



ICFO and Ontario Centres of Excellence team-up

Ontario Centres of Excellence and ICFO collaborate to commercialize leading-edge photonics research

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With members of a delegation from the Catalan region in Toronto this week for Ontario Centres of Excellence's (OCE's) Discovery 2007, OCE and ICFO signed a memorandum of understanding outlining increased partnership in photonics between the two regions.

The MOU sets the stage for the joint technical, scientific and tech transfer activities. Its main goal is to stimulate innovation and expedite the commercialization of technologies that will make businesses in both regions more competitive globally. Together, OCE and ICFO will build industrial R&D collaborations and seek mutually beneficial trade and business opportunities. The two regions will also explore educational opportunities, including the exchange of scientific expertise and personnel.

"OCE is very pleased to create with ICFO the first concrete expression of the strengthening of broader research and commercial ties between Ontario and Catalonia," says Mr. Mark Romoff, President and CEO, Ontario Centres of Excellence. "This is a tremendous opportunity to build powerful synergies in a priority technology sector - the partnership has real potential to boost our respective economies".

ICFO Director, Dr. Lluís Torner noted that the formal agreement is "recognition of the alignment between Catalonia and Ontario around the potential of innovation, and a demonstration of the emphasis both governments place on making advanced research benefit industry. Teaming up with OCE and their Centre of Excellence for Photonics will create an exchange of ideas resulting in high-value commercial output."