

Open Innovation Tour 2007

Stimulating new thinking with leading organisations

Tour overview and objective

The Open Innovation Tour to California was run at the request of members of the H-I Network to gain insights to the current view of technologies and innovation approaches in other leading organisations.

The objectives of the tour were to:

- gain insight into technologies and methods of US based new business developers and corporate venturers;
- get a view of technology trends;
- provide an update on the VC market and on Corporate Venturing;
- attend the IBF Corporate Venturing and Strategic Investing Conference;
- network with senior executive peers from other leading organizations.

The programme included visits to:

- **Xerox Palo Alto Research Center** - New technology markets and open Innovation in research labs
- **Stanford Research International** - Advanced research and approaches to product and services development
- **WI Harper** - Investment strategies in Greater China and Asia
- **Honda Strategic Ventures** – Corporate venture model in renewables, high tech and automotive sector
- **Applied Ventures** – Corporate venturing and managing investments with leading technology research
- **iD Ventures** – The transition from a leading Acer corporate venture unit to an independent venture fund
- **Strategic Venture Association** dinner with very lively discussion
- **IBF conference** - Capturing Innovation through Corporate Venturing & Strategic Investing

Participating organisations

A key component of the tour was the participation of senior executives responsible for new business development, corporate venturing and corporate venture capital in leading global organisations. These included Unilever, Vodafone, Philips, BAE Systems, Ordnance Survey, QinetiQ and Rolls Royce.

Participants also attended a dinner with the Strategic Venture Association and executives from Sony, Motorola, Panasonic, Kodak, Applied Materials and Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati.

The conference provided an opportunity to listen to and network with over 250 executives from leading corporates and VCs.



Participants comments

We received very complimentary comments from each of the tour participants and the organisations we visited.

"The tour was well organised and great fun. It provided an insight into technology innovation development and exploitation in the San Francisco Bay area through visits to key centres such as the Palo Alto Research Centre and SRI International. Through numerous networking opportunities on the Tour and the IBF conference on Corporate Venturing I was able to establish connections with key people in the corporate venturing and venture capital fields in Silicon Valley and North America generally." Glenn Round, VP Corporate Venturing, Rolls Royce

"The tour offered a great networking opportunity; a chance to gain insights into how others have addressed some of the options we are currently considering. It was highly stimulating and well worth attending." Alan Levenston, BAE Systems

"Good to share a lot of insights with your tour members through Q&A's during my presentation and the lunch afterwards."



H-I Network, 32 Duke Street, St James's, London SW1Y 6DF
Tel: +44 (0)20 7747 2100 Fax: +44 (0)20 7747 7801 Email: www.h-i.com