieLink network comprises a total of 14 innovative hotspots in the chemical sector in The Netherlands. These key centres of innovation fall into two categories: iLABs and COCi locations.

INNOVATION LABS (iLAB) iLABs are designed for start-ups in chemistry. Designated as a top sector by the national government in 2010 due to global excellence, the Dutch chemical industry receives active support to promote knowledge and innovation, and the iLABs are in line with this national priority. At this point there are nine iLAB locations, each with its particular thematic scope. In addition to providing access to the ChemieLink network, the iLABs offer entrepreneurs and SMEs a range of facilities and services that help them grow more quickly from proof-of-concept to scaled-up development.

CENTRES FOR CHEMICAL INNOVATION (COCI) The COCi locations take innovation to the next level. These five locations are where companies in the scale-up phase can transfer their concept into a commercially viable product.

EXCHANGE KNOWLEDGE ChemieLink aims to boost structural exchange of knowledge and experiences within the network. Similarly, ChemieLink is working to transfer this knowledge to external partners that can make full use of the advantages offered by the open network. In this light we recently expanded our network with the Centre of Expertise Biobased Economy (CoE BBE).

STIMULATE ENTREPRENEURSHIP ChemieLink facilitates innovation in the chemical sector by helping SMEs find locations that offer the facilities and equipment they need. The purpose of ChemieLink is to strengthen the connection between the locations on the one hand and between SMEs in the chemical sector and strategic partners on the other. Additionally, ChemieLink aims to increase awareness and visibility of these hotspots among start-ups and growing businesses. By ensuring optimal use of the locations and clearly presenting what they have to offer, ChemieLink helps the locations serve entrepreneurs efficiently. This approach will accelerate the pace of innovation for more start-ups and growing businesses in the chemical industry, and improve their chances of success.

SERVICES AND FACILITIES There are currently 14 locations throughout the Netherlands where innovative chemical start-ups can test their concept in innovation labs (iLABs), and growing companies can develop their product from proven concept to market launch in centres for open chemical innovation (COCI’s). Each location has an infrastructure that entrepreneurs can use when they are located at iLAB or COCi locations. In addition to laboratories, offices, various support services, and financing opportunities, each location also offers access to the rest of the network and business coaching to help maximise the chances of entrepreneurial success.
The facilities at each location vary, ranging from basic lab equipment to scale-up facilities. Entrepreneurs can also make use of network partners linked to each location. These local networks not only include investors, but also external partners and established multinationals in the chemical industry that can help entrepreneurs explore market trends in relation to a particular product or technology.

Connecting to a network also means gaining access to the expertise available at a number of Dutch universities and their research affiliates. The iLABs also arrange contact with organisations that can help you with intellectual property rights, legal affairs, marketing, etc. As an entrepreneur located at one of these sites, you will benefit significantly from the services on offer.

Chris Bruijnes
Director of InnovatieLink

‘After the successful launch of ChemieLink, it is time to create impact’
What makes each location different? In most cases, the locations have come up with their own scope, which enables them to help entrepreneurs more efficiently. As a result, the ChemieLink network encompasses many themes: from the biobased economy to advanced pharmaceuticals, from green plastics to new technologies on a nanoscale.

COLLABORATION AND KNOWLEDGE SHARING
As an encompassing network ChemieLink seeks to strengthen the connection between the locations on the one hand and between SMEs in the chemical sector and strategic partners on the other. Additionally ChemieLink aims to increase awareness and visibility of these hotspots amongst starting and growing businesses. Thanks to the optimal use of the locations and the assurance of quality, more start-ups and growing businesses in the chemical sector get to innovate more quickly and with more success.

Even when participating companies are working on such different technologies or products, collaboration is still possible and productive. Start-ups and established companies in various parts of the chemical industry can learn from the technology used at other locations. This inspiration triggers the development of new innovations, product improvements or the development of entirely new technologies.

REGIONAL PARTNERSHIPS
Besides the separation between the iLABs and COCi’s within the network, the former acting as incubators and the latter acting as accelerators, each of those locations also has its own regional partners. All these different organisations comprise a complex and growing ecosystem for start-ups to maximise their potential and achieve successful development.

GROWING NETWORK
Since the start only one year ago the ChemieLink network is developing rapidly. The most recent addition to the network is the Centre of Expertise Biobased Economy (CoE BBE), which helps valorising Biobased opportunities with the aim to stimulate the development of a Biobased Economy.
9 iLABs
5 COCi’s

CoE BBE

NATIONWIDE NETWORK
CHEMIELINK NETWORK

Facts & figures

27
interdisciplinary and often inter-university, chemistry related institutes, research centers and partnerships
(Source: VNCI)

9 universities

4,200 +/-
Master students attending a chemistry (related) study in 2014
(Source: DUO)

COMPANIES

20%
growth relative to 2015

(Source: CBS)
AMOUNT OF COMPANIES IN THE CHEMICAL SECTOR

(Source: CBS)

**Fall 2016**
- > 2,415 companies
  - In total

**2015**
- > 2,200 companies
  - > 300 companies in ChemieLink network

12.4%

11.4%

76,000 direct employees

500,000 indirect employees

of which 25% HBO or WO trained

3rd chemistry country in Europe

50% contribution trade surplus

€ 58,000,000 investment in knowledge and innovation by government and industry

**ECONOMY**

**CHEMIELINK NETWORK**
WHAT’S NEXT?

Points of action

The ChemieLink network has existed roughly 8 months in its current form. The plan is to continue as a network, while also building a community of these innovative hotspots in the chemical sector. There is always room for improvement, and stakeholders within the network should benefit too. A number of these actions were proposed by the iLABs and COCi’s in the network. The following actions will be set in motion starting from October 2016 and will continue into 2017.

Interaction between ChemieLink locations

**ACTION 1**
**Best practices**
Introduce improvements in showing ‘best practices’ within the network.

**ACTION 2**
**Exchange and interaction**
Promote the exchange of experiences and knowledge between the different locations. Bring the locations together on a regular basis.

**ACTION 3**
**Network contacts**
Keep the network informed about what is going on at the different locations. Share experiences between locations. Share contact information about who is involved at the different locations, so the different locations can interact more quickly with each other.

**ACTION 4**
**Access to education and research institutions**
Provide access to other educational institutions within the network, such as Centres of Expertise coming from universities for applied sciences. Facilitate access for SMEs to make use of these institutions and conduct research together.

