

American Group Starts Raising capital in Israel to Establish a Hi-Tech Hothouse in the USA by: Alex Doron, MAARIV



February 06,2006 - TEL AVIV - A group of American businessmen will be arriving in Israel today in order to raise starting capital, estimated at \$3 million, to establish a "virtual incubator" for business development and generation of Israeli medical technologies in the USA. This new course of hi-tech and biotechnology in Israel is being lead by the American group "M-EDG" of northern Florida. The group will be hosted in Israel by the "O.B.V." organization of lawyers and Ariel Makov. This organization develops connections and initiatives between the American markets and Israeli companies. The American guests will meet with heads of biotechnical and medical equipment companies, among them the hothouse at Migdal Haemek, and with managers of venture capital funds of Medical and Kasniyah.

"M-EDG" estimates that new opportunities are opening for commercial services, medicines and new and modern medical equipment in the USA. American firms working in these areas have begun to outsource production facilities, thus noticeably shortening the time it takes for the finished product to reach the market. Sales in the R&D market this past year were more then \$100 billion in the USA. Today, only one in 350 developing products reach a marketable stage, and therefore a meaningful change is needed in the market situation. According to the estimates of "M-EDG", the investors in the planned initiative are expecting to see a growth of 100 times in their investments in the next five years. In the first stage the group will concentrate in pinpointing technologies and medications in four medical domains: bed sores, vaginal microbes, oral herpes and periodontal infections. According to the group's estimations, the market of the above mentioned domains is estimated at \$3.7 billion a year in the USA.

מוני מרדכי 050 -6657565