

Press release

May 2010

Programme: Medical technologies for autonomy and healthcare

**Alps Bio Cluster is organizing a European catalyst event on  
“ICT & Care: towards personalized services”  
on 7 and 8 July 2010 in Grenoble**

The emergence of ICT (telemedicine, home automation, smart communicative medical equipment, etc.) for the ill, dependents and/or the weak, is about to dramatically change care practices and patients' lifestyles.

Cross-European exchanges between the various stakeholders - suppliers, prescribers, patients - are fundamental for answering queries on the uses, the ethic issues and the care resources which stem from these transformations. The aim is to establish conditions conducive to developing a technology and service offer for this sector.

As such, the event organized by Alps Bio Cluster is an unprecedented opportunity for promoting alliances between researchers, industrialists, medico-social representatives and end-user organizations from the various European Union member states. Working groups will be set up to facilitate exchanges and to favour new partnerships. An occasion for participants to present their projects and to collect information on European calls, which propose innovative development opportunities. Businesses are suffering from a lack of funds; funds which could be used to test and try their innovations in the field and would accelerate their commercialization. By working hand-in-hand with other European players they will benefit from Community support, such as the AAL (Ambient Assisted Living) Joint Programme whose 3<sup>rd</sup> call for projects closes on 30 July.

By highlighting the humane and social aspects related to the use of ICT in healthcare, this catalyst event will also be the opportunity for participants to share opinions, to relate hands-on experiences and to initiate discussions on the conditions susceptible to help these technologies flourish.

A comparative look at the various healthcare systems in European Union countries will be the occasion to pursue mutual solutions to enable social welfare institutions to assume this new type of care and its assimilated services.

Manufacturers and service-providers will be able to pinpoint care staff and patients' expectations by relying on their feedback and, as a result, will be able to develop optimally-adapted products and services.

Establishing a network comprising Alpine Space researchers, start-ups and industrials may also offer the opportunity to create integrated product or service offers fulfilling instructing parties' expectations more precisely.

### **For further information and registration**

[www.alpsbiocluster.eu](http://www.alpsbiocluster.eu)

This event is an initiative of the Alps Bio Cluster Autonomy and Healthcare network that was launched at the end of 2009 with the aim to promote partnerships between research centres, start-ups and industrials to implement innovation projects successfully.

### **About Alps Bio Cluster**

This European cluster aims to unite research, industrial and training resources in the biotech and medtech sectors over an extended transalpine area. It is co-funded by the European Regional Development Funds (ERDF), under an Alpine Space programme (European Territorial Cooperation programme). 8 partners representing 6 European regions work together in this network: Adebag and Lyonbiopôle (RhôneAlpes), Bioindustry Park Silvano Fumero (Piedmont), Milan Chamber of Commerce (Lombardy), BioAlps (Western Switzerland), Tiroler Zukunftsstiftung (Tyrol), HelmholtzZentrum München and WeihenstephanTriesdorf University of Applied Sciences (Bavaria).

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