**ACTION 5**
**Joint research projects**
Participate in research projects that aim to strengthen the network of iLABs and COCi’s. Example: RAAKpro project, October 2016.
Acquisition of and interest in new businesses

ACTION 6
SME needs and networking  Monitor the needs of SMEs included in the network. Provide SME access to network services as well as location-based services.

ACTION 7
Location tours  Organise InnovationTours at the different ChemieLink locations.

ACTION 8
Joint presentation  Event presentation together with locations involved in the ChemieLink network.

ACTION 9
Specific appeal to SMEs  Create an attractive proposition for foreign and domestic SMEs. Specifically showcase the facilities, services and networks that each location can offer a company in the chemical sector.

ACTION 10
National accelerator programme  Welcome an initiative for a national chemistry accelerator-type programme where early-stage chemistry start-ups can participate to develop their initial business idea. An example is the Venture Challenge in the top sector of Life Sciences & Health and the Brightlands Innovation Factory for chemistry and materials.

Chain innovations and crossovers

ACTION 11
Market-specific chain innovations  ChemieLink aims to initiate new chain innovations tailored to specific markets. Companies included in the ChemieLink network have great potential for facilitating links to new markets. Promote this goal by bringing companies within the network together and allowing them to share experiences and learn from each other.

ACTION 12
Partnerships  Initiate projects and consortiums together, also in collaboration with corporations and other institutes.

ACTION 13
Cross-overs  Initiate cross-overs with other top sectors. Obvious options include Life Sciences & Health, as well as High Tech Systems & Materials.

‘ChemieLink has grown into a full-fledged innovation ecosystem’

prof. dr. Floris Rutjes, Radboud University
The best practices of the Dutch chemical industry

14 iLAB and COCi locations are the beating heart of Dutch chemical innovation

‘ChemieLink was launched at Eindhoven University of Technology in March 2016’
Valorisation is all about collaboration

Eindhoven University of Technology (TU/e) has always worked closely with industrial partners, ranking #1 worldwide on collaboration. The university has an active policy on knowledge valorisation and on turning research results into economic and societal value.

In line with those principles, TU/e Innovation Lab helps entrepreneurs realize an innovation or new concept by providing access to knowledge and infrastructure at Eindhoven University of Technology. The staff at TU/e Innovation Lab facilitate contact with researchers within the university to address questions regarding innovation and assist in setting up partnerships.

**NEXT MOVE AND LIVING LABS**

TU/e Innovation Lab has launched two new initiatives to expand support services to start-ups and SMEs in Eindhoven: Next Move and Living Labs. Next Move is a closer collaboration with regional development organization Brainport Development, Fontys Hogeschool, Summa College and the Brabantse Ontwikkelingsmaatschappij. This platform for all entrepreneurs in the Brainport Region offers a team of business developers to help solve questions.

Focusing more on student collaboration, Living Labs offer places where students are encouraged to work in multidisciplinary teams on challenging new innovations, often in collaboration with SMEs. The FAST student team, for instance, are building a city bus which drives on formic acid.

**CHEMIELINK**

ChemieLink was launched at this university in March, presenting the innovative ecosystem in the chemistry sector. On that day, we also hosted the first Innovation Tour for entrepreneurs to show them the possibilities for collaboration with the university and TU/e Innovation Lab. This included a tour to three spin-offs – Flowid, PTG/e and Ioniqa – and to several lab facilities.

**SYMPOSIUM, STUDENT COMPETITION, LECTURES**

TU/e Innovation Lab was involved in organizing a number of research promotion activities, including the Complex Formulations symposium, the SensUs student competition, and the High Tech Campus Open Lectures. These events took place on the cutting edge between health and chemistry.
The symposium addressed revolutionary new treatments being developed with exciting, novel formulations that go beyond the molecules. Microspheres, liposomes, nanoparticles, etc. These are examples of complex structures that are not visible, but bear special biological functions in delivery, release, triggering or masking of active ingredients. Organised in collaboration with spin-off Emultech, the symposium aimed to explore these exciting technologies by providing renowned scientists and engineers a forum to present practical approaches to taking this new class of medications from the lab bench to the hospital bed.

Promoting interaction between students and alumni from Eindhoven University of Technology and High Tech Campus Eindhoven employees, a series of ‘open lectures’ by TU/e professors will be organized at High Tech Campus Eindhoven. The faculty of Chemical Engineering was represented by such speakers as Philip de Goey and Jaap Schouten.

INNOVATION IN PRACTICE

OCÉ AND PARTNERS INVEST IN FUTURE OF INKJET TECHNOLOGY

TU/e partners in €6.3 million research programme on drop formation, the prevention of air bubbles and the drying of drops on paper, exploring the interaction between ink and different types of substrates.

VDL AND TU/E ARE BUILDING THE WORLD’S FIRST CITY BUS THAT RUNS ON FORMIC ACID

In order to introduce formic acid as a fuel, the team will launch it in a widely known, highly visible application: transport, in the form of cars and busses. Team FAST aims to have a city bus powered by formic acid before the end of 2016.

MERCK INVESTS €15 MILLION IN TU/E SPIN-OFF PEERPLUS

German multinational Merck is investing €15 million in the development of ‘smart windows’ that can dim the light from outside to reduce energy costs. Peer+, a TU/e spin-off, provided the technology.

IONIQA WINS CSR NETHERLANDS AWARD

In terms of impact on the triple bottom line – People, Planet, Profit – Ioniqa presented the best innovation. The jury for the Ambition 2020 Challenge stated: ‘Ioniqa has achieved a solution for the inclusive and circular economy, in an inspiring way, with impact and a clear business case’.

FLOWID SELLS SPINPRO REACTOR

Chemical technology company Flowid, a spinoff of Eindhoven University of Technology, made its first sale of a SpinPro reactor unit last month. Based on patented, award-winning flow technology, the unit was sold to a large Indian company, with prospects to sell several more. With several other leads and a demo factory under construction, things are looking good for Flowid.
TU/e Innovation Lab has different labs on Campus, where students, researchers and entrepreneurs do research.

Team FAST aims to have a city bus powered by formic acid before the end of 2016.

**LOOKING IN, LOOKING OUT** Internally, we feel a need to encourage community building between the chemistry start-ups at the Eindhoven location to exchange experiences and to stimulate the start-up culture. We are considering how to facilitate this by organising regular networking events on specific themes. Externally, we would welcome an initiative for a national chemistry accelerator-type programme similar to the Venture Challenge in the LSH topsector where early-stage chemistry start-ups can participate to develop their initial business idea.

