

Ohio Partnership Producing Groundbreaking Tech to Fight COVID-19

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS & INNOVATION AWARENESS DAYS

COLUMBUS, OHIO, July 29, 2020 – The Manufacturing Extension Partnership at Columbus State is working with GDI Partners to support local company Balanced Biotech Inc. in manufacturing groundbreaking COVID-19 medicine delivery technologies.

Balanced Biotech Inc. is a U.S.-based life science company with a vision to transform how the world approaches the treatment of acute and life-threatening diseases by utilizing a game-changing transdermal drug delivery application and cutting-edge diagnostic tests. We focus our research on advancing how healthcare providers diagnose and treat their patients. The development of a COVID-19 viral detection test using the DAT-X platform is underway and is anticipated to reach the market in fall 2020.

The DAT-X testing platform is a simple, easy-to-use testing solution that can be performed at bedside, in the home or in the field, and that provides rapid, accurate point-of-care diagnostic information. The platform can be configured to test for a variety of infectious diseases, including COVID-19. DAT-X leverages bio-sensing and electrochemical technology to detect viral proteins from human saliva samples. We will be able to provide testing while offering a digital health platform for use in schools, businesses, and other organizations to help them re-open safely.

"We are truly excited and look forward to collaborating with the MEP at Columbus State and GDI Partners," says Ray Kalmar, CEO and President of Balanced Biotech Inc.

<u>GDI Partners</u> is dedicated to the growth, development, and innovation fostered by entrepreneurship. The organization helps businesses grow by increasing direct communication between companies with innovative solutions to the funding and resources of the U. S. Department of Defense.

Efforts to bring together inventive companies and federal agencies culminate at GDI Partners' annual <u>Technology Requirements & Innovation Awareness Days</u> (TRIAD) event. During TRIAD, companies pitch their innovations directly to Department of Defense and other federal agency representatives.

"Through our TRIAD program and partnership with the MEP at Columbus State, GDI is able to support businesses like Balanced Biotech," GDI Co-President Tracy Boettinger says. "We're honored to help put their innovations into the hands of the men and women who serve our nation."

The MEP at Columbus State is sponsoring Balanced Biotech Inc.'s participation in this year's TRIAD showcase event. Part of the Ohio MEP and national MEP networks, the MEP at Columbus State is a full-service solutions-provider for Central Ohio manufacturers. From consulting and product development to education and talent acquisition, the MEP at Columbus State collaborates with companies to enhance the regional manufacturing industry.

"Our service area is Central Ohio, but our partnerships with regional manufacturers to fight COVID-19 have global impacts," says Jeff Spain, Director of the MEP at Columbus State. "We focus on relationships and connections to optimize all that the Ohio manufacturing industry has to offer."

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