

# The **health** technologies and **sciences** cluster

Pharmaceuticals  
and toxicology

Genomics and  
post-genomics

Bioinformatics

Imaging and  
telemedicine

Oncology

Cardiology

Hepatology



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**R&D laboratories, start-ups,  
service companies...**

*make sure  
you're where  
the future lies!*



**Rennes  
Atalante**  
SCIENCE PARK

## ● Quest-génopole

a strategic resource for developments in genomics and post-genomics

Quest-génopole is a strategic project for research, economic development and higher education in the areas of **marine biology, agriculture and food processing, health and bioinformatics**.

The genomics cluster involves **54 research units**, a total of **2,000 people** including **800 researchers** working in universities and major research agencies (CNRS, Inserm, Inra, Inria, Ifremer and Afssa) in Brittany and Pays de la Loire regions. The research network is based on **five technological platforms** i.e. gene sequencing and genotyping, transcriptomics, proteomics, functional exploration and bioinformatics. It is a very real technology resource, designed to encourage research and innovation in genomics and post-genomics.

The **19 units in Rennes** specialise in:

- the **enhancement of marine products** through the discovery of new molecules,
- the **genomics of species that are of particular interest** for agriculture and food processing,
- research into the **genetic diseases** that are especially prevalent in Western France; the development and biology of reproduction; and **cell therapy**,
- research into, and discovery of, patterns; understanding the **functions of genes and proteins**.



High-resolution electrophoresis integrated into the proteome platform in Quest-génopole.



In Rennes, the Cancéropôle Grand Ouest involves 15 fundamental and clinical research units.

## ● The Cancéropôle Grand Ouest is speeding up therapeutic innovation

The Cancéropôle Grand Ouest is one of seven regional projects selected by the Ministries of research and health as part of a nationwide cancer project.

It coordinates **40 research teams involving - 235 researchers and 210 university and teaching hospital staff** - in the following regions: Brittany, Centre, Pays de la Loire and Poitou-Charentes. Their aim is to screen for and treat cancer. The research laboratories are working closely with the clinical sector to speed up the transfer of **diagnostic and therapeutic innovations**.

The Cancéropôle has four objectives:

- to identify the biological profile of patients,
- to promote immunotherapy for cancers,
- to improve the ability of cancer-fighting agents to target tumours,
- to obtain maximum benefit from marine products.

**Three platforms** have been set up to support this research:

- a network of tumour libraries,
- a functional imaging resource,
- a centre for the management of clinical trials.

The intensive computation cluster in Rennes provides scientists with an efficient infrastructure for the management of massive genomics data.



Phase I trials represent 50 % of Biotrial's business and the company has 113 beds available for this purpose.

# From research to corporate start-ups

A number of scientific, technological, economic and financial networks play a proactive leadership role in Rennes, where the local fabric encourages **initiative and innovation**. In doing so, they have one common aim – **to encourage corporate start-ups and development**. This approach has produced tangible results. The companies in the science & technology park, many of them the result of expertise acquired within laboratories, cover a wide range of sectors such as the development of in vitro models (Bioprédic), proteomic services and research (Innova Proteomics), the maximisation of the active principles in algae (Goëmar), clinical pharmacology (Biotrial)...

## Biotrial, ..... an exemplary success story

In a contract research market dominated by giants and estimated to have a value of 17 billion dollars, Biotrial (150 staff), created in 1989, doubles in size every three years. This success is due, in part, to an active data base of **10,000 volunteers** who enable the laboratory to undertake the Phase I clinical trials required when assessing **the pharmaceuticals of tomorrow**. This asset, and the acknowledged expertise of the teams of scientists, has born fruit – 10 of the top 12 global pharmaceutical groups make use of Biotrial's skills.

### Points of view



"In Rennes, where the scientific environment is particularly dynamic, our research centre is developing new classes of drugs with applications for the central nervous and cardiovascular systems."

*Jeanne-Marie Lecomte, Managing Director of Bioprojet Biotech.*



"Using a technology developed in the teaching hospital (CHU) in Rennes, we create innovative software products that enable our company to achieve a position on the international market."

*Emmanuel Cordonnier, CEO of Etiam (medical multimedia).*



"The quality of liver research in Rennes has won its international recognition."

*André Guillouzo, Director of Inserm Unit U456 (detoxification and tissue repair).*



"From Saint-Malo, we can cover the entire European market. Our strong point is our ability to provide our clients with a complete in vitro resource in which to test the pharmaceuticals of the future."

*Pierrick Auvray, Managing Director of Cellis Pharma.*

## A few references

- CHU de Rennes (teaching hospital), **leading centre** for liver transplants.
- A **supercomputer** for the management of massive genomics data.
- A **high-throughput proteomics** platform.
- An **experimental imaging** platform for medium-sized animals (the only one of its kind in Europe).
- A **transcriptomics** platform **DNA chips**.
- A **cell therapy** cluster in Rennes.
- **450 clinical research trials** underway.

# Rennes Atalante, a science park that provides services and back-up for technology businesses

Rennes Atalante, the science park set up in 1984 by the District Council (Rennes Métropole), aims to contribute **to economic development through technological innovation**.

To achieve its objective, an association was set up and sites developed to cater for innovative companies - four in the Rennes area and one in Saint-Malo - **close to university campuses**.

The Rennes Atalante Association brings **together all those involved in innovation**: high-tech companies, higher education establishments, research institutes, sources of innovation funding, technology transfer agencies and local and regional authorities.



**>>> The Rennes Atalante Association** will help you to become part of the park's networks of companies and players in the research sector (invitations to conferences, contacts with partners, listing in the park's directory and website...).



Premises, land and business incubators are available for technology companies.

**>>> Its main objectives:**

**To provide premises** for companies

**To develop synergies** between Education, Research, Industry and Finance

**To provide assistance** for technology company start-ups

**To promote** the science park in France and in other countries



Numerous meetings are organised to establish contacts between people in the park network.



Project leaders are assisted each step of the way when setting up businesses.



The science park is represented at international exhibitions.



*You have a project ?  
Contact us !*

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**Science park of Rennes - Saint-Malo**  
Member of International Association of Science Parks