‘We would welcome a national chemistry accelerator-type programme’
Partnering with the Wageningen University Campus and the associated knowledge institutes, the Innovation Lab Biobased Products gives entrepreneurs with a promising biobased concept the opportunity to establish their business on the knowledge campus. At the innovation lab, concepts can be turned into actual biobased products and technologies can be developed to the next level. Start-ups can use high-quality laboratory facilities – not only basic instruments, but analytical equipment as well.

Established especially to offer entrepreneurship coaching to starting businesses and students, StartLife organises support, activities and a network to help them along. In addition, the project provides pre-seed capital to fund start-ups and can arrange financing to support technical development (proof of concept). The organisation also gives information to scientists and students about starting their own business.

All 43 companies currently supported by iLAB Biobased Products and/or StartLife are within the non-food scope of the innovation lab. The support provided here aims to help entrepreneurs and their teams as they build their innovative business ideas into global enterprises with a lasting impact.

The iLAB hosts a thriving community of start-ups, investors, corporates and experts in the Netherlands and abroad, e.g. on the theme of "Biobased Economy" in cooperation with EBN. In the context of the StartHub, the iLAB works to develop the entrepreneurial competences of students and start-up teams, and offers intensive mentoring trajectories within the StartLife Incubation Programme & the mentoring programme for student start-ups.
In terms of funding, the Wageningen location provides seed capital to promising start-ups in the stage gate programme and in the seed stage through selected partner funds, including Shift! and FHI. Moreover, we enable start-ups to attract additional capital through the partner network of Meesters van de Toekomst.

Technology development is also a major focus. Start-ups receive assistance through access to technological know-how. Lab-scale experiments can be run in our Biobased Products Innovation Plant. Moreover, we support start-ups by suggesting how they could further their technology through valorisation grant applications at the national and European level.

EVENTS
• Biobased Performance Materials Conference
• F&A Next 2016
• Entrepreneurship4Sustainability workshop series
• Pitching event for the Meesters van de Toekomst network
• Food Valley Expo Startup Plaza

INTEGRATING ILAB/COCI ACTIVITIES INTO EDUCATION 2016
• PhD Course: Entrepreneurship in and outside Science (see below)
• Contribution in 4TU education & entrepreneurship track (see below)
• Entrepreneurship4Sustainability Course for students and PhD’s
• Winter start-up week
• Mentoring and e-mentoring programme for start-ups (with EBN)

For the Wageningen Graduate School, StartLife organises an annual course “Entrepreneurship in and outside Science”. This 3-day programme was developed for PhD candidates and postdocs who are curious about setting up a start-up or want to learn more about entrepreneurship in a company setting.

WUR MOOC MICROMASTER BIOBASED SCIENCES FOR SUSTAINABILITY.
Upcoming: MOOC about Technology-based Entrepreneurship. A new MOOC course is being developed in collaboration with four other universities. This free online course will encourage and help more people start their own company.

NEEDS AND FURTHER IMPROVEMENTS
Building a community like ChemieLink is also about promoting the network to a wider audience and communicating the results. The network needs to invest in marketing the network to increase traffic and attract specific target groups, online as well as offline. The impact of the network must be measured and supported by data.

Ideally, more content should be provided in the profiles of members in the iLAB.CoCi network. This would make it easier for start-ups to know where to go. However, we have to think about how extensive the information should be, since more information also means more frequent updates.

Additional start-up services, such as matchmaking and network introductions, should be provided through ChemieLink.
High-end collaboration

Research and development at Brightlands Chemelot Campus is complemented by education in the fields of chemistry and materials, as well as related life sciences.

The focus is on high-quality materials, biomedical materials, and biobased materials. The campus is developing into a creative breeding ground for innovation and for new companies with thousands of highly trained employees. This dynamic situation is the result in part of collaboration among the business community, education and knowledge institutes, and the government. The campus makes an active contribution through a range of activities, such as facilitating the construction of pilot plants and the acceleration of new business development.

Chemelot Campus operates under the name Brightlands, working in collaboration with Maastricht Health Campus, Campus Greenport Venlo and Smart Services Campus in Heerlen; the four campuses are located in the province of Limburg, in the southeast corner of the Netherlands in close proximity to Belgium and Germany.

CURRENT AND FUTURE ACTIVITIES The Brightlands Innovation Factory (BIF), launched in 2016, is the entrepreneurial backbone of the Brightlands ecosystem. Every year, the Brightlands community scouts out approximately 100 startups worldwide. The best startups in the chemical and materials sector are offered incentives to establish a presence at the Brightlands Chemelot Campus. Professional support is provided depending on the development phase of the company; there are different programmes for start-ups in the incubation and accelerator phase.

Inspired by daring ideas for a better and more sustainable world, the BIF aims to empower today’s pioneers in advanced materials, health, nutrition, and smart services on their journey from a bold idea to a legendary company. At Brightlands Innovation Factory, all the bases are covered. World-class industry knowledge and expertise are coupled with expert-supported programmes, value-added services and facilities, and access to funding.

The new start-up facilities will open in December 2016, designed especially to serve the needs of starting businesses in the chemical and materials sector. Besides office spaces and custom-built offices, fully equipped chemical labs are also available.
The Chemelot Innovation and Learning Labs (CHILL) have been moved into the new facilities in the Center Court building. CHILL helps organisations increase their innovation power, providing access to various laboratories where businesses have the opportunity to start projects and experiments that are then carried out by students.

EVENTS Brightlands Chemelot Campus organises events on a daily basis. A few highlights:
- 2 February 2016: Opening of the Brightlands Materials Center
- 24 March 2016: Chemelot InScite in consortium for up-scaling process technology in bio-aromatics
- 20 April 2016: Aachen Maastricht Institute for Biobased Materials signs rental agreement for laboratory with unique wet spinning line
- 12 May 2016: Chemelot 2025 study is presented, announcing the ambition to become a European leader and the most sustainable chemicals site in the Netherlands
- 20 May 2016: SABIC opens new R&D centre
- 25 May 2016: Launch of a multi-purpose pilot plant building, Chemelot InSciTe, with Flowid from Eindhoven as the first company to join
- 29 August 2016: Opening of the new Centre Court building
- 23 September 2016: Avantium opens new pilot plant

INTEGRATION OF ILAB/COCI ACTIVITIES IN EDUCATION CHILL is a frontrunner in integrating education into applied sciences and connecting with companies. More than 1,000 students will be involved in projects in the 2016/2017 school year.

