

Client: Pistoia Alliance

H-I Network

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H-I Network

30 Haymarket
London
SW1Y 4EX
Tel: +44 (0)20
3326 2945

Learn more

www.h-i.com

Corven Consulting London

Tel: +44 (0)20 3326
2946

Boston

Tel: +1 617 236 0033

Hong Kong

Tel: + 852 2824 8773

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www.corven.com

Innovation Network Case Study Life Science information collaboration

SITUATION

The life science and pharmaceutical sector is going through a number of fundamental challenges with drug discovery becoming more difficult, current patent drugs going off patent and with an increasing cost and efficiency drive in companies. New IT technologies and open business provides opportunities for organisations to collaborate to speed up research and lower cost of information in pre-competitive informatics systems.

The Pistoia Alliance (www.pistoiaalliance.org) is an initiative to provide an open foundation of data standards, ontologies and web-services to streamline the Pharmaceutical Drug Discovery workflow (Chemistry, Biological Screening, Logistics) through common business terms, relationships and processes in pre-competitive areas. Member organisations include AstraZeneca, CambridgeSoft, EMBL-EBI, GSK, Lundbeck, Novartis, Pfizer, Roche, Thomson Reuters etc.

The alliance recognised they could benefit from gaining insights and support to how other organisations have developed collaborations, structures of development and support the group coming together as an effective organisation.

OBJECTIVE

The objective of the H-I Network programme was to bring the Pistoia Alliance insights from other leading organisations which had experience of similar issues. The programme would support the board and operations team to develop a more robust and sustainable organisation to deliver more innovation at lower cost to Pistoia, the member organisations and to society with new medical breakthroughs.

The H-I Network provided powerful insights with a speaker from HP who had led the longstanding Trusted Computing Group. Also a speaker from McLaren Applied Technologies provided new perspectives.

- Provided and briefed speakers who provided invaluable insights
- follow up recommendations and actions were provided to the President and board

RESULT

The programme gained very favourable feedback from the participants as the benefits were achieved.

"Your guidance this week has been invaluable."

Director, Chemistry Informatics Research Informatics & Automation, Bristol-Myers Squibb

"The H-I Network programme has been important to Pistoia and to member organisations to drive benefits to our businesses and the sector."

Nick Lynch, President of Pistoia Alliance and AstraZeneca

APPROACH

H-I Network supported the Pistoia Alliance with a programme containing:

- Support to the board and officers to structure an important first face to face alliance meeting
- Stakeholder interviews with many of the members and board members
- Detailed planning of the board and operations meetings
- Facilitation of the two day working meetings to drive collaboration and results

