Rhodes University

Technology Transfer Office



Innovation Disclosure Form

The purpose of a disclosure is to make known to the Technology Transfer Office and Rhodes University, an innovation, be it a research development, invention, business idea, novel process or technological advancement. It is the aim of the University and its Technology Transfer Office to support the disclosing party in exploring commercial exploitation of the disclosed opportunities. This includes ensuring proper protection of any resulting intellectual property (IP) rights (including expertise) on behalf of both the University and the individuals concerned. Further, the University aims to support commercialisation of viable IP and to promote entrepreneurs and protect their interests. By signing this form, the disclosing party undertakes to provide their full co-operation win the commercialisation of the invention.

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| --- | --- |
| Date of Disclosure: | Disclosure Code: |
|  |  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Signature of Innovation Representative: | Signature of Technology Transfer Manager | Signature of Contracts and Intellectual Property Manager |
|  |  |  |
| (Enter Name and Surname) | Ms Suzanne Wolhuter | Ms Tharusha Naidoo |

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| Name of the innovation – (includes products, technologies, services, novel processes and production methods, disruptive ideas, business ideas, or any other inventions). |
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| Inventor Information – please list individuals who have made a significant intellectual contribution toward the invention. Please include the 5 primary inventors’ names, surnames, student/staff numbers, contact details and an estimate of their contribution as a percentage. |
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| Conception of the innovation (date and location): |
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| What prompted the idea? |
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| Briefly summarise the innovation (you can attach drawings, photos and standard operation procedures). |
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| Which problem will this innovation potentially solve? |
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| Which benefits to the innovation offer beyond other similar developments? Further describe which aspects of the invention make it unique. |
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| Have you conducted any prior art search or looked at existing similar IP and technology? What results did that search yield? If there are any patents or publications that are relevant, please attach them. |
|  |
| Who will be the typical or preferential end user of this innovation? Are you aware of companies or individuals who would have a need for this innovation? |
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| Are you aware of any companies or individuals providing a similar product/service or technology as the one you are proposing here? |
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| Is there an urgency to disclose? When and how will the invention first be disclosed to the public? |
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| Is there urgency to provide IP protection for the innovation? If so, why? |
|  |
| Should the innovation prove promising commercially, are you interested in starting a new venture or spin-out company? If so do you already have a team in mind? If so, least the team members and their role. |
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Please indicate the type of innovation (with an X):

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Type of Innovation:** | | | |
| Research Advancement  (or Novel IP in Research Contract) |  | Business Idea |  |
| Invention – Hard Technology |  | Multi Media |  |
| Invention – High Technology |  | Diagnostic |  |
| Software |  | Medical or Therapeutic |  |
| Digital Tools |  | Plant Breeders’ Rights |  |
| Internet of Things |  | New Species |  |
| Cryptocurrency |  | Written work |  |

Please indicate the innovation category (with an X):

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Innovation Category:** | | | |
| Medicine and Health | | Clean Technologies and Water | |
| Diagnostics |  | Biofuels |  |
| Medical Devices |  | Solar Energy |  |
| Services |  | Wind Energy |  |
| Therapeutics and Pharmaceutics |  | Hydro/Ocean Energy |  |
| Indigenous Knowledge |  | Water Related Technology |  |
| Other Medical Biotechnology |  |  |  |
| Life Sciences | | Agri Sciences | |
| Biochemistry |  | Agronomy |  |
| Non-medical Biotechnology |  | Aquaculture |  |
| Food Science |  | Cultivars |  |
| Microbiology |  | Animal Feed and Additives |  |
| Physiology |  | Wine Biotechnology |  |
| Physical Sciences | | Software and Digital Models | |
| Chemistry and Polymer Science |  | Educational |  |
| Nanotechnology |  | Geographical |  |
| Physics |  | Media |  |
| Astronomy |  | Payment Systems |  |
| Atmospheric Science |  | Games |  |
| Environmental Science |  | Application |  |
| Geology |  | Web based tools |  |
| Geography |  | Psychological tools |  |
| Oceanography |  | Cryptocurrency |  |
| Soil Science |  | Security and storage |  |
| Engineering | | Other: | |
| Electrical Engineering |  | Hard Technology (specify below) |  |
| Marine Engineering |  |  |  |
| Mechanical Engineering |  | High Technology (specify below) |  |
| Process Engineering |  |  |  |
| Industrial Engineering |  | Social Sciences (specify below) |  |
| Electronic Engineering |  |  |  |
| Biomedical Engineering |  |  |  |

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| Is there any experimental proof of the inventions functionality thus far? |
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| Has the research from which the innovation was originated been completed? |
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| If not what research work has yet to be done? |
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| Has any commercial development been done for this innovation? If yes, please describe the commercialisation activities undertaken to date. |
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| Does the project require additional funding? Please indicate an estimate of funding required and whether it will be used towards continued research or towards commercializing the innovation. |
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| Is the research from which the innovation originated a result of a collaboration with third parties or a research contract? If so please provide the information of collaborators and the terms of the relationship. Also include who has financed the research/commercial development to date. |
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Please indicate the maturity of the innovation (mark applicable TRL in the last column with an X):

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Please indicate the stage of development using the Technology Readiness Level (TRL) classification:** | | | |
|  | Definition | Description |  |
| TRL 1 | Hypothesis/Idea | Basic principles are observed and reported, a concept or hypothesis is formulated. A business idea and value proposition may be conceptualised. |  |
| TRL 2 | Refining the concept and concept development | Research plans and protocols are developed in order to establish the feasibility of the innovation. Similarly protocols to test functionality of the innovation are developed. |  |
| TRL 3 | Business or technology development | Applied research and R&D is initiated, practical applications for the innovation are formulated and analytical lab scale testing is carried out. Predictions are made based in measurement and outcomes but proof of concept is not yet attained. |  |
| TRL 4 | Technical development of the innovation | The innovation is established to be feasible and proof of concept is attained. |  |
| TRL 5 | Lab-scale model/prototype development | Initiate testing of the prototype outside of lab system environment, initial testing within real world systems. This stage should include validating the product-market fit and the testing the right side of the business canvas. |  |
| TRL 6 | Pilot model/ development and validation | Testing whether the prototype is operational in a working environment or real world system, working demonstration. |  |
| TRL 7 | System prototype development and market validation | Final design is completed, rigorous testing in real-world system, testing should be completed under different conditions, validation of the system prototype is initiated. This stage should include testing and validating the left side of the business canvas. |  |
| TRL 8 | Product testing and validation | The innovation is certified and validated within a ‘real-world’ system, efficacy and functionality is qualified. |  |
| TRL 9 | Finalisation of product manufacturing specifications and commercial deployment | The innovation is ready for commercial scale production and market entry. |  |