In addition, Maastricht University is expanding its activities and increasing integration of its academic education at the Brightlands Chemelot Campus. The University moved its entrepreneurship development activities also to the Brightlands Chemelot campus in August.

NEEDS AND FURTHER DEVELOPMENT There is a strong need to valorise the ChemieLink network now that the various iLABs and COCi’s have been identified and linked. Facilitating companies’ progression from iLAB to COCi to independent market operation is a primary focus, guided by the company’s own interests.

In addition, ChemieLink should be profiled as the gateway to knowledge and innovation for companies in the chemical industry. Questions from such companies could be forwarded to all the iLABs and COCi’s, generating more collaborative innovation. This would have the added benefit of promoting collaboration between chemical companies in the Netherlands.

‘ChemieLink should be profiled as the gateway to knowledge and innovation for companies in the chemical industry’
ILAB Utrechtert →

Knowledge meets business

ILAB Utrecht originated at the Utrecht Science Park with the aim of offering both new and established entrepreneurs an actual physical location to start or evolve their business. The emphasis is on the chemical sector and life sciences.

ILAB Utrecht Science Park is a fully equipped and staffed innovation laboratory in which companies have access to research infrastructure, students and scientists in a co-creation setting. The Utrecht Science Park is home to several research institutions. In addition, a number of businesses have established a presence here in recent years to be able to make direct use of the knowledge available on the campus. The first ILAB Utrecht Science Park facility is accommodated by HU University of Applied Sciences Utrecht; we expect to open multiple ILABs in other locations at the Utrecht Science Park that provide additional facilities and fields of expertise.

The interaction between knowledge institutions and businesses is also central to ILAB Utrecht. The goal is to accelerate innovation in businesses by jointly working on research projects with students, professors and researchers. ILAB Utrecht Science Park is part of an ecosystem strategy that will not only organise access to infrastructure and human capital but also aims to facilitate start-ups in other ways, by providing incubation and acceleration programmes.

COMPANIES ILAB Utrecht was launched in November 2015 as a partnership between Utrecht Science Park and HU University of Applied Sciences Utrecht to facilitate R&D access for start-ups, SMEs and corporations. At that time, three companies were involved in activities in the ILAB, either through access to research facilities, involvement in student projects, or bilateral research collaboration with scientists.

Almost one year later, five additional companies are participating in the ILAB community and two more companies are under contract negotiations. Another 13 companies have expressed interest and are considering participation.

CURRENT AND FUTURE ACTIVITIES ILAB Utrecht and the HU University of Applied Sciences Utrecht have joined forces with Immuno Valley to match business needs with scientific capabilities and build partnerships for research and development on solutions to infectious diseases in humans and animals.

ILAB Utrecht is joining forces with UtrechtInc, the incubation programme of Utrecht University, UMC Utrecht and HU University of Applied Sciences Utrecht, to support start-up companies in developing a business plan.

Utrecht Science Park is establishing a front office to further boost public-private collaboration in ILAB Utrecht and to attract additional research
partners. Complementing these efforts, HU University of Applied Sciences Utrecht is organising the back office of iLAB Utrecht to support its administrative activities. This will be operational by the end of 2016. In addition, iLAB Utrecht is preparing a new website that will go live before the end of the year.

INTEGRATION INTO EDUCATION HU University of Applied Sciences Utrecht is working closely with iLAB Utrecht to prepare a new minor programme at the university level. Focusing on advanced chemical and pharmaceutical analysis, the new programme will be operational in 2017.

EVENTS iLAB Utrecht participated in several events to promote its activities, including Lab Technology (June 2016), World of Technology and Science (October 2016) and Get Connected from the Economic Board Utrecht (October 2016).

Utrecht Science Park won first prize in the Inspiring Solutions Programme 2016 at the world congress of the International Association of Science Parks (IAST) in Moscow. Utrecht Science Park received the award for one of the projects at iLAB Utrecht. The winning project was about establishing an education, training and research programme in which students, scientists and the business community are brought together and strengthen each other. This inspiring solution not only helps the companies using the solution to innovate faster, but also ensures that these companies will be able to attract and retain young talent.

NEEDS AND FURTHER IMPROVEMENTS iLAB Utrecht has committed to participate in two research projects that aim to strengthen the network of ChemieLink in the Netherlands. Additional measures are welcome to further strengthen the national network and connect start-ups with the required expertise and facilities, regardless of their location in The Netherlands.

‘iLAB Utrecht has committed to participate in two research projects that aim to strengthen the network’
Innovations are driven at these locations by the presence of the entire innovation chain: knowledge, development, scaling up and production. At neighbouring universities such as Delft University of Technology, InHolland and Leiden University, students are being trained to shape the future of the biobased economy. Joint projects and shared research facilities in the immediate vicinity of locations for scaling up and production generate benefits for the community that lead to the success of biotechnology.

Biotech Campus Delft offers an ideal environment for businesses to participate in biotechnological innovations. Start-ups are supported by the Yes!Delft incubator. Established businesses and research institutes, as well as other parties, can do research and make use of the pilot and demonstration facilities at the Bioprocess Pilot Facility. Recent applications include biofuels, bioplastics, food ingredients and antibiotics. See also www.biotechcampusdelft.com

**CURRENT AND FUTURE ACTIVITIES** Biotech Campus Delft has been involved in a number of activities that have added key facilities to the location and integrated it more closely into the ecosystem in Delft. First, the Yes!Delft labs have been completed and inaugurated, providing 930 m² labs and offices to start-ups and growing companies in chemistry and biotechnology. Second, the new Applied Sciences building for the Science Faculty at Delft University of Technology has been completed and inaugurated. And last, the new DSM Biotechnology Center lab and office now houses some 450 DSM employees.

Delft is a major hotspot for the development of the biobased economy. Biotech Campus Delft, where businesses and knowledge institutes collaborate to this end, is situated at two locations: Delft Science Park and the DSM Delft premises.

State-of-the-art facilities

State-of-the-art facilities

Best practices 5
The location has also expanded its support for start-ups and growing companies at Yes!Delft labs. In its current form, Biotech Campus Delft provides contacts with investing companies, helps the participating companies to build a network, and facilitates cooperation with companies and research facilities.

