
NEWS RELEASE - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Elpis Biomed Wins Cambridge Start-Up of the Year
Chosen by Independent Expert Panel at the
2018 Cambridge Independent Science and Technology Awards**

CAMBRIDGE, UK: Elpis Biomed Ltd. (Elpis), a University of Cambridge spin-out developing high quality human cells via its proprietary OPTi-OX platform, is pleased to announce that the Company has been selected as winner in the category **Start-Up of the Year** at the **2018 Cambridge Independent Science and Technology Awards**.

Dr Mark Kotter, scientific founder of Elpis BioMed, commented: "Elpis is set to have a transformative impact in the fields of biomedical research, drug discovery, and cell therapy. We have assembled a world-class team to fulfil our mission to 'make cells easy.' I am honoured that our efforts have been recognized by such an outstanding panel of technology experts and that Elpis has been chosen as Start-Up of the Year from a field of truly excellent start-up companies."

Elpis beat off stiff competition to win the Start-Up of the Year Award. The Company was chosen from a short-list of innovative companies such as life science start-ups Fluidic Analytics and Evonetix, as well as diagnostic firms PredictImmune and Kalium Diagnostics. The award was presented to Dr Mark Kotter and Dr Gordana Apic at a ceremony which was held in early November at the Hilton Cambridge City Centre Hotel in front of an audience including many of the brightest minds in the Cambridge science and technology sectors.


The Cambridge Independent Science and Technology Awards are sponsored by local technology heavyweights such as AstraZeneca / MedImmune and was judged this year by a panel of industry experts: Barbara Fleck, of Appleyard Lees; Paul Brackley, editor of the Cambridge Independent; Kristen Riley, of Grant Thornton; Charles Cotton, entrepreneur and author of 'The Cambridge Phenomenon'; Dr Sabine Jaccoud, of AstraZeneca, and Martin Smith, from Woodfines Solicitors. The judges picked Elpis as they were said to be impressed by the unique quality of Elpis's technology, which they believe has huge implications for biotechnology research.

Last year's recipient of the award, STORM Therapeutics, has since gone on to raise £4 million of funding from Taiho Ventures and appointed Nobel Prize Winner Professor Thomas Cech as Scientific Advisor.

According to Cambridge Independent's Editor **Paul Brackley**, the judges had a challenging time because of the "phenomenal" standard and range of entries. He said: "It was an extremely high-quality field - a real showcase of the tremendous talent in this region."

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Note to Editors
About Elpis Biomed

University of Cambridge spin-out Elpis Biomed Ltd. (Elpis) has the vision to become a defining force in the emerging field of synthetic biology as the leading engineering and manufacturing company of human cells for science, drug discovery, and cell therapy.

The Company's proprietary cellular reprogramming platform technology, OPTi-OX (optimised, inducible over-expression), allows for unprecedented levels of consistency, purity, and minimal batch-to-batch variability, whilst significantly reducing the culture time taken to generate mature human cell populations from stem cells.

The application of high-quality human cells in the drug discovery process holds the promise to revolutionise translational efficiency and lead to new human disease models with genetic matching of desired populations. This enables target validation in relevant cell types, and drug screening in disease relevant conditions.

The Company's most recent investment round was led by biotech entrepreneur and investor Dr Jonathan Milner.

To learn more about Elpis Biomed, please visit www.elpisbiomed.com

About the Cambridge Independent Science and technology Awards

Now in their second year, the Cambridge Independent Science and technology Awards are sponsored by Allia, Appleyard Lees, AstraZeneca / MedImmune, BioStrata, Cambridge Precision, Chesterford Research Park, COEL, Cofinitive, Grant Thornton, Regus, SmithsonHill and Woodfines Solicitors. The awards are run by the Cambridge Independent, which is a Cambridge-based newspaper and website published by Iliffe Media to provide community-focused content.

To learn more visit: <http://www.cambridgeindependent.co.uk>