



The BIRD Milestone Model – Principles

- The traditional BIRD Model applies to projects that end with a ready-to-sell product or service. Recognizing the unique needs of sectors like Medical Devices, Biotechnology, Pharma, and others, the BIRD Foundation extends its funding support to projects in early developmental stages.
- The Milestone Model was adopted by the BIRD Board of Governors to enable funding of early-stage projects. This model supports projects where the BIRD funding enhances technological progress and overall value, even when there is significant work left before reaching commercialization.
- Examples include projects in the FDA's PMA approval process; drug development; and products with long development cycles in the fields of biotechnology, foodtech, agriculture etc.



Implementation of the BIRD Milestone Model

- A project will typically be categorized as a Milestone project at the Proposal stage and will be submitted as such by the participating companies in agreement with the BIRD team. It is highly recommended to define and agree on the relevant milestone/s before submission of the proposal so that all relevant data is presented to the Board of Governors.
- A project approved under the Milestone model will sign a Milestone Cooperation and Project Funding Agreement (CPFA), that includes the definition of a specific milestone (or milestones).
- Typically, achieving the milestone triggers a 100% repayment. In some cases, a combination of a significant milestone repayment and future repayments on sales may be considered.
- If full repayments extend beyond 12 months after project completion, the repayments are escalated according to the escalation table in the Standard CPFA (up to 150%, CPI-adjusted).



Examples of Successful Milestone Projects Funded by the BIRD Foundation









Life Sciences - Medical Devices



InSightec is the pioneer and global leader in MR guided Focused Ultrasound (MRgFUS) technology with the mission to transform it into a clinically viable technology.





Focused Ultrasound Foundation adopts "Focused ultrasound" - an early-stage, non-invasive therapeutic technology that could transform the treatment of many medical disorders by serving as an alternative to surgery and radiation.

Project title: Non-Invasive Brain Surgery for Movement Disorders





Patient with ExAblate Neuro helmet after treatment (http://www.insightec.com/)

Joint development product: clinical study to evaluate the efficacy and safety of treatment using the ExAblate Neuro in medication-refractory essential tremor patients.



Life Sciences - Pharma





NovellusDx (now Fore Biotherapeutics) is a leader in functional genomics. Its approach is to monitor the functional effects of mutations and observe the effects of drugs, drug combinations and drug candidates on the activity level caused by the mutations

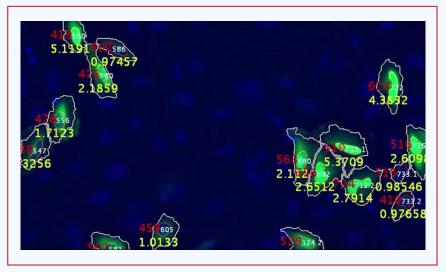




The Gene Editing Institute of Christiana Care Health System is a worldwide leader in personalized genetic medicine. It is unlocking the genetic mechanisms that drive cancer and that can lead to new therapies and pharmaceuticals to revolutionize cancer treatment, as well as providing instruction in the design and implementation of genetic tools.

Project title: In-Vitro Mutagenesis for A Functional Characterization of Patient Mutations and Their Response to Drugs





A breakthrough CRISPR gene-editing diagnostic tool to successfully engineer multiple edits simultaneously to fragments of DNA extracted from a human cell

PR-Novellus Christiana Care BIRD Project

Joint development product: a service that tests the activity of patient mutations and their response to drugs.



Life Sciences / Biotechnology



Atox Bio, Ltd. develops therapeutics for treatment of severe sepsis, septic shock and toxic shock.



Fast-Track Drugs and Biologics, LLC is a contract research organization (CRO) providing strategic planning, clinical trial and regulatory support services to the pharmaceutical and biotech industries for the development and licensure of vaccines and therapeutics for human diseases.

Project title: Novel therapeutic of severe sepsis and septic shock





Joint development product: pre-clinical and Phase I studies in collaboration with the University of Maryland.