EVENTS
- 4 February 2016: Visit by 50 communications professionals from various companies in the Delft region to Biotech Campus Delft
- 6-9 March 2016: Eco-bio2016: main sponsorship and participation in biotechnology conference
- 9 March 2016: Visit by 30 delegates from Eco-bio2016 to Biotech Campus Delft, labs and BPF
- 12 April 2016: Visit by 50 European Parliament representatives and Ministry of Economic Affairs to Biotech Campus Delft and BFP
- 2 June 2016: Delft Advanced Biorenewables, spin-off of TUD, present at VNCI annual congress to give a good example of a biotechnology start-up
- 8 September 2016: Innovatietour: 20 SMEs visited Biotech Campus Delft, Bioprocess Pilot Facility, Applikon Biotechnology and Yes!Delft labs
- 3 October 2016: European Biotech Week meeting of TU Delft students, MosaMeat and DSM researchers on the contributions of biotechnology to sustainable food

INTEGRATION OF ILAB/COCI ACTIVITIES IN EDUCATION
A MOOC about industrial biotechnology was organised by Delft University of Technology, the University of Campinas (Brasil) and BE-Basic. The course will be started on 12 October.

NEEDS AND FURTHER IMPROVEMENTS
Biotech Campus Delft seeks to share ideas and possibilities to attract new companies and cooperation with education. We also plan to arrange more follow-up to the frequent visits to this site, e.g. The Innovation Tour.
PIVOT PARK →

Campus for open innovation

Pivot Park in Oss is an Open Innovation Campus mainly focused on pharmaceutical Research & Development (R&D).

The initiative started in 2012 when, following the acquisition of Organon by Schering-Plough, and a consecutive merger with MSD, more than 1,000 R&D jobs were lost in the Netherlands due to restructuring. Closure of the R&D departments meant not only the loss of quality employment in the region, but also a large drain of expertise and knowledge of industrial pharmaceutical R&D from the Netherlands, which had mainly been built by Organon since 1923. For the top sectors Life Sciences and Health and Chemistry, this meant the loss of an important pillar of applied drug studies.

Pivot Park was established to offer state-of-the-art core facilities and the flexibility to deliver customized work to ambitious entrepreneurs in the pharma R&D sector. Pivot Park provides start-ups and established companies with the opportunity to accelerate, grow and excel in development of new medicines and to contribute to a healthy society together with other companies. The high-end infrastructure already in place at this location, which includes former MSD automation and equipment, has allowed Pivot Park to skip years of initial development, providing fully fledged facilities and proven efficiency for advanced pharmaceutical research.

The shared facilities at this COCi comprise a total of seven buildings for start-ups and established companies, as well as an (ultra) high throughput screening centre, two pilot plants, one that can handle chemical production from grammes to kilogrammes under GMP conditions and one that offers fill and finish options, analytical support for understanding molecular structures, in vivo and in vitro core facilities, shared specialized equipment, meeting rooms, a restaurant and office spaces. The laboratories at Pivot Park can handle various subdisciplines, including medicinal chemistry, pharmacology, molecular biology and cell culture.

CURRENT AND FUTURE ACTIVITIES Companies at Pivot Park share a solid, broad background in the different stages of drug development. The Pivot Park campus is collaborating with academic institutes and companies that want to translate their scientific discoveries into new drugs.

EVENTS Pivot Park organizes a number of events to provide the community with opportunities to connect, to inspire and to learn from each other. We hold regular workshops on topics that can help boost the further development of start-ups and established companies. The campus also hosts meetings such as networking drinks and scientific conference days, where tenants can showcase their company or research effectively to peers. These unique and inspiring meetings regularly lead to exciting interdisciplinary partnerships.

NEEDS AND FURTHER IMPROVEMENTS Companies that are interested in becoming tenants at Pivot Park are at the point of moving...
beyond the start-up phase. They are looking for their own lab and office space to allow them to enter the accelerator phase. This switch in allocation generally depends on financial investment, which is in many cases not possible without access to additional funding. Pivot Park would be helped if this could be addressed via accessible, non-guiding sources of funding.

The open access facilities provide instrumentation for hit-to-lead testing and technology development.
‘ChemieLink helps to get new technologies ready for internationalisation’
Guidance for starting a business

iLAB Nijmegen offers starting businesses both guidance in developing their business and facilities for their establishment as well as growing of their activities, with a focus on chemicals, life sciences, health and the high-tech sector. The iLAB Nijmegen operates from two locations: the Mercator Incubator Nijmegen and the Novio Tech Campus.

MERCATOR INCUBATOR NIJMEGEN  iLAB Nijmegen consists of two locations. On the campus of the Radboud University, businesses can establish a presence in the Mercator buildings. These buildings offer office space covering 25,000 m² and facilities for knowledge-intensive and technology businesses. The Mercator 3 building in particular offers special facilities for technological start-ups and growing businesses. For advice, business support and contacts in science and in the market, new businesses can turn to Mercator Incubator Nijmegen.

PARTNERS IN INDUSTRY AND RESEARCH  Additional support is available for technological start-ups through several cooperative alliances. This includes KERN (Knowledge Exploitation Radboud Nijmegen) and Gelderland Valorizes, a partnership between Radboud University Nijmegen, the Radboud University Medical Centre, Hogeschool Arnhem and Nijmegen (HAN) and Mercator Incubator Nijmegen, together with partners from government and industry.

NOVIO TECH CAMPUS  The second location is the Novio Tech Campus. This campus offers 10,000 m² of research infrastructure and accommodation for starting businesses. The Novio Tech Campus focuses on entrepreneurs and researchers in life sciences, health and the high-tech sector.

Students take active part in the iLAB community. They do internships and assist in research.
CURRENT AND FUTURE ACTIVITIES  Novio Tech Services and Radboud Research Facilities have expanded their facilities for providing business support to participating companies. Rockstart, an accelerator for young entrepreneurs, has joined the Novio Tech Campus community and promotes entrepreneurship in the field of digital health. In 2017, iLAB Nijmegen will be launching the Nijmegen Business Generator, a programme in which additional support activities will be implemented.

In the near future, there are plans to showcase the ChemieLink network as a best practice innovation network. In addition, startup accelerator Gelderland offers an intensive programme for starters organised by Gelderland Valoriseert.

EVENTS
• Monthly ‘Science meets Business’ event on Novio Tech Campus, organised by SMB Life Sciences
• InnoBoot, an annual iLAB Nijmegen event
• Presentations about iLAB Nijmegen at various events, including Innovation for Health (February) and Technology for Health (October)
• Molecule to Man, an annual event organised together with Health Valley
• ICT network Nijmegen meetings, 3 times a year, focusing on ICT, Health and Life sciences.

INTEGRATION OF ILAB/COCI ACTIVITIES IN EDUCATION  A number of different courses at Radboud University Nijmegen make use of the ChemieLink network for further collaboration.

