Physical Sciences

Return On Science is based on UniServices’ 25 years of tried and tested commercialisation successes, delivering substantive outcomes on the government’s commercialisation strategies for biotechnology and life sciences.

The translation of scientific and engineering discoveries into commercial applications is a key aspect of the New Zealand innovation strategy. Return On Science partners with organisations to turn raw research into commercial outcomes, and increases opportunities for commercialisation by bringing the necessary strategic impetus early in the research lifecycle.

We created a specialist Physical Sciences Investment Committee to transfer applied sciences and engineering, high-tech manufacturing and energy discoveries into commercial applications that meet the government’s strategy of optimising the science and innovation eco-system.

Our pipeline includes big data, smart and responsive animation and robotic assistance in eldercare and healthcare.

Returns to New Zealand
- 260+ IP commercialisation projects
- 228 Deals done
- 235 Jobs created
- $9M of government investment, $27M matched, with $115M of realised returns and $1.4B potential revenue.

The committee
Their expertise includes R&D, the full drug development portfolio from discovery to clinical trials, strategic alliances, obtaining angel and venture capital financial support, managing IP, pre-seed funding, technology incubator development, start-ups and corporate business development, management and governance. Sector experience includes biopharmaceutical research and development, pharmacology and experimental therapeutics, neurosciences, drug development, virology and molecular cell biology, and marketing and financing.

Wireless Power Transfer
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Distinguished Professor Emeritus John Boys and Professor Grant Covic pioneered the technology which is now used worldwide from factories depending on automated systems or clean-room environments to charging electric vehicles.

For Japanese company Daifuku, they created the world’s first fully controllable IPT system. Daifuku is now one of the world’s largest automated, clean room manufacturers and is a preferred supplier to electronic manufacturers such as Intel and Samsung. At least 70 percent of the world’s LCD screens and other electronic equipment requiring computer chips are manufactured on systems using their technology. It is used by Mercedes-Benz, BMW and Audi. Theme park rides and roadway lighting in traffic tunnels throughout the world, including Wellington’s Terrace tunnel, work on IPT.

They spun out HaloIPT to further develop the technology for electric vehicle, automated guided vehicles and robotics, selling it in late 2011 to Qualcomm.

The next frontier is in-road wireless charging. Too way out to have any real chance of success they’ve been told. But, what was once crazy and impossible....

The research team
Distinguished Professor John Boys BE (Hons), ME (Dist), PhD in radio science worked in England and Ireland, lectureship at the University of Canterbury, transferred to Auckland in 1977. Currently a professor in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering.

Professor Grant Covic BE (Hons), PhD (electrical and electronic engineering), senior member IEEE. Associate Professor in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering.

Associate Professor Udaya Madawala. BSc (Hons) electrical engineering (Sri Lanka), PhD in power electronics, University of Auckland. Senior member IEEE.

Meet the committee at www.returnonscience.co.nz
About Return On Science

We commercialise discoveries in biotech and life sciences through:

• professional commercialisation services to researchers, tech start-ups, industry and investors with a strong focus on removing barriers and matching researchers with the right organisations to get them to market

• services ranging from proof of concept/pre-seed investment and IP protection through to market validation and fostering international relationships, along with commercialisation managers, executive education and business incubators

• independent research and business experts and a global network of partners

• critical knowledge resourcing, support and involvement for researchers

• funding options, particularly at pre-seed level

• a simple four-stage approach with a straightforward fee-for-service structure.

For researchers:
Our goal is to excite researchers and scientists about the commercial opportunities their work offers within a robust professional service offering.

For start-ups:
We can help you leverage your huge potential for new research output to contribute directly to your company’s bottom line.

For private enterprise:
We can leverage your huge potential for new research output.

Foster and grow your ideas into potential world leading products and services by getting in touch at:

www.returnonscience.co.nz/contact