

3 June 2009

Fast track to success with Collaborate 2 Innovate Event

City Cruise Terminal, Southampton – 6 October 2009

Priceless advice and collaboration opportunities providing the catalyst for innovation and economic growth are among the highlights fast growth businesses and investors can expect at Collaborate 2 Innovate 2009 (C2I 2009) on 6 October in Southampton.

The inaugural event is being organised by South East Business Innovation & Growth, the not-for-profit organisation set up to help innovative businesses grow and succeed in the Solent region. The event aims to build connectivity across a host of market sectors while providing businesses with the chance to hear first-hand from experienced specialists. They include Carl Churchill, director of Eastleigh broadband and telephony solutions provider, murphx, and Ian Gotts, founder of software company Nimbus. Both will give some insight on their entrepreneurial experiences and how collaboration and innovation have played a vital role.

C2I 2009 will help kick-start the process of initiating deals between businesses, individuals, entrepreneurs, technology specialists and the region's Universities. At the same time it will promote the South East as an attractive place to invest in and do business.

In fact, promoting the local economy is close to the heart of all the sponsors: Lloyds Register, which is in the process of moving to Southampton, Paris Smith, BDO Stoy Hayward, SEEDA and Business Link.

Nigel Vaughan, CEO of South East Business Innovation & Growth, said: "Historically recessions encourage innovative entrepreneurial business ventures. But we all know establishing a thriving, financially-stable business is hard work with many obstacles – seen and unforeseen – along the way. That is why this event is so important. Many of the people here know only too well what problems lie in wait and want to share their experiences and offer their collaboration to help firms adopting innovation to grow and prosper in the region."

Details on how to register for the October 6 event at Dock Gate 8, City Cruise Terminal, Southampton, from 9:00am to 5:30pm, can be found at

www.collaborate2innovate2009.co.uk.