NEEDS AND FURTHER IMPROVEMENTS  iLAB Nijmegen sees a strong need for collaboration between different regional education institutes. The added value of this collaboration is that it would provide a single point of contact to companies in the region. The aim is to facilitate internships, public-private research projects, and education. We would also like to stimulate interaction within the iLAB community, as an extension of encouraging interaction between SMEs and corporations.

‘There are plans to showcase the ChemieLink network as a best practice innovation network’
Green PAC is an open innovation centre for green plastics, fibres and composites. We initiate and facilitate ‘business-driven’ knowledge development. This location includes an iLAB in Zwolle and a COCi in Emmen.

The work being done at Green PAC takes place in a unique joint venture between universities of applied sciences, research universities and companies in the plastics industry. Applied research, knowledge exchange, innovation, and accelerated development are all part of the process.

The various facilities that Green PAC offers make it possible for the business community to develop and carry out innovative projects under favourable conditions. In addition, Green PAC is focusing on education in the northeast of the Netherlands in order to strengthen the innovative power surrounding plastics technology.

Green PAC helps start-ups move from a fundamental concept to a flourishing private limited liability company, translating technological issues into research themes. Working in close cooperation with the business community, a diverse range of students, lecturers, researchers, and professors working at universities of applied sciences and research universities study these application-focused technology and business cases. These cases subsequently generate activity in the form of start-ups and new enterprises.

Thanks to direct interaction between knowledge suppliers and the business community, Green PAC is accelerating adaptation of new technology in the business community. Knowledge circulation between the universities of applied sciences, universities, technology companies and regional education is a major priority at Green PAC.

Green PAC stands for:
• The development of knowledge;
• The valorisation of promising innovative ideas and research;
• The facilitation of projects in the commercial risk stage.
INTEGRATION OF ILAB AND COCI ACTIVITIES IN EDUCATION

Green PAC is committed to establishing better connections between Centres for Innovative Craftsmanship in secondary vocational education (MBO), Centres of Expertise at universities of applied sciences (higher professional education/HBO), and the business community.

COMPANIES

iLAB Zwolle currently houses 11 companies at the Polymer Science Park site. In addition, 16 start-ups have been launched from this location.

CURRENT AND FUTURE ACTIVITIES

iLAB Zwolle serves young entrepreneurs just launching their first company by providing business coaching from concept to market launch. In addition, entrepreneurs can call on expertise from Windesheim and Stenden Universities for Applied Sciences to check the feasibility of the new product or technology they are inventing. The iLAB also brings entrepreneurs in touch with a useful network in the region and helps them explore possibilities in a broader national network.

Green PAC has initiated project development in an overall bio-economy project focusing on non-food. In addition, Green PAC acts as a project leader and project partner in various initiatives, several of which involve collaborative ventures by many different companies and national and international knowledge institutes.

Green PAC is project leader on the following projects:

• Sustainable fibres
• Biobased housing
• Biobased cycle path
• Development of courses on 3D printing

Green PAC is a partner in the following projects:

• Development of biomaterials for monofilaments
• Micro injection moulding applications for biobased materials

In the future, Green PAC plans to add more facilities to the iLAB in Zwolle, open a second iLAB in Emmen to operate alongside the COCi in Emmen and set up a field lab at the COCi to run tests in collaboration with the business community.

EVENTS

The Green PAC organisation hosted the following events:

• 3D print Europe & biobased business event in Emmen
• Master class for iLAB entrepreneurs

In addition, Green PAC took active part in the following events:

• Startupfest 2016
• Masterclass organised by Kennisport (financing opportunities)
• Week of the Entrepreneur
• Next to Women
• Crossover Innovation Challenge (Kennispoort)
• Pitching event at FME

NEEDS AND FURTHER IMPROVEMENTS

iLAB Zwolle plans to strengthen its collaboration with the lector groups in plastic technology and industrial product development. A key goal for Green PAC is to see SMEs located at iLAB Zwolle promoted as ‘best practices’.
The advantages of the iLAB High Tech Factory go beyond its attractive location; the facility also provides a diverse range of opportunities, including high-quality cleanrooms, laboratories equipped with a full range of equipment and support structures, and office space. The rooms can be adapted and tailored to meet specific user requirements.

The building is located in close proximity to various R&D facilities, for example the NanoLab, which is affiliated with the MESA+ institute for Nanotechnology. Another advantage is that businesses are located close to one another and are able to share production capabilities.

CURRENT AND FUTURE ACTIVITIES

High Tech Fund In addition to lab access and high-tech production facilities, the Enschede location also offers the High Tech Fund. This equipment fund gives businesses the opportunity to invest in costly production equipment in early stages of development, even before banks and other investors are able to participate. The organisation is open to exchange thoughts and discuss collaboration opportunities to improve the
ability of entrepreneurs to grow their business.
The funding options at the High Tech Factory primarily cover the domains of high tech systems and materials, medical technology, and chemical technology or cross-overs.

**Ecosystem** High Tech Factory companies are part of the regional Kennispark Twente ecosystem, with a strong focus on technological innovation in the region around the University of Twente (UT). This site’s location on the campus of the University of Twente enables easy access to relevant research groups, interaction with students and internship possibilities, access to the available infrastructure (including the NanoLab of the MESA+ Institute for NanoTechnology), IP support, legal advice, and support in finding grant-based funding.

**COMPANIES** High Tech Factory is a production facility located on the campus of the University of Twente in the Netherlands, supporting the growth of high tech businesses. These businesses, which generally operate in such areas as high tech systems and materials, medical technology, and chemical technology, require state-of-the-art facilities to establish production and product development. The High Tech Factory in Enschede is a place where ideas are transformed into products. At this moment, less than two months since the location opened, 17 companies are enjoying the facilities offered by High Tech Factory.

**EVENTS**
- 14 September 2016: network event and opening of the iLAB High Tech Factory
- 26 September 2016: MESA+ annual meeting
- 28 September 2016: workshop on Nano-Bio surfaces and interfaces in healthcare and science

**INTEGRATION ILAB ACTIVITIES INTO EDUCATION**
The iLAB High Tech Factory is located on the campus of the University of Twente. As a result, this facility is automatically affiliated with teaching and graduation activities and with internships. In addition, Saxion is a tenant of the High Tech Factory and uses the location’s cleanroom and laboratory for their Master’s programme on nanotechnology.

