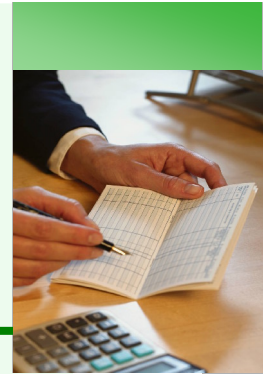


# IP Audit & Risk Assessment for Venture Capital



Oxford Capital Partners (OCP) is a science and technology venture capital firm with extensive experience of investing in and supporting businesses with high growth potential, on behalf of institutional and private investors. OCP looks for the best opportunities, backing exceptional entrepreneurs and investing across all stages of development, from start-up to IPO. Its focus is on emerging science and technology and its expertise lies in accelerating businesses with potential for high growth in global markets.

OCP presently manages four Oxford Gateway Funds and oversees a portfolio of over 25 companies in a range of technology sectors, including ICT, clean technologies, life and physical sciences. The investors in its funds are both private and institutional, from the UK and around the world.

As part of its due diligence process OCP commissioned Coller IP Management to undertake an IP audit of a biotechnology business seeking funds for its proposed business expansion plans. The work involved:

- Assessment of the IP landscape associated with the business's inventions
- Establishing whether or not there is freedom to practice
- Reviewing and assessing business processes for IP capture
- Highlighting any putative inventions for protection to underpin commercialisation plans.

Our work indicated that there is an increasing level of activity in the area, encompassing small start-ups through to large multi-national corporations. However, based on published information, the IP being developed occupies its own 'IP space' and is sufficiently novel (i.e. the potential for generation of differentiated IP) to have the prospect of generating patentable inventions that will protect and support the commercial goals of the company.

In addition, we recommended a number of activities in support of the biotechnology company's commercialisation plans, which needed to be addressed in order to align and secure its IP .

**"The IP due diligence gave us a better understanding of the activity in the specific area and helped us to come to a more fully informed investment decision" – V Christou, Investment Manager**

For more information please contact:

Dr Jackie Maguire  
Tel: +44 870 402 1616  
e: [jackie.maguire@collerip.com](mailto:jackie.maguire@collerip.com)  
[www.collerip.com](http://www.collerip.com)

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