

ONPU – Innovation technological centre of St. Petersburg state electro technical institute, St. Petersburg, Russia

The Technology Park of St. Petersburg State Electro Technical University "LETI" (TPEU) was established at 1991 with purpose to create favorable conditions for development, and activity of small firms, for acceleration of industrial development of scientific research and design works, inventions and discoveries made by scientists, teachers, postgraduates and students of LETI, and for creation of competitive technologies, products and services on a commercial basis.

The TPEU activities are concerned in the following areas.

- Involve in the process of creating and disseminating scientific and technological products of scientific staff.
- Creation of new jobs for the scientific and engineering personnel in the field of knowledge-intensive business – the number of employees is 360 persons.
- Transfer of technology from the university to the industrial sector.
- Raise the funds for the development of innovation.
- Promote of international scientific cooperation and technology transfer.
- Develop education and training of entrepreneurs in the field of economics, management and marketing.
- To form of territorial innovation system, focused on the effective use of scientific and technological potential of the region.

TPEU provides a range of services for the universities' research teams on the creation and promotion of competitive scientific and technological products. Between 2003 and 2010 four international projects are realized and one continues until 2012. At present the TPEU includes:

- 45 small firms working in the field of knowledge-intensive business and innovative business support, for example with small-scale production of x-ray radiographic equipment for industrial and medical diagnostics, of measuring systems and of magnetic resonance equipment for scientific research, monitoring technology, and biomedical applications.
- Scientific and Production Centre (SPC) which carries out functions of business incubator.
- Innovative Technology Centre (ITC).

The sustainability of the BP is provided by state financial support and a broad partnership with Russian foreign organizations. TPEU actively cooperates with companies and technology parks in England, Finland, Germany and China.

<http://www.eltech.ru/english/index.htm>

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SWOT ANALYSIS

Strengths:

- Presentation of a successful intermediary organization for the promotion of the liaison between academia and entrepreneurial world;
- A model engaging researchers in the development of new firms (spin-offs) and the exploitation of their research results is enforced;
- Good example for partnership between government, university and industry;
- One of the most successful Technology Parks in whole Russia and such as recognized in Region;
- Big experience in this field (exists more than 20 years);
- Established strong relationships with authorities and government, founders and foundations for support small innovative enterprises.

Weaknesses:

- As an intermediary organization between academia and enterprises its success relies on the establishment of a strong liaison between the two worlds that might have quite different attitude towards research and innovation issues;
- Public money are involved and play the role of attracting potential researchers and university staff towards generating a common culture;
- Lack of serious system customers with long-term contracts;
- Low level of entrepreneur's culture in the University community.

Opportunities:

- LETI has shown a strong resistance to times of change from a communist to a market economy which exhibits that it serves a mature need;
- Strong ties to University and strong support from public administrations present an opportunity for the development of innovative products and services out of research results;
- For the period from 2005, strong state police support. Innovations are a part of state development strategy in the Russia;
- Positive last years trend in the new law and taxes regulations for entrepreneurs (as SME's and individual entrepreneurs).

Threats:

- Strong liaison with University inventions has a drawback when researchers leave the University for the free market or go abroad;
- There is a serious trend in last years of young professional immigration to another country for not only working, but for his projects realization.