**NEEDS AND FURTHER IMPROVEMENTS** Interaction between the locations at a strategic level would be welcomed. Moreover, we are actively seeking smart ways to communicate about the ChemieLink network, the facilities available at each location, and the possibilities offered by the individual locations and the network as a whole.

‘We are actively seeking smart ways to communicate about the ChemieLink network’
‘Future materials will be more and more biobased’
The Green Chemistry Campus, situated on the premises of SABIC Plastics in Bergen op Zoom, is a business accelerator for developing biobased chemical building blocks for the chemical industry.

The Campus enhances the success rate of biobased entrepreneurs, thus contributing to the realisation of a biobased economy.

B2B entrepreneurs from SMEs and large companies work closely with knowledge institutions and the government, collaborating in an open innovation environment to develop new biobased technologies and products with a focus on performance materials, chemicals and coatings. Through the valorisation of residual flows from the agricultural sector, the Campus actively contributes to a sustainable and profitable biobased economy with less dependence on fossil fuels, without competing with food supplies.

At the Campus, companies that have already passed the start-up phase can continue developing their concept to prepare it for testing in a pilot plant or demo facility, with the aim of eventually preparing for a market launch. In addition to its ties to young, innovative companies, the Campus also collaborates with national and international knowledge institutions. One example is the partnership between TNO and the Flemish VITO, which have joined forces at the Biorizon shared research centre to develop functional bio-aromatics from sugars and lignin. Finally, the Campus offers space for growing companies and service providers that fit the location’s stated focus: developing performance chemicals from agricultural waste streams.

COMPANIES The number of companies and institutions that have established a presence at the Green Chemistry Campus remained unchanged in 2016. However, activities of some of the tenants have increased substantially.

CURRENT AND FUTURE ACTIVITIES The Green Chemistry Campus has developed an ambitious business plan to expand the facilities that are offered, including the expansion of demo halls and additional lab facilities. Furthermore, the Green Chemistry Campus will be operating more independently by separating its buildings from the SABIC site, where the Campus is located. The expansion should speed up starting companies with a lower threshold. In addition, satellite locations were added to the Green Chemistry Campus in 2016 in the form of regional supporting facilities like the Natural Fiber Application Center (NAC) in Raamsdonkveer, the Biopolymer Application Center (BAC) in Oosterhout and the Color Application Centre (KLAC) in Bergen op Zoom. Expanding its sphere of influence, the Green Chemistry Campus has set up a regional, integral biobased business support network that includes large companies, Nieuw Prinsenland and the port of Moerdijk.
EVENTS  The Green Chemistry Campus welcomed numerous national and international guests during various events and the Campus participated in other, regional events. A selection:

• Biorizon’s Annual Event on Functionalized Biobased Aromatics
• BioLinX Brokerage Event
• Shift To Green: Interactive Biobased Experience
• An event at Rabobank Alblasserwaard Vijfheerenlanden
• Viewing days at SABIC
• Visit by the Provinciale Staten Noord Brabant, the governing body of the province of North Brabant

INTEGRATING ILAB/COCI ACTIVITIES INTO EDUCATION  To date, five projects have been implemented in collaboration with universities for applied science in Breda (AVANS) and Rotterdam (HR). In these projects, students from both universities work together on a single team. A plan is also being discussed with the Markiezaat College (a regional vocational institute) regarding the installation of process and testing infrastructure for compounding and education.

NEEDS AND FURTHER IMPROVEMENTS  We plan to develop support for commercialising demonstrated technologies. In addition, the Green Chemistry Campus aims to broaden support from large companies in the region and improve further interaction with other organisations. Finally, we will be seeking funding for new infrastructure.
The Innovation Lab Chemistry Amsterdam (ILCA) is a breeding ground for innovative entrepreneurs in the chemistry sector.

This ILAB is situated at the Amsterdam Science Park (ASP), a key centre of knowledge and collaboration. Clustering 2 universities, several renowned research institutes and around 130 businesses, ASP is a place where research, innovation and entrepreneurship are gathered and working together. This ecosystem not only facilitates the sharing and valorisation of knowledge, but provides the social aspect of a close-knit community as well.

ILCA is the catalyst for chemical innovation and entrepreneurship within this community. Together with regional and national partners, ILCA contributes to a thriving and inspiring innovation climate and a chemical cluster around the country’s capital.

ILCA is a project of the Matrix Innovation Center, UvA, VU and Ti-COAST. ILCA works closely with the Port of Amsterdam. Emerging from a strong network of research and innovation parties at Amsterdam Science Park, complemented by industry partners located in the Amsterdam port area, ILCA is the link between start-ups, the industry, research institutions, financing instruments and the government. ILCA regularly organises networking events on current topics in chemistry to connect people from these different segments. Several partnerships have already emerged from these events.

COMPANIES There are currently 29 SMEs within the ILCA network, of which 21 are housed at the Amsterdam Science Park. The other eight are situated elsewhere, but rely on the services provided by the ILAB. Innovation Lab Chemistry Amsterdam supports chemical start-ups in various ways. The most tangible is housing: accommodations are provided at the Amsterdam Science Park in the form of office and lab space in the MatrixIC buildings. The participating SMEs also gain access to the knowledge and facilities available at the Amsterdam knowledge institutes, as well as the extensive network, which includes industry partners and public authorities. Finally, the ILCA provides advice, support and workshops on business development and funding in collaboration with Innovation eXchange Amsterdam (IXA) and the local incubator Ace Venture Lab.

EVENTS ILCA regularly organises networking events to connect people from industry, start-
There are currently 29 SMEs within the ILCA network, of which 21 are housed at the Amsterdam Science Park.

ILCA is a matchmaker for internships between SMEs and students from various levels and backgrounds. Furthermore, we have developed a two-day workshop on entrepreneurship for molecular scientists and students (BSc/applied sciences, MSc, PhD and postdocs) together with Ace Venture Lab. This workshop was aimed at boosting the students’ interest in entrepreneurship and valorisation, while introducing them to the fundamentals and basic skills for setting up a business.

Needs and further improvements: The biggest challenge for ILCA is to determine its course for the future. Questions that need to be addressed include sources of funding for projects and for organisation as a whole. In addition, ILCA would like to continue professionalising its operations. Other challenges that might also be relevant to other iLABs include staying focused on core activities, while simultaneously creating a community.
This testing ground provides new businesses with general laboratory facilities such as fume hoods and laboratory tables, as well as office space and meeting facilities. Innolab Chemie also offers access to a number of shared utilities and services in procurement, analytical capacity and networking opportunities. The facilities provided by Innolab Chemie can accommodate chemical, microbiological and biochemical research.

