

Business meets research

INNOVATIVE MATCHMAKING

Photos: Luc Delforenne

♦ Pierre Decker
(ministry of higher education and research)



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Marc Lemmer
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♦
Paul Emering (Chamber of Commerce)
and Pierre Schilling (CTIE)

♦ Pierre Gramegna
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♦ Clara de la Torre (European Commission)



♦ Frédéric Mayer (CRP Gabriel Lippmann)

It is not always easy for small and mid-sized companies to find partners, explains the head of the Chamber of Commerce, Pierre Gramegna. In investment-intensive innovation industries, such as bio-health and materials science, the challenge is doubly difficult. Which was the impetus for Luxinnovation's fourth annual "Business meets research" matchmaking forum, held last month. Marco Walentiny, president of Luxinnovation, explains the event is meant to foster collaboration between entrepreneurs and scientists in the Greater Region. Private companies, he says, need better access to high tech expertise, while public research institutions need to see their labs' work put to practical application.

This type of conference is vital as Europe is counting on innovative SMEs to be the engine of economic growth, said Clara de la Torre, director of the European Commission's research and innovation directorate.

Luxinnovation also unveiled its new web portal, which it hopes will make it easier for firms to find technology partners and respond to government tenders. ● AG



♦ Centre: Dr Bruno Damon (Luxembourg Clinical Proteomics)