



Powered by UCF Business Incubation Program



Volusia County Business Incubator Client to Enter Prestigious Program

TECHFIT Digital Surgery admitted to Mayo Clinic's Life Sciences Incubator

Daytona Beach, Fla. (August 14, 2019) – One of the key reasons companies utilize the UCF Business Incubator's Soft Landing Program is to develop those key connections to help kickstart their entry into the American marketplace.

When TECHFIT Digital Surgery opened at UCF's Volusia County Business Incubator, it understood it would be able to provide the resources to accomplish their business goals.

This week, the Incubator helped the company gain admittance into the prestigious Mayo Clinic Life Sciences Incubator in Jacksonville, Florida.

"At TECHFIT we greatly appreciate what Connie Garzon-Bernal and the Incubator have done for us," says Mauricio Toro, CEO, TECHFIT. "We sat down, created a strategic plan and then they put everything in place to make it happen and get us in front of the right people to get us in the Incubator."

"This will definitely accelerate our strategic plan and is of immense value to us looking towards the future," he added.

Garzon-Bernal, the site manager of the Volusia County Incubator powered by the UCF Business Incubation Program, utilized her existing connections in Jacksonville and at Mayo Clinic to connect TECHFIT with the world-renowned hospital system. With UCF's research hospital still under construction, she knew TECHFIT couldn't wait.

"Mayo Clinic was the logical solution for TECHFIT and I am extremely pleased they saw the value in helping this company," Garzon-Bernal says. "These types of connections are the type of impact companies can expect to see when they utilize our services."

When the Colombia-based TECHFIT started looking at expansion opportunities, it looked across the United States, including medical technology hotbeds such as Massachusetts and California. They decided the most welcome community to do business was Volusia County.

Their business expansion execution journey started back in November and, after almost seven months, the company has reached the following milestones:

- Invested \$1 million in high tech equipment for their manufacturing and prototyping lab

- Assembled a team of six people in the United States, who are running the facility and researching novel approaches to bone reconstruction
- Manufactured more than 3,000 implants exported to their Latin American operation
- Filed for first FDA clearance of bone product
- Attended the American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons meeting and on-boarded a distributor for the Arab Gulf countries
- Hosted three academic events, where medical speakers from Latin America were brought to the area to present their research to local surgeons and create new collaboration opportunities

“As we evaluate opportunities to grow our community of healthcare and life science companies here in Jacksonville, we’re looking for companies who have shown previous success and have the ability to partner with Mayo Clinic for mutual benefit,” says Vic Nole, Director of the Mayo Clinic Life Sciences Incubator. “We’re looking forward to providing TECHFIT with guidance on the evolution of their business model, and then connecting them to resources that will help them to scale quickly.”

For more information, contact Connie Garzon-Bernal, associate director and site manager, at 386-872-3100 or Connie.bernal@ucf.edu or Alan Byrd, Alan Byrd & Associates, at 407-415-8470 or Alan@ByrdConnections.com

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About the UCF Business Incubation Program: The University of Central Florida Business Incubation Program is a community resource that provides early-stage companies with the tools, training and infrastructure to become financially stable, high growth/impact enterprises. Since 1999, this award-winning program has helped more than 390 local startup companies reach their potential faster by providing vital business development resources.

With seven facilities throughout the region, the UCF Business Incubation Program is an economic development partnership with the University of Central Florida; the Corridor; Orange, Osceola, Seminole and Volusia counties; and the cities of Apopka, Kissimmee, Orlando and Winter Springs. For the 2014/15 and 2015/16 fiscal years, the activities of these participating firms have helped sustain more than 4,710 local jobs and have had a cumulative impact of more than \$725 million on regional GDP and more than \$1.3 billion on regional sales. During the same period, the program has returned \$7.41 for every \$1 invested in the program. For more information, visit www.incubator.ucf.edu

About TECHFIT: TECHFIT Digital Surgery offers comprehensive solutions tailored to the patient for pathologies that require complex bone reconstruction, increasing surgical precision, reducing surgical time, improving aesthetic and functional results, which in turn allowing patients and surgeons access to the most advanced surgical planning and custom implants and instrumentation. For more information , please visit www.techfit-ds.com

About the Mayo Clinic Life Sciences Incubator: The Life Sciences Incubator at Mayo Clinic in Florida facilitates the advancement of new ideas and products from the research lab, through product development, and into the clinic. We design, incubate, and accelerate promising healthcare and life science companies that are focused on improving patient care. For more information, please visit <https://lifesciencesincubator.mayo.edu/>