‘The facilities provided by Innolab Chemie can accommodate chemical, microbiological and biochemical research’
As a result, Innolab Chemie in Groningen is pre-eminently suitable for initiatives and product development in a number of key fields:

- biobased economy
- energy
- life sciences
- healthy ageing
- sustainability
- agriculture & food

Innolab Chemie is designed for entrepreneurs who want to work out a chemical concept in practice, as well as for students and employees of the University of Groningen (RUG) and the UMCG (University Medical Centre Groningen) who want to start a business in the chemical sector.

Entrepreneurs who wish to collaborate with the university or work on projects emerging from the University of Groningen and UMCG that could increase the value of their IP by conducting further laboratory tests can also turn to Innolab Chemie Groningen.
Educating biobased professionals

The Centre of Expertise Biobased Economy (CoE BBE) is a collaboration of Avans University of Applied Sciences and HZ University of Applied Sciences.

It is assigned to the schools by the Ministry of Economic Affairs because of the strength of the Southwest region of the Netherlands in the field of biobased economy. The mission is mainly focused on educating current and future professionals in the broad field of the Biobased Economy. The CoE BBE aims to reach this mission through education, research and the dissemination and management of knowledge.

WHAT DOES THE CENTRE OF EXPERTISE BIODESCBED ECONOMY HAS TO OFFER?

Knowledge vouchers:
• The opportunity to receive max. €25.000 in man-hours (with equal contribution from participant) for projects that share the same agenda with the applied research group or with the strategic programme of CoE BBE.

Providing expertise:
• Studying specific themes in depth through master classes.

• By a variety of projects where teachers and students are working together helping companies to realize biobased innovations.
• Through applied research groups within the Center of Expertise. Our project leaders are able to connect research and practice.

A place to meet colleagues and potential business partners:
• 1 to 2-monthly, CoE BBE organises meet & greens on a specific topic, with the opportunity to network. Anyone is welcome.
• Companies, students and teachers meet at the affiliated Application Centers. Together they work on the development and research of biobased applications.

A stage to make companies and institutions known to future professionals:
• Giving guest lectures.
• Joining the corporate market of Avans University where students orient themselves on their future.

A website with relevant knowledge and developments in the field of biobased economy:
• A media bank with access to many articles and films about the biobased economy.
• An event calendar with relevant events within the biobased economy.
• An overview of current or completed education and research projects.

A newsletter with up-to-date information:
• Subscribe to CoE BBEs frequently appearing newsletter via the website.

A large network of experts from other knowledge and research institutes:
• If required, CoE BBE can help to direct inquiries to other knowledge or research institutes.

Answering common questions:
• Involving research projects tied to the applied research group.
• Creating educational student projects in groups lasting a quarter or half a year.
• With individual assignments in internships or graduation assignments in half a year.

• Through short term research projects, to be answered by students and/or employees of the CoE BBE.

Facility sharing:
• Currently CoE BBE is working on a list of available equipment for production and development.

‘Our mission is to educate current and future professionals in the broad field of the Biobased Economy’
INNOVATION TOUR

Where science meets business

The InnovationTour is all about bringing entrepreneurs to the individual locations in the ChemieLink network. The tour gives entrepreneurs a chance to see what is going on at these locations and what these locations have to offer the entrepreneurs based on each site’s facilities, services and network.

This inspirational tour is also a great opportunity for the participants to exchange experiences and expertise. Sharing experiences and exploring new business opportunities are the main reasons for entrepreneurs to join the InnovationTour.

During the tour, the locations will show a wide range of pilot facilities, labs and/or cleanrooms. Some locations are dedicated to a specific branch of the chemical industry, such as pharmaceuticals or green plastics, while others offer a broader range of lab facilities. The tour includes presentations by the locations about the services they have to offer. Companies that are already established at the different locations will also give presentations and provide insights into their company.

For the different locations associated with the network of ChemieLink, the InnovationTour can be seen as a way to attract potential new entrepreneurs who are eager to explore options for collaboration with the iLAB or COCl locations.

Two InnovationTours have taken place so far: one at the TU/e Innovation Lab in Eindhoven and the other at the Biotech Campus Delft. Both locations joined forces with other local stakeholders to offer an informative setting for a new group of entrepreneurs.

During the tour, these entrepreneurs could explore new possibilities for collaboration with the participating locations and expand their professional network.
Wessel Hengeveld (Flowid) host of session InnovatieTour in Eindhoven.

Jan van den Oever (PTG/e) showing practical examples of products, technologies and services during InnovatieTour.
The main goal for ChemieLink is to operate as a business community for the chemical sector in the Netherlands. The ChemieLink community will function as an entrance for entrepreneurs to find support for their overall business development. Organising this as an open community means sharing experiences and knowledge with each other, ensuring that the information is accessible for everyone who is part of the community.

What do we mean by more impact?

Let’s give a few examples:

- There will be more interaction between the separate locations, so that the individual experiences and services will be shared. To facilitate that interaction, we are introducing the ChemieLink Carrousel.
- There will be more Innovation Tours to bring new SMEs to the iLABs and COCi facilities.
- SME questions will be gathered and forwarded to the locations that have the best solutions for each question.
- Existing SMEs will be connected within this network, e.g. in cross-over projects.
- We’ll challenge corporations to interact with the ChemieLink network, to be involved in their innovations, creating win-win situations for all parties.
- We will seek for joint actions in terms of events, brokerage opportunities, and presentations for investors.
- The network will grow, adding new iLAB and COCi locations and more SMEs.
- … and there is always room to make this list longer!

The actions explained in this Annual Report are concrete steps to achieve more impact and make ChemieLink the gateway community for the chemical sector in the Netherlands. The aim is to reach students who want to be entrepreneurs as well as existing SMEs that can make use of the knowledge and services that are available within the network.

Organisations included in the ChemieLink network will be able to bring new technologies to the market faster and can encourage new collaborations within the network. The most important success factor is motivated, inspiring people. Fortunately, a lot of them are involved in this initiative!
‘Together with ChemieLink we help innovative companies by adding value to their research’

Jan van den Oever, PTG/e
Our network

The back office of the ChemieLink network is organised by InnovatieLink with active support from the Dutch Top Sector Chemistry. The ChemieLink Back Office coordinates general questions. Each iLAB or COCi location has a dedicated contact person to help answer specific questions you may have about a particular location and can guide you on any related topic.

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