

GUNTER FESTEL JOINES THE SLOVENIAN BIOTECHNOLOGY COMPANY IMMT



GUNTER FESTEL JOINS THE INSTITUTE OF METAGENOMICS AND MICROBIAL TECHNOLOGIES (IMMT) AS SHAREHOLDER AND NON-EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR BRINGING IN HIS NETWORK WITHIN THE BIOTECHNOLOGY INDUSTRY AND FINANCING COMMUNITY

The Institute of Metagenomics and Microbial Technologies (IMMT) is a biotechnology company established in 2014 by Ales Lapanje in Ljubljana, the Slovenian capital, and headed by Jan Zrimec. Researching the field of metagenomics, IMMT strives to identify new natural compounds produced by microbes. IMMT has a proven track record in the scientific community with collaborations with renowned academic institutions and technology institutes around the world.

The engagement of Gunter Festel as shareholder and non-executive director strengthens the business development activities and supports future financing rounds of IMMT. Gunter Festel is a successful entrepreneur who has co-founded, as a Founding Angel, more than 10 biotechnology companies in Germany and Switzerland. For example, he was a co-founder and CEO of Butalco, a company developing a technology platform for the production of biofuels and biochemicals which was sold to the French company Lesaffre in 2014. This technology enables biofuel producers to use waste material instead of food to solve the “food vs. fuel” dilemma.

ABOUT IMMT

IMMT Ltd. is a biotechnology company working in the field of environmental molecular microbiology. Its founders have gained wide experience in analysing the functioning of microbial communities in the last 15 years. The research work was carried out in various environments such as soil, biofilms in marine and alpine regions, hot springs, glaciers, animal and human microbiome. By working on over 40 research and industrial projects, IMMT founders have developed proprietary technologies for the extraction and processing of information of DNA from bacteria present in native environments. IMMT is aiming to commercialise its technology platform which enables to obtain information coded in DNA from unculturable bacteria. The solutions are suitable for the use in industrial and medical applications as well as to develop customised solutions based on this approach.

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